Instructor:
Kelly Cartwright
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Office Hours:
   Monday 12:00 – 2:00
   Tuesday 11:00 – 2:00
   Wednesday 12:00 – 2:00
   Thursday 11:00 – 2:00
   Friday by appt only

Course Description: A study of the relationships between humans and the environment. Topics include ecology, population biology, modification of our environment, resource use, land use planning, pollution, and energy. The goal is to better understand the biological and social problems that human use and misuse of the environment cause.

Materials:

Lecture –

Lab –

Grading System:
Tests (4 @ 30 each) 120 pts.
Discussion Points (10 @ 10 pts each, lowest dropped) 90 pts.
Community Project 60 pts.
Presentation Points 30 pts.
Lab Worksheets (15 @10 pts. each, 2 lowest dropped) 130 pts.
Cumulative Lab Quiz 20 pts.
Bioregion Assignment 20 pts.
Bring It Home Project 100 pts.
Attendance and Participation Points ~60 pts.

Total 630 pts.
90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C, 60% = D, 50% and below = F

The percentage of total points you earn determines your final grade, and the grading scale is not negotiable. There will be opportunities for extra credit during the semester so take advantage of these points and do not expect to have your grades ‘rounded’ up at the end of the semester.

- There will be no make-ups for either lecture or lab unless scheduled in advance, when applicable you have until the next time the class meets to make up material. All make-up material will be completed in the testing center located in the Learning Resources Center (Library).

**Expectations**

What you can expect from me, I will:
- be prepared for class
- be on time to class
- give advance notice of any changes in class
- be respectful of your opinions
- be available outside of class for assistance

**In turn, I expect you to:**
- attend every class period
- be prepared for class
- be on time
- be respectful and exhibit adult behavior
  - no talking, whispering, writing notes, etc.
  - turn off cell phones
  - No Texting!
  - stay entire class period
  - use computer for class work

**Keys to Success**

- Attend every class
- Be on time
- Have a buddy/study group – exchange numbers and e-mails today
- Stay organized
- Keep current on notes
- Contact me (in advance) if you are going to miss class, labs, tests, presentations, etc.

**Most importantly I expect you to come to me if you have ANY questions about the class, either in terms of subject matter or format!!!**
**Students with Disabilities:**
CLC provides information, guidance, and support to students with disabilities through a variety of services. If you feel you are a student with special needs please feel free to talk with me, or visit the Learning Assistance Center located in the Learning Resources Center, phone 543-2473.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:**
Plagiarism and cheating in the broadest definition include taking work for credit that is not your own. Don’t do either of these activities. Regardless of the assignment or the degree of infraction no credit will be given for the work, and action will be taken with Student Development. For further info see the Academic Integrity Standards.

**Assignment Submission:**
Assignments are accepted as hard copy, double sided, and electronically. If submitting via email please have in the subject line ‘Your Name – Class Name – Assignment Name’. Assignments with an exact deadline (take home essays) are due when class takes place. Assignments submitted late will be discounted 50%.

**Extra Help:**
If you feel you need extra help on any topic please come see me or take advantage of the tutoring services (free) at the far end of the library.

**Blackboard –** Bb will be used to record grades and also disseminate handouts when needed. The Powerpoints I develop for class will be posted at minimum the week prior to covering the material, please print out a copy to use during class. I will also post announcements if emergency situations come up. You should be checking Bb and your student email regularly.
Environmental Biology
Bio 120 - Honors
Assignment Information Sheet

Lecture Tests — There will be a total of 4 tests given throughout the semester, each worth 30 points. Quiz material will come from lectures, activities, and reading material (text and non-text). Tests will be take home consisting of short and long essay questions requiring you to apply what you have learned. You will have a minimum of 1 weekend to complete the test. These are independent assignments and consultation of classmates will be considered cheating.

Article Discussions — Throughout the semester we will have discussions from articles in the Annual Editions publication. These are intended to increase your knowledge of real world examples regarding environmental issues. It is critical to the success of the discussion that everyone read the article before coming to class. Feedback and discussion will be both from an individual perspective as well as small or large group discussion. Each discussion day is worth 10 points.

Lab Assignments — To assess lab skills a series of worksheets and writing assignments will be graded.

Worksheets are completed during class, and relate directly to the information covered in the lab. You must attend lab to get credit for written assignments. Your 2 lowest lab scores will be dropped.

There will also be a cumulative cross-sectional lab quiz which covers the main points from each of the labs; this will take place during the final exam time.

Bioregion Project — To reinforce the concepts from the outdoor field exercises students will develop a bioregion map. Instructions for this assignment will be given on a separate sheet. This assignment is due prior to Thanksgiving break. Google maps are not acceptable as your bioregion map. 20 points.

Community Project — Over the course of the semester the class will develop and implement a community service project related to environmental biology or sustainability. Pairs of students will present proposals for projects early in the semester. The class will select 1 or 2 projects from the class to put into action. The projects should be sized so that they are able to be accomplished in 1 semester but should still have a tangible impact. Your grades are based on the initial proposal (selection of project in no way factors into the grade), a peer grade from your group, and my grade of your self reflection. Your self reflection is a paper, approximately 2 pages in length, addressing your contributions to the project, your understanding of the impact and connection to environmental issues and sustainability, and your overall collaboration with others. Although this is a group project not all members have to be involved with each step.
Community Project Grade Breakdown:
Proposal (20pts)
Peer Evaluation (20pts)
Self Reflection (20pts)

Presentation Points – Several small presentations will be used to cover various topics in class.

   Biome Presentation – Pairs of students will develop a presentation on a selected biome. Information to be included: overall climate and biodiversity, location on the globe, unique processes, and key threats to the biome. Using PowerPoint or Prezi is highly recommended but is not required. (20pts)

   In the News – Each Tuesday will begin with news reports by students. You can pick any topic that interests you but it must be current. Topics can come from TV or radio news reports, papers or magazines. The goal of this project is to have you become more aware of current event in the realm of environmental biology. In addition to the oral presentation each student will turn in a short summary of the topic (1 page max). Please do not read your summary to the class. You do not need a visual aid for this project. (10pts)

Bring It Home Project – At the end of each chapter is a ‘Bring It Home’ feature. You will select 10 exercises from these from the chapters we cover and do the exercise and write a brief blurb about the experience, what you did it, why you did it. The purpose of this project is to strengthen the individual connection to the content and demonstrate personal change. 100 points (10 points per exercise). Please turn in full project prior to Thanksgiving Break.

Participation Points – During lecture various activities will be used to distribute points for attendance and participation. The activities (worksheets, discussion, small projects, etc.) will be unannounced so it is important to come to class regularly. You will also receive 2 points per day for on-time attendance.

Extra Credit:
Throughout the semester there will be opportunities for extra credit in the form of outside programs or assignments. Extra credit is capped at 3% of the total class points.