

COURSE : IST 321 Resolution of Environmental Problems Credit: 3 Section: 201 CRN: 3874  
Spring, 2012

TIME : Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 - 10:45 am.

PLACE : Commons, Morrow Library

Instructor: Samuel T. Colvin Office – 213 Prichard Phone: (304) 696-5432

E- mail: [colvin8@marshall.edu](mailto:colvin8@marshall.edu) This is the only e-mail address to which I respond. Please do not send e-mails through other forums.

Because of the phone system, I can only return local phone calls and cannot return some cell phone calls. I only check and return phone calls and e-mails during regular office hours. But I do respond if at all possible.

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Regular office hours : Tuesdays 12:30 - 2 pm., Thursdays 12:30 – 2 pm.

OTHER OFFICE HOURS BY ADVANCE APPOINTMENT ONLY: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 – 4 pm. I will not be in the office at those times unless there is an advance appointment.

I may also be contacted between classes. My schedule is posted on my office door.

I AM NORMALLY NOT ON CAMPUS ON WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS OR SUNDAYS.

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES :

The course studies resolution of environmental problems. Particular attention is given to policies, laws and regulations.

#### COURSE CONDUCT :

Students will work in groups and/or individually to study the resolution of environmental problems.

Students will gather information from various sources including the texts, the Internet, other books, and contacts with resource people. Students will be informed of available environmental conferences in which they can voluntarily participate.

#### COURSE EVALUATION :

Students will be evaluated through (1) class attendance, preparation, discussion and participation; (2) exam one; (3) exam two; and (4) selection and outline of a study of a local or regional environmental problem using scientific references including the texts; (5) completion of the study outlined and submission of a written report; and (6) submission of a Power Point presentation and an oral presentation in class. Each item is worth 100 points. A total of 600 points is possible.

#### Percentages and Points

Grades : A 90-100% 540 to 600 points B 80-89% 480 to 539 points

C 70-79% 420 to 479 points D 60-69% 360 to 419 points F < 60% 0 to 359 points

#### COURSE MATERIALS AND TEXT :

Course materials may include handouts. The required texts will be Environmental Problem Solving: A How-To Guide by Jeffrey W. Hughes published by the University of Vermont Press, ISBN 9781584655923, (EPS) and Out of Water by Chartres and Varma published by FT Press, 9780131367265 (W).

#### COURSE OUTCOME :

After completing the class, students should be able to investigate real-life environmental situations. They should be able to follow a problem-solving format similar to the one in the text or a Guided Design process to (1) recognize environmental problems, (2) state the objectives which need to be accomplished in solving those problems, (3) generate possible solutions, (4) select the best solutions to pursue, and (5) make recommendations and/or take action.

POLICIES: Students who consistently (2 or more times) come to class late may be subject to a reduction in points not to exceed a one letter grade reduction at the discretion of the instructor.

Absences will be excused only with written excuses in accordance with University attendance policy. Students with excused absences are responsible to make up work no later than seven (7) days after return to class.

Plagiarism or cheating will result in no credit for that activity and may result in further University sanctions. Work not in the prescribed format will be penalized, or at the discretion of the instructor not accepted for grading. MU Online will be the only acceptable vehicle for submission of work unless the instructor announces a different vehicle. Submission deadlines are Thursdays by 11:59 pm. to MU Online as specified by the underlined items on the course calendar. Late submissions to MU Online will be accepted with penalty until the cutoff, the next Thursday at 11:59 pm. After the cutoff, MU Online will not

allow submissions. Please do not e-mail submissions to me because they do not then become part of the permanent record of the class.

Submissions will not be returned. Please keep copies of all work submitted.

No work received after the last exam will be graded. The course officially closes at the end of the last exam.

Grades will be reported in MU Online allowing students to determine their grade status anytime, especially prior to course withdrawal deadlines and prior to the final. Assignments will be marked, graded and comments returned through MU Online within two weeks after the due date.

There is no extra credit, re-testing or scaling. The instructor may, at his discretion, consider awarding extra points to a student less than five points (actual, not percentage) away from the next grade level provided that student has completed all assignments and activities in a timely fashion.

Questions from students about the class may be asked during class or sent by e-mail to [colvin8@marshall.edu](mailto:colvin8@marshall.edu).

Due dates and assignments are subject to change. The final word on changes will be announcements in class. Due dates will only be moved back, not forward.

If the University is delayed for two hours on a Tuesday or Thursday, the class that day will start at 10 a.m. If the University is closed for the entire day, no lecture will be held that day. The work will be made up at a later time.

Schedule changes not related to inclement weather - If the instructor must change the time or place of a scheduled event (lecture or office hours), he will make every effort (1) to announce the change in a prior class, (2) to e-mail students in advance and / or (3) at a minimum to have a sign posted on the original room with the instructor's name on the sign. The same type of notification can be expected if the instructor must cancel a scheduled session,

Below is the current University policy related to incompletes for courses. It will be strictly followed.

*"Incomplete:* The grade of *I* (incomplete) indicates that the student has completed three-quarters of the course, but cannot complete the course for a reason that accords with the university excused-absence policy. Students must be in good standing in the class prior to requesting an incomplete. The course instructor decides whether or not an incomplete will be granted and specifies in writing what work the student must complete to fulfill the course requirements. The student has until the end of the next fall or spring semester from the date of receipt of the incomplete grade in which to complete the course, or the instructor may establish an earlier deadline. If special circumstances exist, which prevent the student from completing the course in the prescribed time, the incomplete may be extended with approval of the instructor, the instructor's chair or division head, and the instructor's dean. If the student satisfactorily completes the course in the prescribed time he/she will receive a letter grade. If the student fails to complete the course requirements during the stipulated time, the grade of *I* changes to a grade of *F*."

- *The Greenbook, Marshall University*

Other University policies can be found at [http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/?page\\_id=802](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/?page_id=802) (?page\_id=802, note underline between page and id) and will be followed. They include:

1. Academic Dishonesty
2. Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates
3. University Computing Service Acceptable Use
4. Inclement Weather
5. Dead Week
6. Students with Disabilities
7. Academic Dismissal
8. Academic Forgiveness
9. Academic Probation and Suspension
10. Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students
11. Affirmative Action
12. Sexual Harassment

## COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

Due dates and assignments are subject to change. The final word on changes will be announcements in class. Due dates will only be moved back, not forward.

Week 1 1/10 Introduction to course, syllabus      1/12 Discussion of study problems  
1/13 Last day to add or drop class

Week 2 1/17 Laws – NEPA, Endangered Species Act      1/19 Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act

Week 3 1/24 Transportation Act, Surface Mining Act      1/26 RCRA, Superfund,  
Pollution Prevention

Week 4 1/31 Text – EPS Chapter 1      2/2 EPS Chapter 2

Week 5 2/7 EPS Chapter 3      2/10 EPS Chapter 4

Week 6 2/14 EPS Chapter 5      2/16 EPS Chapter 6

Week 7 2/21 EPS Chapter 7      2/23 EPS Chapter 8  
Outline of study due during week 7 on 2/23 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 8 2/28 EPS Chapter 9      3/1 EPS Chapter 10  
3/1 Cutoff at 11:59 pm. for outline.

Week 9 3/5 Freshmen D/F Mid-term Report Due      3/8 EPS Chapter 12  
3/6 EPS Chapter 11

Week 10 3/13 Review      3/15 Exam One  
3/16 – Last day to withdraw from individual course  
3/22 and 3/24 Spring Vacation

Week 11 3/27 W Chapters 1 and 2      3/29 W Chapters 3 and 4

Week 12 4/3 W Chapters 5 and 6      4/5 W Chapters 7 and 8  
4/4 – University Assessment Day – Please participate.

Week 13 4/10 W Chapter 9      4/12 W Chapter 10

Written report and Power Point presentation due during week 13 on 4/12 by 11:59 p.m..  
Oral presentations will be scheduled for the two class periods during Weeks 14 and 15.

Week 14 4/17 Oral Presentations      4/19 Oral Presentations  
4/19 Cutoff at 11:59 pm. for report and presentation.

Week 15 4/24 Oral Presentations      4/26 Oral Presentations (if necessary), Review

Tuesday 5/1      8 – 10 am. Exam 2.      The course officially closes at 10 am. on 5/1.