

**ESCI 2204: Research in Environmental Science**  
**SYLLABUS and TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**  
**Fall 2016**

---

<i>Instructors:</i> Dr. Elizabeth Walsh	TA: Dr. Maryam Zarei
<i>Office:</i> Biology B218,* <i>Lab:</i> B221	Biology 216
* mostly likely	
<i>Office hours:</i> M, W 10:30-11:30 pm	M,W 2:30-3:30; T 3:00-4:00
<i>Phone:</i> 747-5421 or 747-6989	747-5600
<i>Mailbox:</i> BioScience Building B2.120	BioScience Building B2.120
email: <a href="mailto:ewalsh@utep.edu">ewalsh@utep.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:mzarei@utep.edu">mzarei@utep.edu</a>
	TA:
	Sergio Samaniego
	<a href="mailto:sdsamaniego@miners.utep.edu">sdsamaniego@miners.utep.edu</a>

---

**COURSE OBJECTIVE**

Training in conducting and communicating research through workshops and active research with a faculty mentor.

Students will be required to spend **4-6 hrs per week** working on a research topic with a faculty mentor in addition to attending class

Specific skills learned will include:

- Developing research proposals (e.g. hypotheses, experimental design)
- Applying for summer internships
- How to complete and present a research poster
- How to give an Elevator Talk
- Ethics in Environmental Research
- Communicating science to the general public

**GRADE DETERMINATION**

**POINTS**

Lab notebook:	10
Faculty evaluation:	30
Elevator talk:	10
Practice presentation:	10
Research report &	
Final presentation:	30
Attendance &	
Participation	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

**ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES**

90-100 POINTS = A
80-89 POINTS = B
70-79 POINTS = C
60-69 POINTS = D
<60 POINTS = F

Rubrics for all presentations will be posted on Blackboard.

**Required Textbook:** None required.

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE - Fall 2015

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
Aug 25	Introduction to Research	Walsh
Sept 1	Lab Safety training, How to keep a notebook	Zarei
Sept 8	Experimental Design Review	Zarei
Sept 15	Touching bases; developing a hypothesis	Walsh; TAs
Sept 22	Ethical conduct of research	Walsh
Sept 29	Communicating science to the general public	TAs
Oct 6	Mixer with Mentors – open forum	Walsh, TAs
Oct 13	How to develop an Elevator Talk Presenting a scientific paper	TAs
Oct 20	Elevator talks on research projects	TAs
Oct 27	Lab notebook check	TAs
Oct 28	Drop Deadline	
Nov 3	Mixer with Mentors – open forum	Walsh, TAs
Nov 10	How to make a research poster	TAs
Nov 17	Practice poster presentations	TAs
Nov 24	Thanksgiving – No Class	
Dec 1	Formal presentations of posters; Report Due; Final Lab Notebook Check	Walsh, TAs, Mentor

## **COURSE POLICIES**

**POLICY ON DROP DEADLINE:** We will follow the College of Science and UTEP with respect to the drop date of October 30th. No requests for a withdrawal will be approved after this date.

**POLICY ON CLASS PARTICIPATION:** You are expected to come to class prepared to lead a discussion on the assigned topic. You should have a good understanding of the reading and have several questions ready to discuss.

**POLICY ON CIVILITY:** Please come to class on time. It is disturbing and distracting everybody if people come in late. Please do not hold private conversations during lectures, but feel free to ask questions or start a discussion at any time. ***Cell phones MUST be turned off during class. DO NOT answer phones while in class.***

**DISABILITY STATEMENT:** If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass). *CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.*

**MILITARY STATEMENT:** If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and /or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact one of the Instructors no later than Sept 10.

**POLICY ON HOMEWORK:** All homework assignments are to be individual efforts unless specifically told otherwise. This policy will be strictly enforced.

**POLICY ON MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS:** NO make-up assignments will be given for reasons other than illness (doctor's note required), absence with the instructor's prior approval, or when a student is on official University business (documentation required BEFORE the absence).

**POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. All university guidelines will be strictly followed. Please read these guidelines carefully. If you have any questions regarding the university policy please contact the Dean of Students.

**POLICY ON ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Use of **laptops** during class is not permitted, except for class assigned presentations. The necessity of classroom interaction in this course negates the usefulness of laptops as a note-taking device. The use of your laptop during class can also prove distracting to your classmates, so please refrain from using your laptop during class. Use of **cell phones or other wireless devices are not permitted.**

- Set your phone to mute or silent mode before coming to class.
- Do not answer incoming calls or make outgoing calls except in an emergency.
- Do not use text messaging or web browser features while in class.

***If you choose not to comply with these policies you will be ask to leave the classroom.***