**BIO 205 Internet - Ecology**

**Science Department**

**Semester: Summer 2014**

**Catalog Course Description:** This course introduces basic principles of population biology, ecology and environmental science as applied to the study of interactions between human kind and the biosphere. Lecture (3)

**Prerequisite(s):** RDG 100 or ESL 100 (Corequisite: BIO 206)

**Credit Hours:                                3**

 **Departmental Website:**            <http://www.midlandstech.edu/science>

 **Instructor:**                              David Corey

**Office:**                                     LET 421C

**Telephone:**                             738-7714

**Departmental Assistant:         Pam McPherson** (mcphersonp@midlandstech.edu)

**Department Chair:                  Dr. Geralyne Lopez-de-Victoria** (lopezg@midlandstech.edu)

**FAX:**                                      790-7530

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**Campus Mailbox:**                  In LET 421

 **Class Schedule:**                      Internet

 **Office Hours:**                         See Course content board within D2L for course

**Textbook(s):**Visualizing Environmental Science, Berg, Hager & Hassenzahl, 3rd

 edition or most recent ed. in Bookstore

**General Education Core Competency Statement:**  This course is designed to meet the college's general education core competency for Scientific Reasoning.

**Course Objectives:** The purpose of this course is to enable the student to obtain an understanding of the relationships of organisms to one another and to their environment.

**Course Outcomes and Competencies:**

 **Intended Course Outcome:**  Students in Biology 205 will understand and be able to use scientific reasoning and principles through the study of relationships of organisms to one another and to their environment.

**Course Competency (Performance Measure):**  Students in Biology 205 will demonstrate a proficiency and understanding of the basic principles of environmental science by completing the objectives for Biology 205 as follows: The list below is for on campus sections. Internet courses will have the same competency but may be arranged differently.

 **Unit One: Ecosystems**

1. The student will be able to list the steps of the scientific method in order.

2. The student will be able to define sustainability.

3. The students will be able to list the basic components of ecosystems.

  **Unit Two: The Human Population**

4. The student will be able to list the factors contributing to human population growth.

5. The student will be able to define demographic transition.

 **Unit Three: Renewable Resources**

6. The student will be able to define the stages of the water cycle.

7. The student will be able to name the components of the soil ecosystem.

8. The student will be able to list the various values of biodiversity.

**Unit Four: Energy**

9. The student will be able match various fossil fuels to their uses.

10. The student will be able to list the advantages and disadvantages associated with nuclear energy.

11. The student will be able to list the advantages and disadvantages associated with renewable energy.

**Unit Five: Pollution and Prevention**

12. The student will be able to identify sources of water pollution.

13. The student will be able to define municipal solid waste and list the reasons for why the

 amount is increasing.

14. The student will know the causes of the major atmospheric changes produced by man.

 **Unit Six: Toward A Sustainable Future**

  15. The student will understand the basic relationship between economic development and the

 environment.

**Measurement Instrument:**  Students in Biology 205 will successfully complete the course objectives by achieving a final grade of 70% based on lecture examination questions.

**Course Attendance:** Students will be allowed to miss twice the number of times a lecture or   laboratory section meets

If the lecture meets 3 times per week, 6 absences are allowed.

If the lecture meets 2 times per week, 4 absences are allowed.

If the laboratory meets once a week, 2 absences are allowed.

If the student misses more than 10 minutes of class by either arriving late or leaving early, then the student will be counted as absent, missing fewer than 10 minutes is a tardy.  Three tardies count as one absence.

Students adding courses after classes begin are responsible for work covered from the first day of class.  All classes missed count as absences.

Please note the following: You are responsible for all material and announcements presented, whether you are present or absent.

**Assignments and Quizzes**

Students are expected to log into the course 3 to 4 times a week and spend a minimum 4 to 6 hours on-line per week (time will vary depending on students ability to grasp the information).  Assignments are posted in each Unit and due dates are listed in the course calendar and are always due on Mondays at midnight.  There will be weekly quizzes given on Mondays and or Thursdays every week. These quizzes will be taken on the computer from any where the student has access to the course. Unit Exams are only given in the Testing Center. Quizzes will only be available on Mondays and or Thursdays from noon to midnight. Do not sign up for this class if you are unable to take these quizzes on Mondays and or Thursdays between noon and midnight. You will have 30 minutes to complete the quiz once you start. All dates are listed on the calendar.

There are no make ups on quizzes or exams for any reason. A missed quiz will result in a grade of "0". Lowest assignment grade is dropped.

**Last Date of Attendance (LDA) and Attendance**

If for any reason you drop the course, your assignment post dates and exam dates will be used to determine your LDA.

Assignments are not optional, they must be completed.  Failure to complete any 3 or more assignments (and or exams) will result in you being dropped from the course.  Logging into the course is not sufficient to maintain attendance in this course.  You must be active on a weekly bases by completing assignments/exams.

**Withdrawal:** Students may withdraw from a course anytime before the last week of classes (see the current semester college calendar, available on the MTC web site, for official dates).  Students who wish to withdraw from a course must submit a withdrawal form to records.  The date of withdrawal may affect a number of things, including financial aid/ tuition reimbursement, tuition refunds, and course grades.  The effective date of withdrawal depends upon the date the withdrawal form is submitted to records.  It is the student's responsibility to be aware of relevant dates, to make an informed decision, and if necessary, to submit withdrawal forms in a timely fashion.

        For questions regarding the effect of withdrawal on financial aid or tuition reimbursement students should contact Student Financial Services.  Deadlines for tuition refunds may be found on the current semester college calendar, available on the MTC web site, or by calling the cashier's office.

        Students who withdraw before midterm will receive a grade of W.  Students who withdraw after midterm and have an overall class average of 60% or greater will receive a grade of W.  Students who withdraw after midterm and have an overall class average below 60% will receive a grade of WF, which is calculated as an F.

      Grades of W or WF are also assigned when a student exceeds the maximum number of absences allowed in a course.  These grades are entered on the final grade roster along with the last date of attendance (LDA).  Students should understand that the LDA does not constitute an effective date of withdrawal and should not consider a decision to stop attending class to be equivalent to withdrawal.

**Course Grading Scale:** The final grade for this course will be determined as follows:

A (90-100)         B (80-89)                    C (70-79)                    D (60-69)             F (<60)

The course is not curved. Your grade is based on your performance and not the performance of other students or the average on exam(s).

There is no extra credit for any reason.

**Lecture Exams:** Lecture Exams will be given through the Testing Center located on Beltline campus (**ONLY**) DO NOT sign up for this course if you can not take ALL exams in the Beltline Testing Center.  You will have a window of three days (Thursday through Saturday) to take the exam (based on the Testing Center's hours of operation).  Plan to arrive to take the exam with no less than 2 hours to go before the testing center closes.  Once you start the exam you must complete it.  You will be unable to finish the exam at another time.  You must have a picture id to take the exam, such as a SCDL.

Any student who does not take an exam during the schedule time frame will receive a grade of "0". You must supply the Instructor with "Official" documentation within 72 hours of the end of the exam period and you may at the discretion of the Instructor have your cumulative Final Exam score count for the missed exam. Your lowest Exam Grade IS NOT DROPPED, Final only counts twice if I approve you missing 1 exam. Absolutely no allowances will be made if you miss more than 1 exam!   There are no make-up exams for any reason.

Exams count 90% of your course grade.

**Assignments and Quizzes:** Students should expect to log onto the course a minimum of 3 to 4 times a week and spend 4 to 6 hours on-line per week.

Assignments and Quizzes are posted in the individual Units on the Course Content Board.

Assignments and Quizzes will count 10% of your final course grade.

Add your Exam average (out of 90%)  + assignments (out of 10%) = course average.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Should change become necessary, the instructor reserves the right to adjust the requirements, pace, or scheduling of this course.  Any change will be announced in class before it becomes effective.

The Science Department Chair, Coordinators, and faculty are here to help you.  If you are having any problems in your classes, please contact the person who can help you.  If we don't know you are having problems, we can't help you.  Gerry Lopez is Department Chair and can be reached at 822-3443; Greg Mancini is Beltline Science Coordinator and can be reached at 738-7660**.** Contact Pam McPherson at 822-3548 for information regarding the Airport Science Coordinator.

**Course Field Trips:** There will be no field trips for this lecture. Laboratory field trips will be listed in the Biology 206 syllabus.

**LABORATORY POLICIES AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

The laboratory experience is designed to supplement and complement material covered in lecture, and is an integral part of the course.  Material may be presented in greater detail in lab than in lecture.  The laboratory experience may include dissections, films, demonstrations, experiments, workbook exercises, research and writing assignments, and field trips.  The day, time, and location of approved field trips will be held during regularly scheduled lab times.  Students will provide their own transportation.  The laboratory instructors will give a sufficient amount of information and guidance to allow students to complete each lab, but success in lab primarily involves the individual effort of each student.  To maximize learning and to minimize the risk ofaccidents or injury, the following policies and rules will be observed in science labs:

1. Laboratory exercises must be completed during the assigned lab period unless

 otherwise designated by your instructor.

2.        Students should read laboratory exercises before coming to class.

3.        Do not disturb any equipment or demonstrations that have been set up, until your

 instructor has told you how to proceed with the assignment.

4.         Apply yourself in lab. The exercises are designed to reinforce and expand upon

 material presented in the lecture.

5.        Follow directions carefully.

6.       Do not hesitate to ask your lab instructor for clarification of any instructions you do

 not understand.  However, do not expect your lab instructor to simply give you

 answers to information you should be obtaining through the completion of the various

 lab exercises.

7.       Bring all necessary materials to class, including your text.

8.       Do not bring any food or drinks into any science lab.

9.       Know where the eyewash station and shower are located in each lab. Report injuries

 immediately to your lab instructor.

10.     Lab coats and protective eyewear are required in certain labs including microbiology

 and chemistry.

11.    At the end of each lab, leave your work space in good order by discarding waste

 materials, cleaning and disinfecting your lab table, returning all materials used to their

 proper place, and sliding your chair back under the table.

12.    No visitors are allowed in lab or lecture.

**TENTATIVE WEEKLY SCHEDULE for on campus sections.  Internet sections will differ (see your course for schedule). See Content board.**

**College Policies**

**Students are expected to read the student handbook and abide by its policies. Copies of the handbook may be obtained at various locations on campus and is located on the web:** [**http://www.midlandstech.edu/planner/**](http://www.midlandstech.edu/planner/)

**Academic Dishonesty**: The Student Code addresses what constitutes academic dishonesty. All forms of dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism, collusion and falsification, will call for discipline.

**CHEATING ON TESTS** includes:

* § Copying from another student's paper.
* § Using materials during a test not authorized by the person giving the test.
* § Collaborating with any other person during a test without permission.
* § Knowingly obtaining, using, buying, selling, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of any un- administered test.
* § Bribing any other person to obtain information about tests.
* § Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself.

 **PLAGIARISM** is the appropriation of any other person's work and unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own work offered for credit

**Campus Emergency Protocol:** Students and employees are asked to report safety concerns or suspicious activities to Campus Security at 7199 (on campus) or 738-7199 (cell phone or off campus). In the event of an emergency, employees and/or students should immediately call Campus Security or local 911.  If an emergency occurs, the college will use a variety of methods to communicate additional information and instructions including the MTC Information Centers, campus loud speakers, MTC Alerts! (<http://www.midlandstech.edu/Phone_Alert>. htm), voice mail, email, college Intranet, and the MTC website homepage.

**Inclement Weather Policy:** In the event weather conditions or other emergencies cause the closing or a delayed start of Midlands Technical College, announcements will be made over local radio and TV stations, on the MTC Web site, and on the college's information line (803-738-8234).  Notices will be sent to students via Campus Cruiser Mail when applicable.  Separate announcements may be made for day and evening classes as weather conditions change during the day.

If the college closing or reopening means that there is at least 30 minutes of a class remaining, plan to attend that class. For example, if the college opens at 10:00 a.m. in TTH, classes that normally meet at 8:00 a.m. will not meet, but classes beginning at 9:30 a.m. will meet. If the college closes at 8:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. classes will meet for their regular time, but 7:35 p.m. classes will not meet since there are fewer than 30 minutes remaining in class.

**Student E-Mail Account**s: All MTC students are assigned a college e-mail account upon admission to the college.  This account is called "Campus Cruiser Mail."  Campus Cruiser Mail is the primary mode by which the college communicates with students.  Students are responsible for checking their college e-mail on a regular basis for important information and announcements about registration, financial aid, cancelled classes, emergency announcements and other notices.  Students can use their college e-mail accounts to communicate with faculty, staff, fellow students, and others, in support of their educational pursuits.  In addition to e-mail, students will also have access to maintaining personal calendars and "tasks lists" through their Campus Cruiser e-mail account.

**Student Evaluation of Instruction:** Students have the opportunity to evaluate this course. The confidential evaluation process is conducted through MTC Online using the individual student's username and password. Announcements will be made during the term concerning how and when to complete the online evaluation. Students are encouraged to participate in this process.

**Students Requiring Special Accommodations**: If special accommodations are needed for a student with a disability, the student should go to Counseling Services on Beltline or Airport Campus for assistance. Documentation regarding a specific disability is required in order for special arrangements to be made. Confidentiality of information received will be maintained.

**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

Student rights and responsibilities are outlined in the Student Handbook. We are extremely proud of the quality of students in the Science Department; however, there have been occasions where disciplinary action is necessary to prevent disruptive and dishonest behavior.  The following items are specific violations and consequences supported by the Science Department.  Your instructor will circulate a form for your signature stating that you understand the Science Department Course Syllabus, which includes this document.

1. Any student who exhibits behavior that is disruptive to the learning process such as talking, discourtesy to faculty or fellow students to include obscene language or gestures, or uncooperative actions will be asked to leave the classroom.  The student will be counted absent for this class.  Depending upon the nature of the offense or if it occurs during an exam the instructor may require that the student see the Science Coordinator, Chair of the Science Department, or the Director of Campus Life before returning to class.  Campus Security will be called for any threatening or violent behavior.

2. Beepers, cell phones, personal stereos, and similar devices are not permitted in class. Permission must be obtained from the Science Coordinator or Instructor for students who are emergency personnel or where there are extenuating circumstances.  Campus Security can locate a student and will interrupt a class if there is a situation that needs immediate attention

3. Any student proven to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be given a grade of zero on the exam or assignment. This includes, but is not limited to, giving or receiving information during an exam, use of unauthorized materials during an exam or assignment, plagiarism, or changing answers after a grade has been assigned.  An instructor must have reasonable proof that dishonesty has occurred.  Until an incident is verified, the student will be assigned a grade of "I" for the work.  Witnesses of cheating should report this immediately to the instructor.  The grade will be discussed confidentially with the student.  If the student denies that academic dishonesty occurred, the Chair of the Science Department or Science Coordinator will meet with the instructor and student. The instructor will be supported if departmental guidelines for handling cheating incidences were followed.  However, the student is referred to the Student Handbook for the policy on filing a grievance.  In any incident involving academic dishonesty, a report will be filed with the Director of Campus Life.

4. Students with complaints about instructors should follow the appropriate chain of command as outlined in the "Science Department Conflict Resolution" form. A form can be obtained from the Science Department. Signatures must be obtained at each level before the complaint will be validated. There may be some circumstances where the first contact is with the Science Coordinator who will discuss the problem with the instructor. All efforts possible will be made to resolve conflicts internally. However students should remember that matters can also be handled through the Academic Appeal/Grievance process detailed in the Student Handbook.