



Introduction to Environmental Science (EPCT 1311)

Credit: 3 semester credit hours (3:3:0)

Prerequisite: Passed the reading and writing portion of TSI or other accepted testing instrument.

Course Description

An overview of environmental science with emphasis on history and development, audits and site assessments, and other special concerns.

Required Textbook and Materials

1. Accident Prevention Manual for Business and Industry – Environmental Management
By the National Safety Council, 2nd Edition
 - a. ISBN number is 978-0-87912-209-6
2. 11/2 -2 inch 3 ring binder with pockets
Notebook paper for binder
 - *Organization of notebook; contents should include:
 - Cover page with first and last name
 - Title of course
 - Day and time of weekly class meeting
 - Semester (example, “Fall 2018”)
 - Dividers labeled, syllabus, PPT. lectures, study questions, handouts, exams
3. USB Flashdrive

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the historical impact of the environmental movement.
2. Describe the environmental interrelationship between social, political, and natural processes.
3. Describe the environmental regulatory agencies and their mission at federal, state, and local levels.

Course Outline

- A. Welcome to LIT:
 1. Introduction of faculty and students
 2. Expectations
 3. Policies
- B. Modern U.S. Environmentalism
 1. Conservation and Preservation
 2. Environmental Political Activism
- C. Globalization of Environmental Concerns
 1. United States

2. Europe
3. Former U.S.S.R.
4. Developing Nations
- D. International Environmental Standards
 1. Nongovernmental Organizations
 2. Future Environmental Trends
- E. Federal Environmental Laws
 1. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 2. The Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980
 3. Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
 4. Toxic Substances Control Act
- F. Environmental Audits versus Site Assessments
 1. Purpose, Procedure, and Trends
 2. Legal Issues
 3. Environmental Assessments
- G. RCRA
 1. Solid and Hazardous Wastes
 2. Underground Storage Tanks
 3. Disposal
 4. Transportation/Regulations
 5. PCB Storage, Disposal, and Cleanup
- H. HAZWOPER
 1. History
 2. Training Program
- I. Construction and Finishing Materials for Interior Spaces
 1. Function of a Space and Air Quality
 2. Impact of Nearby Spaces on Air Quality
 3. Asbestos in Buildings
- J. Evaluation the Public Health Implications of Potentially Hazardous Materials
 1. Lead Exposure
 2. How the Experts Perceive Risk
 3. How the Public Perceives Risk/Communicating to the Public about Environmental Risk
- K. Environmental Problems that are Global in Scope
 1. Population Growth
 2. Soil Degradation/Deforestation
 3. Biodiversity
 4. Water Resources
- L. Human Health Risk Assessment
 1. Potentially Exposed Populations
 2. Exposure Assessment

Grading Scale

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = Less than 60

*Notebooks will be graded the evening of the final.

Course Evaluation

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Test 1 = 20%

Test 2 = 20%

Report = 15%

Vocabulary = 10%

Notebook = 5%

Final = 30%

Course Policies

1. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
2. Computers, telephones, headphones, and any other electronic devices must be turned off while in class or used only with permission of the instructor.
3. Do not bring children to class.
4. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
5. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor are in the addendum.

Disabilities Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator, Rebecca Cole, at (409) 880-1737 or visit her office located in the Cecil Beeson Building, room 116B.

**Students with special needs and/or medical emergencies or situations should communicate with their instructor regarding individual exceptions/provisions. It is the student's responsibility to communicate such needs to the instructor.

Student Code of Conduct Statement

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu or obtained in print upon request at the Student Services Office. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document change.