

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

**Instructor:** Sandy Bejarano  
**Office:** Building O-1 Room 152  
**Phone:** 206-7882  
**Office hours:** M/W 9:15 am - 9:45 am and 1pm to 3 pm  
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**Attendance:** This class consists of six, 5 hour sessions. You must be present for 85% of the class. That means you may miss one class period or be late/leave early twice. Additionally a completed "BIO 105 Express Hour Verification" form needs to be submitted. A minimum of 40 hours outside of class needs to be documented for full credit.

**Class Schedule:** BIO 105 Environmental Biology /CRN 14033/ Tues/ 5:30 pm - 10:30 pm / E7 – 704  
October 13 to November 17, 2009

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
Biome Presentation	35
Field Trip	15
<b>Radish Experiment</b>	25 (This report is required for a final grade)
Exercises	100
Article Review	20
Participation	25
Total	370

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.

333 – 370 = A

304 – 332 = B

259 - 303 = C

222 - 258 = D

Less than 222 = 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. To get a W, you must request it in writing before November 11, 2009. Requesting a W does not guarantee a W. Issuing a W is up to the instructor’s discretion.

### **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 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 other 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.**

**Safety procedures:** We will be doing some outdoor activities. Please dress appropriately. Wearing closed toed shoes and long pants is suggested.

**Exams:** There are three, 50 point exams throughout the session. Each exam is administered in class covering material from the study guide. Each exam is comprised of 25 multiple/true-false questions. Exams 1 and 2 are closed book exams. The last exam is an open book test so make sure you have your own copy of the text. There is no opportunity to make-up an exam unless I am notified about your conflict before exam time.

**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 meeting the full 70 hours for class, take-home exercises are completed outside of class and are due on a weekly basis. **Out of class exercises need to be typed.** Exercises submitted late will not be graded. No electronic submissions are accepted.

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.

**Article Review:** Each student needs to find and read a recent (no more than 6 months old) article relating to environmental science. Summarize the article and post your summary on the MyPima Site for the Course under message board. Go to the site, click on “Message Board”, next click on “Post a topic”. Type in your summary; include the full title of the article and reference you used. It is first come first served on the articles and no 2 students can report on the same article. Additionally, on 2 separate replies, each student is required to respond to at least 2 topic entries presented by 2 different students. Go to “message board”, click on the topic you wish to respond to and click on “Post a Reply”. You can either agree or oppose these students, but please be respectful when presenting your responses.

The grading criteria for this exercise is as follows:

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 18 to 20 points | Student wrote the summary and responded to 2 other topics. Strong effort and investment on the exercise was evident.                  |
| 14 to 17 points | Student wrote the summary and responded to 2 other topics. Some effort and investment was evident, but there is room for improvement. |
| 9 to 13 points  | Student wrote the summary and responded to none or 1 other topic. Little effort and investment was evident.                           |
| 1 to 8 points   | Student perhaps wrote the summary or responded to 1 topic, but little effort and investment was evident.                              |

**Assignments:** There are 3 assignments and they are: Field Trip Report, Biome Presentation, and Radish Lab Report. The Radish Lab Report is a required assignment and must be conducted to receive a final grade for the course. No electronic submissions are accepted.

“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

<b>Entry</b>	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Points Earned</b>
<b>Testing</b>		
Exam 1	50	_____
Exam 2	50	_____
Exam 3	50	_____
 <b>Assignments</b>		
Field Trip	15	_____
Radish Experiment	25	_____
Biome Presentation	35	_____
 <b>Exercises</b>		
In class and Take home	100	_____
 <b>Article Review</b>	 20	 _____
 <b>Out of Class Participation</b>		
Verification Form (40 hours)	25	_____
 Total	 370	 _____