

**ESCI 2204: Research Experience in Environmental Science I**  
**SYLLABUS and TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**  
**Fall 2019**

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*Instructors:* Dr. Elizabeth Walsh

*Office:* Biology B218, \* *Lab:* B221

\* mostly likely

*Office hours:* T, R 10:00-11:30 pm

*Phone:* 747-5421 or 747-6989

*Mailbox:* BioScience Building B2.120

email: [ewalsh@utep.edu](mailto:ewalsh@utep.edu)

Dr. Jie Xu

Geological Sciences #319

Friday 11:00-12:00 or by appointment via email

email: [jxu2@utep.edu](mailto:jxu2@utep.edu)

*TAs:* Viridiana Orona

*Office hours:* By appointment via email

email: [vorona@miners.utep.edu](mailto:vorona@miners.utep.edu)

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**COURSE OBJECTIVE**

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

Students will be required to spend a minimum of **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

Final presentation: 30

Attendance &

Participation\* 10

**TOTAL** 100

**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. \**Eduguide code 5707297*

**Required Textbook:** None required.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE - Fall 2019

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
Aug 29	Introduction to Research	Walsh
Sept 5	Lab Safety training, How to keep a notebook	Walsh
Sept 12	Experimental Design Review	Xu
Sept 19	Developing a hypothesis	Xu; TA
Sept 26	Ethical conduct of research	Walsh
Oct 3	Communicating science to the general public	TA
Oct 10	Mixer with Mentors – Open forum	Walsh, Xu, TA
Oct 17	How to develop an Elevator Talk Presenting a scientific paper	Xu
Oct 24	Elevator talks on research projects	TA, Xu
Oct 31	Lab notebook check	TA
<i>Nov 1</i>	<i>Drop Deadline</i>	
Nov 7	How to make a research poster	Walsh, TA
Nov 14	Practice poster presentations	TA
Nov 21	Formal presentations of posters Final Lab Notebook Check- Mixer	Walsh, Xu, TA Mentors, ESCI 4315 peers
Nov 28	Thanksgiving –No class	

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## COURSE POLICIES

**POLICY ON DROP DEADLINE:** We will follow the College of Science and UTEP with respect to the drop date of Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. No requests for a withdrawal will be approved after this date.

**POLICY ON CLASS PARTICIPATION:** You are expected to come to class prepared and ready to engage in the topic. Attendance and participation are part of your grade (10%).

**POLICY ON CAMPUS CARRY:** Persons holding a Concealed Handgun License can lawfully carry their handgun into a UTEP classroom as long as the gun remains concealed. Open carry remains prohibited on campus. In other words, none of us should see (or be able to tell that there is) a gun at UTEP. Call the University Police at 747-5611 or dial 911 if you see any individual on campus with a handgun or other type of weapon. For more information on campus carry, see [<http://sa.utep.edu/campuscarry/>]; for more information on overall campus safety, see [<http://admin.utep.edu/emergency>].

**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.***