

HSCI 3306 (CRN 36334): Environmental Health ONLINE

Summer I and Summer II (8 weeks)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

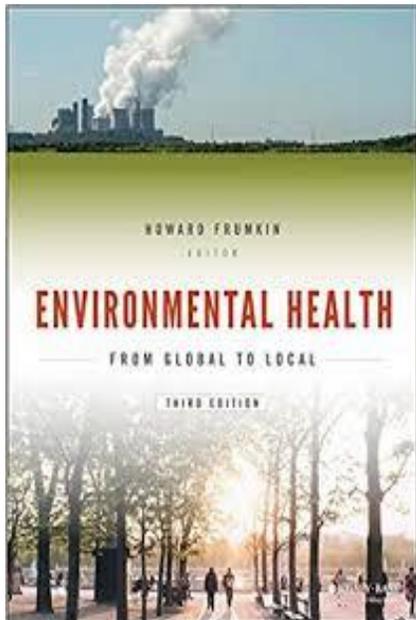
HSCI 3306 is a required undergraduate course for all Health Promotion and Bachelor of Public Health majors. This course considers the relationship of the environment to human health and disease. Principles and concepts of environmental health and environmental health hazards are emphasized. Topics for study include ecology, sustainability, epidemiology, toxicology, risk assessment, and behavioral and sociological factors that impact man's health, as they relate to the environment.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing the reading and activities required in this course, students will be able to:

- Understand, explain, and discuss the meaning of "environmental health" and how the environment has impacted the health of humans across the ages**
- Understand, explain, and discuss the meaning of "sustainability" with regard to the environment**
- Identify major ecosystems and the component interactions that are essential for their survival**
- State the value Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and their major attributes, functions and applications for Environmental Health**
- Understand, explain, and discuss "epidemiology" and give examples of how epidemiology is used in environmental health and occupational health.**
- Critically consider and compare how ethical values as compared to empirical evidence influence decisions in Environmental Public Health**
- Understand, explain, and discuss climate change evidence that demonstrates how climate change is currently affecting the planet and human health**
- Understand, explain, and discuss how contact with nature promotes human health**
- State and discuss the primary Environmental Public Health principles that guide prevention of disease and promotion of health**
- Understand, critically discuss, and apply principles and best practices of environmental health communication, in written and video formats**

REQUIRED MATERIALS



TEXTBOOK:

Frumkin, Howard. Environmental Health: From Global to Local, 3rd Edition, San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-118-98476-5.

This book is available in the UTEP bookstore and also from several online sources including, for example, Amazon: [Environmental Health, 3rd Edition \(Frumkin, H.\)](#)

TECHNOLOGY: All course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system (LMS). To participate in this course, you must have daily access to a computer/laptop, webcam, and microphone. Also, download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe, Flashplayer, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date, and are able to access all parts of the course. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have daily access to the Web via a stable web browser. Use must use Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox browsers when accessing Blackboard. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser. If you encounter technical difficulties beyond

your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

When you complete this 8-week summer course (spanning Summer I and Summer II), you will be awarded 3 credit hours. The minimum expectation for any undergraduate level 3 credit hour course is approximately 9 hours of work per week. The syllabus for this course was designed to be completed in approximately 9 hours of work per week, or approximately 1.5 hours per day, 6 days per week. Success in a fully online course requires *discipline and structure*. It is highly recommended that you choose the same time each day to complete work for this class. For example, you may decide that you will complete work for this class between 9:30am and 11:00 am every morning, Monday through Saturday. Working each day during the same time period will build a strong work habit and will promote efficiency and productivity. Also, staying connected to classmates through *Discussion Board* and *Virtual Classroom* will be very important for your success. Another secret to success is learning in “small bites.” Having a daily study plan promotes this learning approach. Below is one possible study plan for you to use.

SUGGESTED WEEKLY STUDY PLAN

MONDAY 1.5 hrs	TUESDAY 1.5 hrs	WEDNESDAY 1.5 hrs	THURSDAY 1.5 hrs	FRIDAY 1.5 hrs	SATURDAY 1.5 hrs	SUNDAY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Watch videos - Read textbook - ON DISCUSSION BOARD post questions, check responses, respond to others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read textbook - Take notes - Re-watch videos - ON DISCUSSION BOARD post questions, check responses, respond to others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read textbook - Take notes - Re-watch videos - Prepare and upload assigned concept explanation for Virtual Classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participate in or watch recording of weekly VIRTUAL CLASSROOM SESSION - Study for WEEKLY TEST(S) - Work on EH VIDEO PROJECT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review for WEEKLY TEST(S) - Complete WEEKLY TEST(S) - Work on EH VIDEO PROJECT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work on EH VIDEO PROJECT 	<p>REST !</p> <p>PONDER !</p> <p>RELAX !</p>

COURSE ELEMENTS AND GRADING

Your final grade will be determined by your performance on four required course elements. No work is accepted late. There are no "extra credit" options in this course. All work must be completed on time during the weeks assigned.

Grade Distribution

640–577 = A 576–512 = B 511–448 = C 447–384 = D 383 and below = F

160 points: Weekly contributions for virtual classroom	(25%)
160 points: Weekly tests	(25%)
160 points: "Mid-term" Environmental Health video project plan	(25%)
160 points: "Final" Environmental Health video with updated plan	(25%)

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS for VIRTUAL CLASSROOM

Each week, each student will be assigned one concept, definition or idea from the textbook to explain to the rest of the class. The assignment has two parts: 1) concise written explanation of the concept – "*in your own words,*" and not more than about 10 sentences; and 2) one PowerPoint slide that illustrates or elaborates the written explanation. The slide *must add to, not repeat,* the written explanation. The written explanation can earn up to 15 points and the slide can earn up to 15 points, but the total points per week cannot exceed 20. This grading scheme ensures that gaps on one element (written explanation or slide illustration) can be compensated for by excellence on the other element (written explanation or slide illustration).

Please note: the content of all assignments must be completely original and cannot be copied from any other sources. Copying others' work is **PLAGIARISM**. Academic honesty is taken very seriously. Any work determined to be copied will receive a grade of "0" and all cases of plagiarism are immediately turned over to the Dean of Students, Division of Student Affairs.

WEEKLY TEST(S) cover knowledge from one chapter of reading. For weeks in which two chapters are assigned (weeks 1, 2 and 6), students will complete 2 WEEKLY TESTS. WEEKLY TESTS are open-book, multiple-choice format with 10 questions; you will have 60 minutes to complete each WEEKLY TEST. Each WEEKLY TEST or set of WEEKLY TESTS will be worth a total of 20 points. (When two WEEKLY TESTS are given, each question is worth 1 point. When one WEEKLY TEST is given, each question is worth 2 points.) The total possible points for this element is 160 (8 x 20).

MID-TERM and FINAL EXAM: *Instead of a traditional mid-term and final exam, each student in the course will be required to plan and produce one 2 to 4-minute Environmental Health video on a topic chosen by the student from a list provided by the Instructor. The goal of the video is to educate the viewer about one specific aspect of climate change (e.g., more frequent heat waves) and to suggest to the viewer one specific solution that an individual person can carry out to stop climate change. Specific and extensive guidelines and support materials for this project are provided under the appropriate link.*

"MID-TERM" ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH VIDEO PLAN:

The mid-term submission will include the completed Conceptual Outline Form and fully annotated "storyboard" plan; the components together (plan and storyboard) are worth 160 points total; the scoring of individual elements is shown in the detailed grading rubric. Students will receive feedback on their outline and story-board plan so they can be improved before the final submission.

"FINAL" ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH VIDEO:

The final submission will include the completed video with updated/improved Conceptual Outline Form and storyboard plan; the components together (video, plan and storyboard) are worth 160 points total; the scoring of individual elements will be the same as for the mid-term submission, as shown in the detailed grading rubric.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Because this is an online course, attendance is determined by each student's participation online. Participation is determined by completion of the following activities:

- **Viewing and/or reading all course information and videos to ensure understanding of weekly course activities and assignment requirements and content**
- **Participating in thoughtful discussion with your peers on the Discussion Boards**
- **Completing all Weekly Activities including video viewing, reading assignments, concept assignments, and weekly tests**
- **Completing the mid-term and final project (Environmental Health video plan and final video with updated plan).**

To preserve a student's GPA, the student will be dropped from the course for failure to complete two consecutive weekly tests and/or concept assignments.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

All course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system (LMS). Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have daily access to the Web via a stable web browser. Use must use Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox browsers when accessing Blackboard. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

To participate in this course, you must have daily access to a computer/laptop, webcam, and microphone. Also, download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe, Flashplayer, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and are able to access all parts of the course.

If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students.

ONLINE ETIQUETTE

- **BEFORE** you post, consider the audience. Remember that members of the class and the instructor will be reading your postings.
- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to the instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what someone would comfortably say in a face-to-face classroom.
- Postings to our Blackboard Discussion Board are private and confidential, and are intended only for the purposes of this online course. **COPYING AND PASTING ANY POSTINGS, VIDEOS, DOCUMENTS OR OTHER MATERIALS FROM THIS COURSE TO OTHER ONLINE SPACES IS NOT ALLOWED.**

LATE WORK POLICY

No late work will be accepted or graded.

DROP POLICY

To drop this class, please contact the [Registrar's Office](#) to initiate the drop process. If you cannot complete this course for whatever reason, please contact me. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to all students, and all others in the UTEP community with documented disabilities, in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship for the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#).

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

STUDENT RESOURCES

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center \(MaRCS\)](#): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center \(HTC\)](#): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- [Military Student Success Center](#): UTEP welcomes military-affiliated students to its degree programs, and the Military Student Success Center and its dedicated staff (many of whom are veterans and students themselves) are here to help personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.