

SC491: Topics in Environmental Science
Spring 2002

Professors: Dr. Charles Kulpa, Biological Sciences
Dr. Kristin Shrader-Frechette, Philosophy/Biological Sciences

Classroom: 180 Nieuwland Science

Class Time: 2:00-3:15 pm, Tuesday/Thursday

Websites: www.bio.nd.edu/biology and www.nd.edu/~kshrader

Place of Office Hours: 252 Galvin for Dr. Kulpa, and Malloy Hall for Dr. Shrader-Frechette.

Professors' Office Hours: Sign-up sheets available on office doors of Drs. Kulpa and Shrader Frechette.

Dr. Kulpa: Wed./Thurs. afternoons

Dr. Shrader-Frechette: Tues/Wed./Thurs. afternoons

Course Goals: -to gain a comprehensive overview of the environmental sciences; public health;
-to evaluate critically and logically the alternative methods, hypotheses, strengths and weaknesses of those sciences,
-to gain some perspectives on how one can use/apply environmental sciences in the world today.

Course Requirements: active analysis in each class; three examinations; one-page paper; final 5-page paper; presentation; specific seminars on campus will be required.

Course Readings: Miller, *Living in the Environment*, 12th edition (Boston: Brooks/Cole, 2001) plus assorted readings, handouts, materials on reserve and on the internet.

Basis for Determining Course Grade:

20% Class Participation
20% Each Exam
20% Papers, Presentation

Grading Procedures: (1) In order to get to know students and to maximize fairness, professors will do all grading/office hours themselves, without a TA. Please come to office hours, or make an appointment by signing sheet, or see them at class. Be sure to ask questions (on previous materials) at beginning of each class.

(2) On all assignments and tests of any kind, the professors presuppose correct grammar and spelling. Students will lose points for all errors of spelling and grammar, as well as for logical, conceptual, or factual errors made in any course work. Students will also lose points for not adhering to the paper format.

Late papers/tests: Because of the importance of treating everyone equally, there will neither be make-up tests nor acceptance of late papers unless the student notifies the professor, before the day and time of the test/deadline, about personal/family sickness or family death.

Papers: See handout for topics from which to choose.
Bioscience Journal format for references
Web citation limited to U.S. government sites/scientific references can not be older than 1995.

1-page paper: five argument/objection/response statements, one sentence each, including one reference for each argument and objective

5-page paper: an expansion of the one-page paper including significantly more references.