

Syllabus

Course: EVR1001 Introduction to Environmental Science

Term: Spring 2023

Instructor: Dr. Joe Angley

Phone: (407) 582-5100 (office) or 407-949-2431 (cell)

Email: Use Canvas email or jangley@valenciacollege.edu

Student Engagement Hours: by appointment. Please schedule at <https://calendly.com/dr-angley/15min>

Course Modality: Online

CRN: 23814

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: None

This syllabus has a lot of useful information that will help you be successful in this course. I encourage you to take a few minutes and familiarize yourself with the course policies.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

This course is a general education credit, non-laboratory course that provides a survey of basic chemical, biological, and physical principles of environmental science and ecology, the application of these principles to current political, scientific, and economic issues and our responsibility for the environment.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. Identify environmental principles related to natural resources and their management.
2. Determine and analyze human and nature's impacts to environmental systems.
3. Identify and describe various natural systems.
4. Identify and differentiate between different types of pollution sources and their environmental impacts.
5. Identify and differentiate between the types of regulations and remediation for environmental impacts.

6. Identify and describe the basic fundamental biological, chemical, and physical principles involved in how environmental systems function.
7. Relate current political, scientific, and economic principles to environmental issues.
8. Effectively analyze, evaluate, synthesize and apply information and ideas from diverse sources and disciplines.
9. Use processes, procedures, data, or evidence to solve problems and make effective decisions.

Textbooks

Principles of Environmental Science, Inquiry and Applications, Cunningham and Cunningham, 10 th Edition (e-book), with McGraw Hill Connect. This is a bundle, available from the Valencia College Bookstore or directly through Mc Graw Hill that combines the electronic textbook with McGraw Hill CONNECT.

Please note: You MUST subscribe and have access to McGraw Hill CONNECT to successfully complete this course. When registering I strongly suggest using your Valencia College email address. To register for the Connect Account select you may use the link below.

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/j-angley-evr-1001-crn-23814-spring-2023>

You can get an access code for the e-book and Connect or access code and loose-leaf textbook from the bookstore. There is a FREE 2-week trial so you can get started immediately if you do not have funds to secure a textbook immediately.

If you are purchasing through the bookstore or another vendor make sure you obtain a code for CONNECT as well as for the textbook.

You absolutely DO NEED access to McGraw Hill Connect.

Here is a video on how to login and register for the Connect part of the course:

<http://video.mhhe.com/watch/4q72PpEpzkXAd3hW4o52c8?>

You can also access Connect through a mobile app.

Valencia College Core Competencies

Valencia's Student Core Competencies are complex abilities that are essential to lifelong success. This course will help you to develop and demonstrate the abilities to:

1. **THINK** clearly, critically, and creatively.
2. **COMMUNICATE** with others verbally and in written form.
3. Make reasoned **VALUE** judgments and responsible commitments.
4. **ACT** purposefully, reflectively, and responsibly.

Due to the nature of these global competencies, many of the problems will be presented in the context of an application. These applications provide opportunities for students to research appropriate information to solve problems, communicate effectively, and to explain and/or

describe how you used your newly learned the skills to arrive at an appropriate solution for the problem.

EXPECTATIONS

Teacher Expectations

I believe that anyone can succeed in the class if the right learning environment and strategies are used. I have structured this course to provide a variety of learning assessments with diverse learners in mind. I value your uniqueness and experience and want you to value your classmates as well. We are all learning together so please reach out to me if you have any questions or need extra assistance. I am here to help you learn.

- I will follow the course outline as closely as possible and will notify you of modifications in the outline if they happen.
- I will attempt to create and maintain an online atmosphere in which you feel free to both read others' views and express your own views and ask questions to increase your learning.
- Please email me about anything which you are unclear. I tend to respond quickly and I want to be supportive of your learning and growth. I teach multiple sections of this course, so to help me locate your course information, please always reference the CRN for the course in which you are registered when emailing or texting.
- If for some reason you do not hear back from me, please send me a text message.

Student Expectations

Here are some ideas on how you can be successful in the course.

I encourage you to set goals for yourself for this course and plan/work to meet them. Meeting all course deadlines is important to obtain full credit for your work. For work that is submitted on-time you will receive feedback within a week on the submitted assignment.

I also encourage you to value your classmate's opinions and be open to learn new ways of thinking. Complete all assignments, quizzes, and exams without sharing/copying other's work or answers and be proud of your work. I really want to read your opinions and see your unique work product.

To be a great communicator:

- Please inform me by e-mail if you will be unable to complete work.
- Turn work in on-time. I look forward to seeing you complete assignments thoroughly and to submit them on time. Turning in assignments on time gives me an opportunity to view your work more carefully. I look forward to your contributions to our class discussions.
- Please check your Atlas email and Canvas inbox on a regular basis throughout the week. Also please check for announcement and make sure that **Canvas notifications are turned on.**

- Since this is an online class, all of it is spent at the comfort of a computer! You can expect to devote about 3-6 hours each week to this course. I recommend scheduling a couple of days a week working on the assignments. Start them early so you can ask questions. I am much more available during the week, and much more likely to answer your questions quickly than if you send a message late Sunday afternoon! The absolute best way to reach me is by scheduling a meeting on my Calendly page. It is easy and quick! Here is the link: at <https://calendly.com/dr-angley/15min>
- Feel free to share feedback regarding how well the class is meeting your needs or if material is unclear. I make changes to the class based on your feedback.
- Please treat your online classmates with respect and observe the rules of confidentiality regarding personal information shared in class.

Assessment Method and Evaluation Scale

Authentic Assessment

An authentic assignment is one that requires application of what you have learned to a new situation and demands judgment to determine what information and skills are relevant and how they should be used. Individual authentic assessments will be assigned to demonstrate an understanding of the material. The products may include developing PowerPoint slide decks, videos, infographics, papers, etc. A rubric will be provided so that you may see the basis of the grade. The rubric is used to grade your work. Generally, I will also include an example so you can see the type of work I am expecting. I really do encourage you to review the rubric so you can see the basis of your grade!

Final Project

As a culmination of the class, the final project will require you to create and annotate a model for three (3) environmental topics that you select. For each topic you export the model as a PowerPoint. The PowerPoint models will be exported from the interactive activity and combined into one final product. Additionally, in a separate discussion, you will reflect on your thoughts about the most important environmental topic to you.

Videos

I have recorded lecture videos for most chapters. They may help you in understanding the content of the course. There is no grade associated with these videos. The videos are in the Canvas Modules. They are they to help you understand the course material, but they are totally optional.

McGraw Hill Connect Activities

I have set up this course to reward you for reading the textbook! Each assigned chapter of the textbook has a reading assignment *that counts toward your final grade*. You can access the textbook using SmartBook®. There are also assignments in McGraw Hill Connect that give you an opportunity to practice and check your understanding of key concepts.

Connect SmartBook® Reading

The textbook for this course may be read using the SmartBook® technology. SmartBook® is an adaptive learning and reading tool. SmartBook® prompts students with questions based on the material they are studying. By assessing individual answers, SmartBook® learns what each student knows and identifies which topics they need to practice. This adaptive technology gives you a personalized learning experience and path to success. You earn 10 points per chapter when completing the reading assignments for each chapter. This is automatically graded, but I check to see what parts of the text are most challenging and provide guidance if needed.

Connect Workbook Assignments

McGraw Hill Connect assignments are like a workbook (except is online) that provides you with an opportunity to apply the reading and other course materials to check your knowledge and understanding. Each assigned chapter is worth 25 points. You have unlimited attempts to complete each assignment.

Video Quizzes

I am using an excellent video series by Paul Andersen to supplement the reading and activities. There are between one and six short videos per unit with questions about the videos that will be graded.

Discussions

Since environmental science often includes conflicting viewpoints and ways that you can act to improve the environment, weekly online discussions will be included in the course. Online discussions will be open for two weeks following the chapter covered (except at the end of the course where time does not permit). The student must make an initial response (3 pts) then respond to at least two other students (2 pts).

Discussion postings should be:

- Substantial – Thoughtful, original, relevant and contributes to the overall learning of the group.
- Thought-provoking – Stimulates thinking and reasoning.
- Timely – Post early to give your peers time to respond, this contributes to a rich discussion.
- Logical, concise, and grammatical.
- Convey “your presence” – Reinforce your conclusions with real life experiences.
- Include citations or references at the end of the post.

Professor Meetings

This course is offered asynchronously. This means that you can work at your own pace (following the due dates). However, I want to encourage you to meet with me from time to time on Zoom. Each student should schedule at least one online meeting with me. This provides me an opportunity to meet with you, answer questions and provide more detailed feedback to you.

Each student should schedule a meeting during weeks 1 through 2 or during Weeks 4 and 5. Please schedule your meeting at <https://calendly.com/dr-angley/15min>.

Of course, you may schedule other meetings as you see fit, but I want to make sure to have an opportunity to meet each of you during these time frames.

Extra Credit

Students have the opportunity to earn extra credit by completing the Student Feedback at the end of the semester. Extra credit will also be given to students who complete the general education science assessment in the term. In general, extra credit opportunities are limited, and are not available in lieu of completing scheduled coursework.

Late Work/Makeup Policy

Discussions and Authentic Assessments

You will have at least two weeks to complete each assignment. Assignments are due on Sundays at 11:59 PM. It is important that you strive to meet the Sunday deadline, as it provides me an opportunity to provide timely feedback.

I ENCOURGE YOU TO TURN IN ALL YOUR ASSIGNMENTS *EVEN IF THEY ARE LATE!*

HERE IS WHY: After each deadline, you will be eligible to receive partial credit for late work. The maximum available points change by 2.5% per day, but you can always earn up to 60% of the original point value. As you can see from this policy, even very late assignments can earn partial credit. I encourage you to submit work, even if it is late.

Why do I do this? I want you to have an opportunity to learn the course material and earn a grade. I really do encourage you to complete all course assignments. All assignments will be open, and you may submit any assignment for grading up until one week before the end of the term (so I have time to grade your work). Please be sure to ask if you have any questions about this late work policy.

Grading Scale

A = 90% - 100%, B = 79.99% - 89.99%, C = 69.99% - 79.99%, D = 59.99% - 69.99%, F = below 59.99%

1. Authentic Assessments – 42%
2. Final Project – 10%
3. McGraw Hill Connect SmartBook® Readings - 10%
4. McGraw Hill Connect Assignments - 10%
5. Video Quizzes – 10%
6. Discussions – 15%
7. Orientation Activities – 1%
8. Attendance at Professor Meetings – 2%

COURSE SCHEDULE

Here is a general course schedule of the topics covered each week.

Course Schedule

Week Mon - Sun	Topic & Assignments	Due Dates
Week 1 Jan 9-15	<p>***Term Begins 8-22***</p> <p>Orientation Module: Orientation Quiz: Be in the Know Assignment</p> <p>Discussion – Intro video and 2 replies</p> <p>Activity: An Introduction to the Scientific Process (Connect)</p> <p>Read Smart Book® Chapter 1: Understanding Our Environment</p> <p>Connect Assessment Chapter 1</p> <p>Review: Chapter 1 Videos in Canvas Chapter 1 Module</p> <p>Video Quiz – Environmental Science</p> <p>Video Quiz – Human Impacts on the Environment</p> <p>Discussion: Scientific Argumentation of Environmental Issues</p> <p>Authentic Assessment: Ecological Footprint</p>	Sunday, 9/15 Note: A free two week trial of Connect is available.
Week 2 Jan 16-22	<p>Read Smart Book® Chapter 2: Environmental Systems. Matter, Energy and Life</p> <p>Connect Assessment Chapter 2</p> <p>Review: Chapter 2 Videos in Canvas Chapter 2 Module</p> <p>Video Quiz – Ecosystem Ecology</p> <p>Video Quiz – Energy flow in ecosystems</p> <p>Video Quiz – biogeochemical cycles</p> <p>Discussion: Florida's Algae Blooms</p> <p>Authentic Assessment: Your Species, Your Choice</p> <p>**Drop/Refund Deadline: Jan 17**</p>	Sunday, 1/22
Week 3 Jan 23-29	<p>Read Smart Book® Chapter 3: Evolution, Species Interactions and Biological Communities</p> <p>Review: Chapter 3 Videos in Canvas Chapter 3 Module</p> <p>Connect Assessment Chapter 3</p> <p>Discussion: How Wolves Change Rivers</p> <p>Authentic Assessment: Rat Island Activity</p>	Sunday 1/29
Week 4 Jan 30 – Feb 5	<p>Read Smart Book® Chapter 4: Human Populations</p> <p>Review: Chapter 4 Videos in Canvas Chapter 4 Module</p> <p>Connect Assessment Chapter 4</p> <p>Video Quizzes</p> <p>Discussion: Human Population Growth</p> <p>Authentic Assessment: Human Population</p>	Sunday, 2/5
Week 5 Feb 6 - 12	<p>Read Smart Book® Chapter 5: Biomes and Biodiversity</p> <p>Review: Chapter 5 Videos in Canvas Chapter 5 Module</p>	Sunday, 2/12

Course Schedule

Week Mon - Sun	Topic & Assignments	Due Dates
	Connect Assessment Chapter 5 Video Quizzes Discussion: Protecting Ecosystems and Population Control Authentic Assessment: Public Service Announcement for an endangered Species	
Week 6 Feb 13 -19	Read Smart Book® Chapter 6: Environmental Conservation Connect Assessment Chapter 6 Video Quizzes Review: Chapter 6 Videos in Canvas Chapter 6 Module Discussion: Timber Debate Authentic Assessment: Human Impacts on the Environment	Sunday, 2/19
Week 7 Feb 20-26	Read Smart Book® Chapter 7: Food and Agriculture Connect Assessment Chapter 7 Video Quizzes Review: Chapter 7 Videos in Canvas Chapter 7 Module Discussion: CAFOs Authentic Assessment: Your Food, Your Choice	Sunday, 2/26
Week 8 Feb 27 -3/5	Read Smart Book® Chapter 8: Environmental Health and Toxicology Video Quizzes Connect Assessment Chapter 8 Review: Chapter 8 Videos in Canvas Chapter 8 Module Discussion: Emergent Diseases Authentic Assessment: Dolphin Death	Sunday, 3/5
Week 9 Mar 6-12	Read Smart Book® Chapter 9: Climate Connect Assessment Chapter 9 Video Quizzes Review: Chapter 9 Videos in Canvas Chapter 9 Module Discussion: Climate Change Authentic Assessment: Climate Change Wedges	Sunday, 3/12
Week 10 Mar 13-19	SPRING BREAK	
WEEK 11 Mar 20-26	Read Smart Book® Chapter 10: Air Pollution Connect Assessment Chapter 10 Video Quizzes Review: Chapter 10 Videos in Canvas Chapter 10 Module Discussion: Clear Air - Whose Responsibility, is It? Authentic Assessment: Air Pollutant Research	Sunday, 3/26

Course Schedule

Week Mon - Sun	Topic & Assignments	Due Dates
	** Withdrawal Deadline: March 24th **	
Week 12 Mar 27- Apr 2	Read Smart Book® Chapter 11: Water Resources and Pollution Connect Assessment Chapter 11 Video Quizzes Review: Chapter 11 Videos in Canvas Chapter 11 Module Discussion: Water: A Right or a Commodity? Authentic Assessment: Your Drinking Water	Sunday, 4/2
Week 13 Apr. 3-9	Read Smart Book® Chapter 13: Energy Resources Connect Assessment Chapter 13 Video Quiz Review: Chapter 13 Videos in Canvas Chapter 13 Module Discussion: Energy Future Authentic Assessment: Appliance Energy Efficiency	Sunday, 4/9
Week 14 Apr 10-16	Read Smart Book® Chapter 15: Economics and Urbanization Connect Assessment Chapter 15 Video Quiz Review: Chapter 15 Videos in Canvas Chapter 15 Module Discussion: The Value of Natural Resources Authentic Assessment: Planning a Sustainable City	Sunday 4/16
Week 15 Apr 17-23	Read Smart Book® Chapter 16: Environmental Policy and Sustainability Connect Assessment Chapter 16 Video Quiz Review: Chapter 16 Videos in Canvas Chapter 16 Module Discussion: NEPA: The Clash of Policy and Politics Authentic Assessment: Life Cycle of Food	Sunday 4/23
Week 16	Final Exams Week. There is no Final Exam for this course, but there is a final project. Discussion: Science Argumentation of Environmental Issues, Revisited Final Project: Understanding Global Change ***Term Ends April 30th***	Friday 4/28 NOTE: The Last to turn in assignments is Friday 4/28

NOTE: This is a hard copy of the syllabus. Assignment dates or content may change. Any changes will be made in CANVAS and students will be notified electronically in CANVAS.

COLLEGE AND COURSE POLICIES

In this course, you will experience a variety of learning activities to help you meet the course learning outcomes. To have the most meaningful learning experience, I believe your experiences matter and it's important to connect what we learn to your "real world." This means that you will be most successful if you participate actively, submit work in a timely manner, and engage in ongoing dialogue with me and your peers.

No Show Policy

One of the best ways to start the class, is to... start the class! So, during the first week of the course please log in and complete the Orientation Quiz and/or other orientation assignments. This way I know that you have officially started the course. If you do not log in during the first week, you may be classified as a "no-show", and your enrollment cancelled.

Attendance Policy

This is an online course, available 24/7, managed through Canvas. You do need access to the Internet (available on all Valencia campuses, McDonalds, the public library, Starbucks, etc.) to complete the course requirements. Your online attendance will be checked based on your participation in the course and submission of coursework. In the event of an extended absence, you should contact me via email or phone as soon as possible to indicate the reason and so we can figure out a plan to keep you on track.

Withdrawal Policy

The deadline for Drop/Refund is **17 January, 2023** and for Withdrawal is **24 March, 2023**. Per Valencia policy a student who withdraws from class before the established deadline for a particular term will receive a grade of "W". A student is not permitted to self-withdraw after the withdrawal deadline.

The Registrar assigns any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during a third or subsequent attempt a grade of "F." If you do not intend to complete the course, you should withdraw yourself prior to the withdrawal date.

Please note that it is up to you to withdraw yourself from the class. I do not withdraw students. But I definitely want to talk with you before you withdraw. Just schedule an appointment and see if we can fix the issue. Please schedule at <https://calendly.com/dr-angley/15min>

Illness /Covid 19 Policy

If you are unable to participate in the course due to illness, family emergency, etc., please communicate with me as soon as possible to create a plan to complete any missed assignments so that your learning can progress in the course. In the case of a prolonged online absence, please communicate with me as soon as possible to create a plan for the best course of action. Remember to email me via Canvas or schedule an appointment at <https://calendly.com/dr-angley/15min>

Academic Honesty

All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, acts or attempted acts of plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, facilitating academic dishonesty, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive.

All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the students' individual thoughts, research, and self-expression. Whenever a student uses ideas, wording, or organization from another source, the source must be appropriately acknowledged. If a student is determined to have submitted plagiarized work, a first offense will result in a zero score on the assignment, a second offense will result a class grade of F.

College Student Conduct Policy

Valencia is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning but also to the development of responsible personal and social conduct. As a registered student, you assume the responsibility for conducting yourself in a manner that contributes positively to Valencia's learning community and that does not impair, interfere with, or obstruct the orderly conduct, processes, and functions of the college as described in the Student Code of Conduct.

Netiquette

It is important to be aware of your behavior in an online learning environment to ensure positive interactions with your instructor and peers. This requires you to follow some guidelines for behaviors.

All students are expected to:

- Show respect for the instructor and for other students in the course
- Respect the privacy of other students
- Express differences of opinion in a polite and rational way
- Maintain an environment of constructive criticism when commenting on the work of other students
- Remain focused on the learning topics during discussions and activities

Third Party Software & FERPA Policy

Valencia College has a firm commitment to protecting the privacy rights of its students. Under no circumstances will your test scores, total points, or final grades be discussed on the telephone or over e-mail. FERPA rights to privacy prevent the divulging of scores or related materials by these means. Scores will only be given face-to-face (or via ZOOM) with each student or by accessing your ATLAS account.

Communication

You may contact me in various ways during this semester.

- You may contact me through the **Canvas Inbox**. This is **the best and quickest** method of communication. I will respond to your message within 24 hours, and often much sooner, except for days and times when the college is closed.

- For more complicated issues (e.g. walking you through an assignment, answering questions about the reading, etc.), your best option is to schedule an appointment with me. To schedule an appointment please go to:
<https://calendly.com/dr-angley/15min>
- I use ZOOM for student conferences. After your appointment is confirmed in Calendly, the software will automatically send you a zoom link. Video is optional for the Zoom Meeting.
- If you prefer to speak to me directly, you may text me at (407) 949-2431.

Digital Device Requirements

You should verify computer software and hardware requirements to ensure course work can be submitted successfully. Since all assignments are submitted online, access to a digital device *is required for this course*.

Canvas lists minimum computer specifications and supported browsers to ensure compatibility. The Chrome browser is recommended. You are also encouraged to install the Canvas app on your Android phone or iPhone in order to receive mobile notifications and to access your courses via your mobile device. I use the canvas app on my phone and my tablet and it works well for me.

Notifications

Make sure that you turn on your Push Notifications and click on the "checkmark" for Announcements and Submission Comments to ensure that you receive those immediately. See the video below on how to do that.

<https://vimeo.com/75514816>

Add a profile pic to Canvas for a personal touch.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Student Assistance Program

Valencia College has contracted with a private and confidential counseling service (Bay Care Behavioral Health Student Assistance Program (SAP)) to provide FREE short-term assistance to students who need to resolve problems that are affecting their college performance. Examples might include stress, relationship/family issues, alcohol/drug problems, eating disorders, depression, and gender issues. If you are experiencing any of these issues, call 1-800-878-5470 to speak to a professional counselor. For more information, log into Atlas, click on the "Students" tab, and click on "BayCare Health System," located under "Health and Wellness."

Students Requiring Academic Accommodations

Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with me, preferably during the first two weeks of the semester. The OSD (West Campus SSB 102, ext. 1523) determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities.

Title IX

Valencia College strives to be a place free from all forms of discrimination. Title IX protects students from discrimination based upon sex including protections against sexual violence, domestic violence, and stalking. This also includes protections for students who are pregnant or may become pregnant. If you experience sexual violence, domestic violence or stalking and would like assistance there are several options available to you. Valencia partners with the Victim Service Center of Central Florida which is a confidential resource available 24/7. They can be reached by calling 407-497-6701. If you would like assistance on campus, you can go to the website or contact Valencia College's Title IX and Equal Opportunity Officer, Ryan Kane, by emailing rkane8@valenciacollege.edu. If you would like to report to law enforcement, you may visit Campus Security or call 911.

Please note that there are no confidential resources on campus. As your professor, I am required to report any information mentioned in this statement to the appropriate campus resources. This will include your name and detailed information shared with me. We take privacy very seriously at the College and only those who have a legitimate need to know the information will be provided with this information.

Copyright

To avoid copyright infringement, any materials produced specifically for this class can ONLY be used during this term for this class.

Disclaimer

Changes in the syllabus, schedule, evaluation procedures, and/or homework assignments may be made at any time at the discretion of the professor. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what, if any, announcements or changes have been made. Make sure you have Canvas set up to receive announcements.