

Northwest Arkansas Community College

(Science and Mathematics Division)

Discipline Code

ENSC

Course Number

1003

Course Title

Environmental Science

Catalog Description

A course focusing on the interrelationship between man and his environment. The first half of the course is an abbreviated study of basic ecological and conservation principles. The second half focuses on environment topics of special interest. These topics may include air and water pollution, environmental ethics, policy and decision-making, waste management, attracting and preserving wildlife or other requested topics. ENSC 1001L is a co-requisite.

Prerequisites

None. Corequisite ENSC 1001L

Credit Hours

3 credit hours

Contact hours

45 lecture contact hours

Load hours

3 load hours

Semesters Offered

Fall, Spring.

ACTS Equivalent

None.

Grade Mode

A-F

Learning Outcomes

Students completing this course will:

- Explain the need for “scientific literacy” in coping with the world of the present and better understand the world in their future.
- Explain the scientific method and how it is used to acquire information about the world around them.

- Relate scientific approach to understanding challenges and issues affecting their environment.
- Describe GIS (Global Information Systems) and how it applies to the scientific community in today's workplace.

General Education Outcomes Supported

- Students develop higher order thinking skills.
- Students can write clear, coherent, well-organized documents, which are substantially free of errors.
- Students can read selections at the appropriate level of education and describe the main idea and supporting details. Students can evaluate written material objectively.
- Students can achieve mathematical literacy.
- Students demonstrate information literacy.

Standard Practices

Topics list

- Critical Thinking about the Environment
- Earth as a System of Change
- The Human Population and Environment
- Biogeochemical Cycles
- Ecosystems and Ecosystem Management
- Biological Diversity
- Biogeography
- Biological Productivity and Energy Flow
- Ecological Restoration
- Sustaining Living Resources
- Effects of Agriculture on Environment
- Environmental Health, Pollution, and Toxicology
- Fossil Fuels and Environment

Learning activities

- Courses must, at a minimum, cover the core learning outcomes for each topic.
- Course assignments include homework, quizzes, exams, and discussions.

Assessments

- None.

Grading guidelines

- At least 50% of the grade should come from proctored work.

Revision Date

May 3, 2021