

## **Midland College Syllabus**

2021-2022

ENVR 1402 Lecture (Online)

Environmental Science Lecture

4 Semester Credit Hours

*Core Curriculum Course*

### **Instructor Information:**

**Instructor:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

**Phone:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

**Office Hours:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

**Office:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

**Email:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

### **Notice:**

Students **MUST** actively participate by completing an academic assignment required by the instructor by the official census date. Students who do not actively participate in an academically-related activity may be reported as never attended and dropped from the course.

### **Course Description:**

This course is devoted to the issues associated with human interactions with the environment. Current topics will be discussed such as environment ethics (including economic growth versus ecosystem preservation), effects of urbanization on the natural environment, issues of mining and burning fossil fuels, and a survey of energy alternatives. Additionally, the dynamics of sustainable soils, with regards to agriculture and feeding the population masses, and the Earth's physical systems that influence climate and the availability of resources, dynamics of biodiversity and basics of population, community and ecosystem ecology will be covered. Finally, the issues that drive the global climate change controversy will be discussed.

Prerequisite: TSI complete in Reading and MATH.

### **Core Objectives:**

This course fulfills three hours of the Life and Physical Science requirement in the Midland College **Core Curriculum**. The Core Curriculum is a set of courses that provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills and educational experiences that are essential for all learning. Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#) for any questions about the core. As part of the core, this course addresses the following four objectives:

Critical thinking skills –Students will demonstrate critical thinking by examining and solving applied environmental issues.

Communication skills – Students will demonstrate communication skills in written, oral, and/or visual form within the classroom setting through instructor posed questions, collaborative peer assignments, and exams.

Empirical and Quantitative skills – Students will demonstrate empirical and quantitative skills by analyzing applied environmental science concepts via course assignments, discussions, and exams.

Teamwork – Students will demonstrate teamwork skills by functioning as collaborative and cooperative small groups to answer instructor posed questions and/or complete assignments.

**Text, References and Supplies:**

Lecture Text: Withgott, Jay, Matt Laposata, Environment: The Science Behind the Stories, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, ISBN: 9780134485997

**Purchase of this textbook is optional.**

Computer: Access to a working computer throughout the course with the ability to access the internet and Canvas.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course the student will

1. Use Canvas to access and complete course work.
2. Identify terminology associated with environmental science.
3. Compare concepts of environmental ethics with regards to achieving environmental and economic sustainability.
4. Describe the effects of human population growth on natural and urban environments.
5. Identify the issues associated with the mining and burning of fossil fuels, and the options provided by energy alternatives.
6. Describe dynamics of sustainable soils, methods of soil protection, and the issues to be encountered to feed the masses in the future.
7. Evaluate the Earth's physical systems that influence climate and availability of resources, dynamics of biodiversity and basics of population, community and ecosystem ecology.
8. Identify concepts of ecology and resources encountered in air, land and aquatic systems.
9. Evaluate the issues that drive the global climate change controversy.

**Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:**

Students will be expected to comply with the policies outlined in the Midland College student handbook. Instructor policies concerning academic behavior are consistent with the policies in the student handbook.

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance in an online class is documented through Canvas which records the date and time you access the course.

Students will be evaluated based on the results of examinations, as well as Canvas-based quizzes, discussions and writing assignments given throughout the semester. Your lecture instructor will inform you on the first day of class as to the tentative dates and content for each assignment. Students are expected to complete each

assignment. Your instructor will inform you on the first day of class as to make-up procedures for missed exams and any exemption procedures if they apply.

### **Withdrawal Policy:**

Students who have enrolled in a Texas public institution of higher education as a first-time freshman in fall 2007 or later are permitted to drop no more than six courses during the entire undergraduate career. This limit includes all transfer work taken at a Texas institution of higher education and to second baccalaureate degrees. This statute was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 (Texas Education Code 51.907). Any course that a student drops after Census Day is counted toward the six-course limit if "(1) the student was able to drop the course without receiving a grade or incurring an academic penalty; (2) the student's transcript indicates or will indicate that the student was enrolled in the course; and (3) the student is not dropping the course in order to withdraw from the institution." Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#)

### **Scholastic Dishonesty:**

Midland College does not tolerate scholastic dishonesty or academic misconduct in any form. Please read the MC Student Handbook on this subject. Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#)

### **Evaluation of Students:**

Course Grade will be determined according to the following.

Lecture: 70% of total course grade, may be composed of the following

<b>Exams:</b>	<b>80% - 100%</b>
<b>On-line Quizzes/Writing Assignments:</b>	<b>0 - 20%</b>

Lab: 30% of total course grade, may be composed of the following

<b>Exams:</b>	<b>50% - 100%</b>
<b>Lab Reports from Lab Activities:</b>	<b>0 - 50%</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>0 - 10%</b>

Grade Range (90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-70%=C, 60-69%=D, less than 60%=F)

### **Course Schedule:**

This class meets for 3 lecture hours per week. For a tentative schedule of the class meetings please refer to the schedule distributed to each student on the first class meeting.

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following individual has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

#### **Tana Baker**

Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer

3600 N. Garfield, SSC 131

Midland, Texas 79705

(432) 685-4781

[tbaker@midland.edu](mailto:tbaker@midland.edu)

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the ED.gov Office of Civil Rights website, or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:**

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must visit [www.midland.edu/accommodation](http://www.midland.edu/accommodation) and complete the Application for Accommodation Services located under the Apply for Accommodations tab. Services or accommodations are not automatic, each student must apply and be approved to receive them. All documentation submitted will be reviewed and a "Notice of Accommodations" letter will be sent to instructors outlining any reasonable accommodations

**Math & Science Division Information:**

Division Office: AHSF 124 (432) 685-4561  
Division E-Mail: [mns@midland.edu](mailto:mns@midland.edu)

Department Chair: Mr. Tomas Hernandez (432) 685-6751  
Dean: Dr. Miranda Poage  
Secretary: Sarah Anderson  
Clerk: Liliana Orcutt

**Contents**

**Midland College Syllabus** ..... 1

Instructor Information: ..... 1

Notice: ..... 1

Course Description: ..... 1

Core Objectives: ..... 1

    Critical thinking skills ..... 1

    Communication skills..... 1

    Empirical and Quantitative skills ..... 2

    Teamwork ..... 2

Text, References and Supplies: ..... 2

Student Learning Outcomes: ..... 2

Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies: ..... 2

Attendance Policy:..... 2

Withdrawal Policy:..... 3

Scholastic Dishonesty: ..... 3

ADA Statement:..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Math/Science Division Information: ..... 4

