

## BIOL 2650

Erica Fleming eflaming2@csustan.edu

Office Hours 10-10:50 Mondays in N254 and by appointment

### Required Materials

1. Essential Environment text or e-book
2. Access to Mastering Environmental Science Website. Comes with your purchase of textbook or e-book from bookstore. You will need the course code, which will be given to you later this week.
3. Access to Blackboard for assignments/documents. Grades are also posted there.
4. Checking your CSU email

### Traits of students who succeed in science

- Spend 2-3 hours of reading, re-reading, note-taking, and active memorization exercises per hour of lecture
- Look up definitions of unknown vocabulary when reading informational text
- Have near-perfect attendance and attentiveness
- Their work is always on time with exceptional quality, insight and sophistication beyond repeating what's in the book.

### Course Overview

Rather than approaching each topic on a chapter by chapter basis, we will cover the following main themes.

- I. What does the environment provide?
- II. History and current uses/abuses of the environment.
- III. What are we doing that's good?

### Schedule

The schedule for the week will be discussed each Monday and posted on Mastering ES website where you will click on links to the assignments, or be instructed to look on BlackBoard to download documents.

### Grades

Grades are based on points earned out of points possible. The table below is a description of the categories of work which will be graded.

Grading scale: 90-100=A 80-89=B 70-79=C 60-69=D ≤59=F

For those who change their grading option by the census date (Feb 21<sup>st</sup>): ≥70 Credit ≤69 No Credit

I am available to sign forms on days we meet in class, and during my office hour. I am not on campus every day.

Individual Homework Assignments	These will be announced in class, although you will need to access them and complete the majority of these through Mastering ES. Due dates for these assignments, which typically have a one week window for completion, are not flexible. If you wait until the last day to start it and something comes up, that's on you...	Points range from 5-20 for each assignment
Group Work	Access specific instructions for these and check due dates on BlackBoard. Group work gets ONE grade for the entire team. Even if you initially divide the labor, all members of the group should think about each part of the assignment. This way, you can give each other input to improve each section or even catch mistakes. Remember that you may see similar questions on future exams, so don't ignore it just	10-20 points each

	<p>because your partner did that part...</p> <p>Due dates for group work are not flexible. What if the person who has the final draft gets into car trouble on the way to school? Have a contingency plan!</p>	
In-Class Essays	<p>Questions for in-class essays ALWAYS come from the end of the chapter; specifically from the Test Your Comprehension (TYC) and Seeking Solutions (SS) sections. Although you will not be given advance notice of which question(s) I will ask, you can prepare yourself by rehearsing answers ahead of time. Students who get high scores on in-class essays have spent time on each question ahead of time by brainstorming, rereading the text, using internet resources to research supporting facts, writing outlines and even writing drafts before the day of the in-class essay. In-class essays are similar to timed tests. They are not open book or open note. You must submit your essay by the end of the allotted time period. Grading is based on <b>legible</b> CONTENT. The information and supporting details matter more than spelling, grammar, transitions, etc...</p> <p>If you have a documented medical or traffic emergency (doctor's note, tow truck receipt, etc...) you may make up the in-class essay as long as you have e-mailed me right away to schedule this make up, and bring your documentation with you.</p>	10-20 points each, depending on number of questions
Exams	<p>Specific details of each exam will be discussed in class as they come up. Expect about two or three, and a comprehensive final exam. Exams will be announced at least one week before they occur.</p> <p>If you have a documented medical or traffic emergency (doctor's note, tow truck receipt, etc...) you may make up the exam as long as you have e-mailed me right away to schedule this make up, and bring your documentation with you.</p>	50-100 points depending on number of chapters.
Project/Presentation	<p>After the instructions/expectations are fully discussed in class in late February, you can access the instructions and/or rubrics on BlackBoard.</p> <p>If you have a documented medical or traffic emergency (doctor's note, tow truck receipt, etc...) you may make up project/presentation as long as you have e-mailed me right away to schedule this make up, and bring your documentation with you.</p>	100 points