

GEO 200 ONLINE: CONSERVATION OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTS (SUMMER 2016)
DEPT. OF GEOGRAPHY AND EARTH SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE

Instructor: **Dr. Gargi Chaudhuri**

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Course Description: This course introduces the student to some fundamental principles of the natural environment and examines current environmental issues and the basic concepts of environmental conservation. Topics considered include: history of conservation, population dynamics, food and hunger, biodiversity, air and water pollution, climate change, and resource use and environmental sustainability.

General Education Requirement: GEO 200 fulfills a General Education requirement for one course under Liberal Studies Component B, International and Multicultural Studies: Becoming a World Citizen.

Course Text: *Myers, N. and Spoolman, S.E (2013). Environmental Issues and Solutions: A Modular Approach, © Cengage Learning*
You are responsible for doing all the readings as listed on the course schedule. Assigned readings must be completed on time.

Course Requirements:

It is assumed that the students have familiarity with basic computer skills that will not be taught in the class, such as:

- ~ Web browsing
- ~ MS office software package (such as MS Excel and MS Word)
- ~ Drag and drop files
- ~ Download files from the web to a given folder
- ~ Zip/Unzip a file
- ~ Create, name and rename files and folders
- ~ Copy, paste and delete files
- ~ Save a files in a folder, and move files among different folder

The above-mentioned tasks will not be taught in class but may be required to successfully complete course exercises.

Grade Distribution: Your final grade in this course will be based on the following: Quizzes = 70%; Exercises = 30%

Grade Scale: A = 94-100%; A/B = 89 – 93%; C = 84 – 88%; B/C = 78 – 83%; C = 70 – 77%; D = 60 – 69%; F = Below 59%

Quizzes: The quiz will consist of Multiple Choice, Fill-in-Blanks, True/False and short essay questions. It will be conducted on D2L. Material for the quiz will be taken from lectures, exercises, videos and the assigned readings. No retakes allowed.

Exercises: Due dates are given on the course schedule. The exercises will be posted on D2L for you to obtain. It is very important that you do all the exercises. Late submission of any exercise is not allowed.

Videos: Videos related to the course will be shown regularly throughout the semester. Information provided in the videos will be included on the exams.

Emergencies: In case of sickness, university approved official events or other emergencies which refrains you from doing your assigned task for more than 3 days, you should contact Office of Student Life (who will then contact me with your situation) and appropriate proof (doctor's note in case of sickness, coach's/supervisor's note in case of any university approved official event) should be provided for requests for quiz reschedule and/or late submission of an assignment.

Academic Misconduct (Cheating and Plagiarism): Academic misconduct is a violation of the student honor code. Please read the code available on the university web site and be sure to understand it: http://www.uwlax.edu/studentlife/academic_misconduct.htm. All work handed in for this class must be your own. Plagiarism or cheating in any form may result in the failure of the assignment, exam, or the course, and may include harsher sanctions. For helpful information on how to avoid plagiarism go to <http://www.uwlax.edu/murphylibrary/research/plagiarism.html>.

Disability Accommodations: If you have a documented disability, I will make every effort to accommodate your special needs. I want every student in my classes to be welcomed and to have full opportunities to learn. Please note the following important information: Students with Disabilities: Any student with a documented disability (e.g. ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Acquired Brain Injury, PTSD, Physical, Sensory, Psychological, or Learning Disability) who needs to arrange academic accommodations must contact The ACCESS Center (165 Murphy Library, 608-785-6900, ACCESSCenter@uwlax.edu) and meet with an advisor to register and develop an accommodation plan. In addition to registering with The ACCESS Center, it is the student's responsibility to discuss their academic needs with their instructors. You can find out more about services available to students with disabilities at The ACCESS Center website: <http://www.uwlax.edu/access-center>

I Am A Mandated Reporter: As a faculty member of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, I am a mandated reporter of sexual harassment (including sexual violence). This means that I am obligated to disclose any detailed or specific information I receive about such incidents involving a member of this campus while that person is a member of this campus, regardless of whether the incident takes place on campus or off. I care about your well-being, and our course assignments sometimes lend themselves to disclosure, but you should not share any details of an incident with me until you have discussed your options under the new Title IX guidelines. There are confidential reporters available to students at UW-L where you can have this discussion. The contact in Student Life is Ingrid Peterson, Violence Prevention Specialist, at (608) 785-8062 or ipeterson@uwlax.edu. I am also happy to help direct you to counseling and support services. Simply ask me to assist you in locating a confidential reporter and I will help you to do so.

Tentative Schedule

Week (2016)	Exercises	Quiz	Topic	Book
1: 5/23 – 5/29	#1: Population Growth Due: 5/29 @ 11:59PM	Quiz 1: Open between 5/26 @ 8AM – 5/29 @ 11:59PM Includes: Topics 1–3, Bk Chaps. 1–3, & associated Videos	#1: Environmental Science and Sustainability	Chap. 1
			#2: Population Growth	Chap. 2
			#3: Urbanization	Chap. 3
2: 5/30 – 6/5	#2: Energy Use Due: 6/5 @ 11:59PM	Quiz 2: Open between 6/2 @ 8AM – 6/5 @ 11:59PM Includes: Topics 4–7, Bk Chaps. 4–7, & associated Videos	#4: Food Resources	Chap. 4
			#5: Energy Efficiency, Non-Renewable Energy. and Renewable Energy	Chap. 5 & 6
			#6: Mineral Resources	Chap. 7
3: 6/6 – 6/12	#3: Water Footprint Due: 6/12 @ 11:59PM	Quiz 3: Open between 6/9 @ 8AM – 6/12 @ 11:59PM Includes: Topics 8–11, Bk Chaps. 8–11, & associated Videos	#7: Biodiversity and Species Extinction	Chap. 8
			#8: Land Degradation	Chap. 9
			#9: Water Resources and Pollution	Chap. 10 & 11
4: 6/13 – 6/17	#4: Climate Change Due: 6/17 @ 11:59PM	Quiz 4: Open between 6/14 @ 8AM – 6/17 @ 11:59PM Includes: Topics 12–14, Bk Chaps. 12–15 & associated Videos	#10: Climate Change	Chap. 13
			#11: Air Pollution	Chap. 12
			#12: Waste & Environmental Health Hazard	Chaps. 14, 15