

Environmental Studies 137 - B: *Syllabus*

- Instructor:** Jason Hill - jdhill@stolaf.edu
Office hours: T 9:30 - 10:30, Th 10:00 - 11:00 and 2:15 - 3:00, and by appointment
- Schedule:** T 11:45 - 1:10; Th 12:45 - 2:05
- Attendance:** Students are expected to be present and on time to each class. Arrangements for excused absences must be made well in advance. Please contact me, either directly or through the Dean of Students Office, as soon as possible in cases of illness or other unexpected circumstances.
- Materials:** The textbook for this class is: Cunningham, W.P., M. Cunningham, and B.W. Saigo. *2003. Environmental Science: A Global Concern*. Seventh Edition. McGraw-Hill. There is also a required course packet. Other handouts will be distributed individually.
- Website:** http://www.stolaf.edu/courses/current/Environmental_Studies/137/
- Goals:** We will be investigating, as our textbook puts it, “our environment and our proper place in it.” Not only will we strive to understand how both natural processes and human actions shape our environment, but also how we can preserve and improve it through thoughtful contemplation of social, economic, and ethical concerns.
- Grading:** Receiving a high grade in this class is, without a doubt, highly dependent upon completing the required reading before class so that you can be an active participant in the discussions and beginning assignments well in advance of the date they are due to allow yourself time to research topics thoroughly and make revisions if necessary. All work is expected to be handed in on time. Unexcused late work will incur a penalty of 10% a day. Grades will be calculated as follows:
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| Midterms (2 x 15%) | 30% |
| Final | 20% |
| Letters (2 x 5%) | 10% |
| Projects (2 x 10%) | 20% |
| Discussion Preview (3 x 5%) | 15% |
| Participation | 5% |
- Honor:** St. Olaf’s Honor System is a code of conduct which recognizes the responsibility of students to exercise honesty and independence while taking examinations, and this trust is an extension of the spirit of integrity which students, faculty, and staff strive to incorporate into their lives each day.

Topics:

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
<i>Part I: Environmental Science and Ecological Principles</i>		
Th 9/4	Understanding Our Environment	
T 9/9	Environmental Ethics and Philosophy	
Th 9/11	Matter, Energy, and Life	
T 9/16	Biological Communities and Species Interactions	
Th 9/18	Biomes, Restoration, and Management	
<i>Part II: Population, Economics, Policy, and Health</i>		
T 9/23	Population Dynamics & Human Populations	Project #1 - Idea
Th 9/25	Ecological Economics	Letter #1 - Draft
T 9/30	Environmental Health and Toxicology	
Th 10/2	Midterm Exam	
<i>Part III: Food, Land, and Biological Resources</i>		
T 10/7	Environmental Policy, Law, and Planning	
Th 10/9	Environmental Policy, Law, and Planning (Continued...)	
T 10/14	Food and Agriculture	Letter #1 - Final
Th 10/16	Pest Control	
Th 10/23	Biodiversity	
T 10/28	Land Use: Forest and Rangelands	
Th 10/30	Preserving Nature	Project #1 - Final
<i>Part IV: Physical Resources</i>		
T 11/4	Environmental Geology & Air, Weather, and Climate	
Th 11/6	Air Pollution	Project #2 - Idea
T 11/11	Water Use and Management	Letter #2 - Draft
Th 11/13	Water Pollution	
T 11/18	Midterm Exam	
Th 11/20	Conventional Energy	
<i>Part V: Society and the Environment</i>		
T 11/25	Sustainable Energy	Letter #2 - Final
T 12/2	Solid, Toxic, and Hazardous Waste	
Th 12/4	Urbanization and Sustainable Cities; What Then Shall We Do?	
T 12/9	Review	Project #2 - Final
T 12/16	Final Exam (9:00 - 11:00)	

Reading:

Date	Papers	Textbook
<i>Part I: Environmental Science and Ecological Principles</i>		
Th 9/4		Ch. 1
T 9/9	White (1967); Feenstra <i>et al.</i> (1967)	Ch. 2
Th 9/11	Lomborg (2002); McMichael (2002)	Ch. 3
T 9/16	Vitousek <i>et al.</i> (1997)	Ch. 4
Th 9/18		Ch. 5
<i>Part II: Population, Economics, Policy, and Health</i>		
T 9/23	Myers and Kent (2003); Rees (2003)	Ch. 6 & 7
Th 9/25	Costanza <i>et al.</i> (1997); Anonymous (1998)	Ch. 8
T 9/30		Ch. 9
Th 10/2		
<i>Part III: Food, Land, and Biological Resources</i>		
T 10/7		Ch. 10
Th 10/9		
T 10/14	Palumbi (2001)	Ch. 11
Th 10/16		Ch. 12
Th 10/23	Groves <i>et al.</i> (2002)	Ch. 13
T 10/28		Ch. 14
Th 10/30	Knapp (2003)	Ch. 15
<i>Part IV: Physical Resources</i>		
T 11/4		Ch. 16 & 17
Th 11/6	Griffin (2001)	Ch. 18
T 11/11		Ch. 19
Th 11/13	Mallin (2000)	Ch. 20
T 11/18		
Th 11/20	McDaniel and Borton (2002)	Ch. 21
<i>Part V: Society and the Environment</i>		
T 11/25		Ch. 22
T 12/2		Ch. 23
Th 12/4	Lubchenco (1998)	Ch. 24 & 25
T 12/9		