

Pima Community College
East Campus
8181 E. Irvington Road 85709-4000
BIO 105 CRN 11415 Environmental Biology Hybrid
Course Syllabus Fall 2009

Instructor: Sandy Bejarano
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Phone: 206-7882
Office hours: M/W 9:15 to 9:45am and M/W 1:00 to 3:00 pm
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Attendance: This class is comprised of 1 orientation session and 3 laboratory sessions. Full attendance of the class sessions is mandatory. This means 100% attendance is required.

Class format: Students will obtain course information from the textbook, MyPima site for the course, one orientation session and 3 weekend lab sessions. Student-student and student-teacher communication will occur via phone or e-mail. **If you ever have a question regarding an activity or requirement for the course, you need to contact me.**

Class Schedule: BIO 105 Environmental Biology /CRN 11415 / Sat/ 8:30 am - 1:30 pm / E7 – 705
September 28 to December 7, 2009 (Orientation 9/28 from 7 to 8 pm E3-301)
Classes are a combination of lecture, discussion, exercises, and presentations

Text: Environmental Science, by Enger & Smith

Prerequisites: None

Course Description: Fundamentals of ecology and their relevance to human impact on natural ecosystems. Includes ecosystem structure and function, population dynamics, and human impacts of air, water, land, and biodiversity.

Course Objectives:

1. Synthesize ecological principles into an understanding of how the Earth functions.
2. Apply ecological principles to understand human impact on the environment.
3. Evaluate scientific basis of environmental issues.
4. Describe possible causes and analyze potential solutions to current environmental issues.
5. Demonstrate skills necessary for life-long learning, critical examination, and personal decisions relative to environmental biology.

Grading Policy:

	Points
Exams (3 x 50)	150
Endangered Species	20
Field Trip	20
Scientific Method Poster	30
Exercises	100
On-Line Discussion	60
Total	380

The final grade for the course will be determined by the percentage of total points earned by each student.
90% to 100% = A, 80% to 89% = B, 70% to 79% = C, 60% to 69% = D, 0% to 59% = F.

342 – 380 = A
304 – 341 = B
266 - 303 = C
228 - 265 = D
Less than 228 = F

For a student to receive a grade of an “I” or Incomplete, at least 75% of the requirements for the course must be met. The student must meet with the instructor to discuss this option.
The last day to withdraw from the class is **November 13**. If you do not attend class and do not withdraw from the course, you will be issued an F for the course.

Classroom Conduct

I expect you to turn off or silence all pagers, cell phone etc. while in the classroom. (No texting)
You are college level students and I expect you to show up on time and complete your own work.
You must keep electronic copies of submitted and graded materials in case of a grade dispute.
Because of insurance limitations, non-registered visitors are not allowed at class sessions.
Possession of drugs, alcohol or firearms on college property is illegal
Pets are not allowed in the classroom
Students creating disturbances that interfere with the conduct of the class or the learning of others will be asked to leave.
Students are expected to follow “The Student Code of Conduct” for PCC.

As an instructor, I have a strong commitment to a safe, structured educational environment. Any student displaying discourteous, argumentative, disruptive, or disorderly conduct will be asked to cease. Further unwelcome conduct by the student will call for the student to be asked to leave the class. This may lead to further action by the instructor including, but not limited to calling campus police, calling 911, filing a code of conduct report, and/or meeting with the Division Dean of Student Development.

Exams: There are three, 50 point exams throughout the session. Each exam is in the East Campus testing center covering material from the study guide. **The exam must be taken by the deadline specified in the schedule.** Under any circumstances, if an extension is granted your exam grade will be dropped by 10%. Exams consist of 25 objective questions.

Exercises: Several in-class and take-home exercises are required. I do not mind if you discuss these exercises with other students in the class, however, I do expect “original work”.

In lieu of weekly in-class attendance the take-home exercises are due on a weekly basis.

In-class exercises cannot be made-up outside of class.

The grading criterion for the exercises is as follows:

- Plus (100%) Strong effort and investment on the exercise was evident.
- Check (80%) Some effort and investment was evident, but there is room for improvement.
- Minus (50%) Little effort and investment was evident.
- Zero (0%) The exercise was not submitted.

Exercises submitted late will not be graded.

The exercises conducted out-of-class are submitted electronically. Please email them to me using my Pima email address. Please keep electronic records of materials you've submitted and my responses in case of any discrepancies.

Assignments: There are 3 assignments and they are: Field Trip Report, Endangered Species Report, and Scientific Methods Poster Project. The field trip and endangered species reports are out of class assignments and descriptions of those assignments are found on the MyPima site for the course. The scientific methods poster project assignment is an in-class assignment and is a required assignment to receive a final grade for the course.

Discussion: There are six discussion Topics posted on the MyPima site for the course under "Message Board". Click on "Message Board", next click on the discussion Topic you want to participate and read through my instructions. Next click on "Reply to this thread", and enter your "Entry". Additionally, you'll need to respond to 2 other entries posted by 2 other students. You can achieve this by clicking on the student entry you wish to respond to and click on "Reply to This Thread". You need to follow the deadlines to participate on the discussion. Late entries will not be graded and you will earn a grade of a zero on that discussion Topic.

The discussion component is graded as follows:

Points	Criteria
8 to 10	Student participated in the discussion and presented an entry and 2 responses. It was clear that the student took time to think about comments or questions posed and responded in a way that was respectful, articulate, and thought provoking. Strong effort and investment in the discussion was evident.
5 to 7	Student participated in the discussion in a meaningful manner and presented an entry and 2 responses. Student took some time to think about comments or questions posed, but there is still room for improvement. Responses seem rushed with only limited depth or not thought provoking comments. Some effort and investment in the discussion was evident.
1 to 4	Student did not participate meaningfully to the discussion or failed to submit an entry and or 2 responses. Comments did not imply an understanding of the topic.

"If you have a disability that requires special accommodations, you are strongly urged to notify me at the beginning of the term so that reasonable accommodations can be made in a timely manner."

This syllabus is subject to change without prior notice or discussion.

BIO 105 Grade Calculation

Entry	Total Points	Points Earned
Testing		
Exam 1	50	_____
Exam 2	50	_____
Exam 3	50	_____
Assignments		
Field Trip	20	_____
*Scientific Method Project	30	_____
Endangered Species Report	20	_____
Exercises		
In class and Take home	100	_____
Discussion		
Topic 1	10	_____
Topic 2	10	_____
Topic 3	10	_____
Topic 4	10	_____
Topic 5	10	_____
Topic 6	10	_____
Total	380	_____

***This is a required Assignment.**