

ESR 101
Environmental Science
Summer 2005

syllabus

CRN 80703 4 credit	MTWT8-9:50am	SB2 Rm 469
CRN 80704 LAB	MTWT 10-11:50am	SB2 Rm 469

Instructor:

Gossen, Candace	gossen@pdx.edu	www.solar783.com
mailbox:	ESR office, 218 Science Building 2	

LAB Instructor:

Sinha, Mia	msinha@pdx.edu
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Description:

Introduction to the study of the natural environment and sustainability. Topics will include physical processes and concepts related to air, water and land as well as ecological concepts including ecosystems, communities, biodiversity, population dynamics, agriculture, and conservation ecology.

Lab required:

One two-hour laboratory that will focus on urban streams, ecosystems of the Portland metropolitan region, and environmental impacts of land use.

Topics:

Environmental Problems, their causes and sustainability
Science and Systems through the Scientific Method
Ecosystems, evolution and biodiversity
Population and consumption and the Ecological Footprint
Climate change, global warming and the greenhouse effect
Rapa Nui (Easter Island) human innovation case study

Assignments:

You will access all class materials via the web. Assignments are available online. There will be 4 quizzes given, one at the end of class on every Thursday that will include vocabulary and main concepts for the week. You will also be given assignments to do outside of class that will be participation based and not graded.

Lab:

There is one laboratory section per day. For a more complete description of the laboratory sessions, please see the Laboratory Information section on the online calendar. The laboratory counts for 25% of the course grade. The laboratory exercises have been designed to take advantage of local resources. In order to do this, you will meet sometimes in the lab (SB2 - 469) to learn methods or discuss what you have observed, but other days you will work "in the field" using these methods on your own.

Grading:

Quiz 1 – 4	40 pts each	Total 160 pts.	scheduled each Thursday
Labs 4	10 pts each	Total 40 pts.	

I will keep you accountable with a running average of the class, but a 10 percentile grading score is typically used (i.e. 90%, 80, etc. with letter grading A, B accordingly).

If you are taking the P/NP option you must pass with a minimum of 70% or greater.

Assignments other than quizzes are very critical in your understanding of the topic matter. It is important that you do the assignment and come to class prepared for discussions and interaction. You will receive a participation score for each assignment which will be added into your final grade.

Late and Misses:

All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments will have 5pts deducted for each day late. Missed quizzes must be retaken by arrangement of the instructor, but it is your responsibility to notify the instructor via email and make these arrangements.