Course Description and Purpose

This one credit laboratory course is an introduction to environmental science and sustainability (EVR 1001L). Students will have hands on experience in identifying and analyzing different environmental problems related with air, water pollution and environmental degradation. Furthermore, students will learn about the interdependence of ecosystems such as the impacts of excessive fertilizer or nutrient usage in agricultural systems, which can result in both surface and ground water pollution. Students will also learn how individual consumption patterns can make a difference in energy use, diminishing waste etc.

Course Objectives

Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and analyze the environmental problems grappling us today
- Compare between sustainable and unsustainable practices regarding resource use
- Understand State of chemical and ecological principles related to environmental problems
- Evaluate how social issues and politics impact the environment
- To create personal decisions about things that involve environmental science

Course texts: There is no textbook for this lab course. All lab manuals, class lectures, and supplemental information will be posted on Blackboard under each week’s tab. It is your responsibility to read and print out the assigned material before coming to class! This is essential
for you to fully understand the procedures, complete the task and answer the questions for each assignment.

**Course Policies**

- Safety rules must be followed while working in the lab.
- Food and drinks are not allowed in the lab.
- Cell phone should be turned off in the classroom and on the field trip.
- Wear appropriate Lab attire all time! This means a lab coat, long pants, and closed toed shoes are required.
- Shorts and Flip-flops are not permitted.
- Students who are not appropriately dressed will not be allowed in the lab.

**Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory for all lab classes. According to the new policy of the University, if you missed the first two weeks of classes, the university will drop you from the class. Missing a lab will result in a zero on the lab report, possibly a quiz and attendance points. Missed labs and exams may only be made up with a note from a physician. Missed quizzes cannot be made up. You are expected to arrive on time—attendance points will be deducted for arriving late.

**Disability Services:**

Students with disabilities who may need accommodations for this class are required to notify the instructor and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) early in the semester so that reasonable accommodations may be implemented as soon as possible. We cannot make accommodations without the direct instruction of the DRC. The Disability Resource Center offers a wide variety of legally mandated services to students with documented disabilities. After reviewing your documentation, a Disability Specialist will determine appropriate academic services and accommodations, depending on your functional limitations in the academic setting. You will then be responsible for requesting accommodations in a timely manner and for following DRC policies and procedures for accessing accommodations. The same rules apply for absences and tardiness, being a DRC student does not exempt you from bringing appropriate documentation. For example, if you were at the doctor’s office, you must bring in documentation confirming this was the case.

**Academic Misconduct Statement**

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic
misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

**Academic Misconduct includes:**

**Cheating** – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not.

**Plagiarism** – The use and appropriation of another’s work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student’s own. Any student, who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism. Any student helping another to plagiarize may be found guilty of academic misconduct.

**All of the Following are Considered Plagiarism:**

- Turning in someone else's work as your own.
- Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit.
- Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks.
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation.
- Changing words, but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit.
- Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not.
- Submitting a copy of your own work to satisfy the requirement of a second class without informing your instructor.

Learn more about the academic integrity policies and procedures (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site. as well as student resources (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site. that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

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**Lab Report Submission**

Lab reports are due by the beginning of class one week after the lab was conducted. For example, reports for a lab conducted on a Thursday will be due by the beginning of class the following Thursday.

**Lab Report Format:** All lab reports should follow the general guideline posted under Blackboard under week 1 “How to write a lab report” All lab reports should be typed in word (doc) format using Time New Roman, Font size 12, Double Spaced, and 1-inch margin on all four sides.
Campus audit project paper and Presentation:

This is a group project. You will be assigned to work in a group to complete a term paper along with presentation. The objective will be to identify one environmental problem on campus and propose an action remedial plan. You are free to select any environmental related topic, but instructor must approve the topic first, and be informed of all the group members along with an outline (about 1 page) detailing the group objective.

Extra Credit:

You can receive up to 25 points as an extra credit by participating in any environmental community activity such as tree plantation, cleaning preserve, cleaning ponds etc. To get extra credit, you will have to provide evidence of participation and write a one-page report describing the work performed, its significance, and what you have learned.

Tentative Course Calendar:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduction/Safety/Overview</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 20-24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Acidification lab</td>
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<td>Aug 27-31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Biological Pollution (Field trip)*</td>
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<td>Sep 4-7</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Domestic use Water Analysis</td>
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<td>Sep 10-14</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Campus Audit</td>
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<td>Sep 17-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Environmental Shopping Lab</td>
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<td>Sep 24-28</td>
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Week 7
Oct 2-5
Midterm Exam
Week 8
Oct 8-12
Nutrient Analysis Lab
Week 9
Oct 15-19
Toxics Analysis Lab
Week 10
Oct 22-26
Air pollution Lab
Week 11
Oct 29-Nov 2
Energy and Environment Lab
Week 12
Nov 5-9
Soil test Lab
Week 13
Nov 12-16
Campus Audit work day
Week 14
Nov 19-23
Campus Audit presentation
Week 15
Nov 26-30
Campus Audit presentation

Important Information

Before starting this course, please review the following pages:

- [Accessibility and Accommodation](#)
- [Academic Misconduct Statement](#)

*The professor reserves the right to change or modify the syllabus at any time during the semester.

Sample Grading Scheme
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<th>Letter</th>
<th>Range%</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Range%</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Range%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95 or above</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 - 86</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 - 76</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 94</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 - 82</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 - 69</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 - 79</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 or less</td>
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