

Environmental Science 110
Agricultural Sciences 110
3 credits
Imperial Valley College
Fall 2008

Instructor Contact Information	Dr. Pat Pauley Office: 2700 #1 Telephone: (760) 355-6363 Secretary 760-355-6304 Email: patrick.pauley@imperial.edu Office Hours: MW 1:30-2:30, T 10:00-11:00 Office Hours by Appointment: M-F
Course Description	This course is designed to provide students with an overview and understanding of the interrelationships between humans and the natural environment. The class will focus on basic concepts of science and ecosystem theory, human impacts on the air, water, and land, environmental problems faced by the Imperial Valley that have regional and global consequences, and some of the proposed solutions.
Course Objectives	Student will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe the role of science, the use of the scientific method, the importance of stewardship, and the concept of sustainability in the environmental field;• Identify local and global environmental challenges;• Recognize and describe the science, structure, function, dynamics, adaptations of and major threats to local and global ecosystems;• Describe the environmental impacts of human population growth and material consumption nationally and internationally;• Identify some of the solutions that can address the population and consumption challenges;• Describe the importance of protecting wildlife and habitats and conserving biodiversity;• Describe the characteristics of distinct local habitats (the Salton Sea and the deserts) and endangered species found there and the efforts to effectively manage and conserve them;• Describe the hydrological cycle and identify ways that humans negatively impact the cycle.• Describe the quality of fresh water globally and identify major sources of water pollution;• Apply these principles to local water bodies such as the New and Alamo Rivers and the Salton Sea;• Describe the political aspects of water allocations of the Colorado River and its impact on the Imperial Valley;• Describe the state and federal laws and regulatory agencies that govern environmental concerns of air, water, land, human health, and chemical hazards;• Identify common human health effects of environmental exposures;• Recognize the steps involved in risk analysis, how risk perception affects individual and group decision making, and strategies for managing risks;

- Describe agricultural practices in the Imperial Valley with regard to the following concepts: soil characteristics, use of irrigation, the benefits and drawbacks of fertilizer use and pest control, the environmental impacts in air, soil, and water, and the economic impact regionally and nationally;
- Identify the major sources of air pollution locally and nationally;
- Recognize the benefits and environmental impacts of fossil fuels and describe alternatives to its use;
- Describe how materials are managed to minimize or eliminate environmental impacts;
- Identify the federal regulations governing the clean-up and handling of chemical and hazardous materials;
- Describe the process of managing solid waste from source reduction to recycling;
- Identify solutions to local and global environmental problems

Required Text

Environmental Science: Custom Edition for Imperial Valley College.
Pearson Custom Publishing

General Expectations

Students must comply with all rules and regulations of Standards of Student Conduct outlined in the Imperial Valley College General Catalog. **For writing assignments I expect you to demonstrate proficiency in the use of the English Language.** Grammatical errors and writing that do not express ideas clearly will affect your grade. Students who are unable to write correctly and have trouble expressing ideas clearly are urged to contact the appropriate campus resources for assistance.

Cell Phones and Pagers

I require that all cell phones, pagers and other noise making devices be **turned off or to vibrate** during class. If you must use these devices during class, I ask that you quietly and discretely leave the room. Failure to comply with such rules will earn you the opportunity to give a 5-minute oral presentation on an environmental topic of the instructor's choice during the next class period or to receive an automatic deduction of 20 points from your overall course grade.

Disability Information

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible.
DSP&S
Room 2117
Health Sciences Building
(760) 355-6312

Late & Absent Policy

If you find that you need to excuse yourself early on rare occasion you should make every effort to get to class early so that you can sit close to the door. This will allow you to leave the room without disrupting the learning environment for your fellow students. Similarly, if you should not be able to avoid being late, it is your responsibility to come in and sit down in a manner that will not be disruptive. Either of these events are NOT to be regular occurrences. Additionally, it will be the student's responsibility to obtain notes for any missed class time as I do not lend them.

