

Welcome to Honors Biology!

Biology 675

In an age when man has forgotten his origins and is blind even to his most essential needs for survival, water along with other resources has become the victim of his indifference. -Rachel Carson

Philosophy

Water is essential for life on Earth. Water scarcity now poses serious constraints on food security, ecological health, and regional peace and stability in many parts of the world. This course examines the history of water development, the signs and consequences of water scarcity today, and the emerging politics of water. Case studies provide an opportunity to grapple with real-world problems.

Goals

After completing this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of water.
2. Evaluate human impact on water resources.
2. Discuss the water challenges facing society.

Attendance

Regular attendance is expected at every meeting. Role will be taken during each class meeting. When students must be absent because of illness or emergencies they should contact the instructor in advance. A student may be dropped for missing two class meetings. Responsibility for making up work missed because of absence rests with the student.

Office Hours

Please contact the instructor at any time with questions concerning the course, an assignment, an upcoming quiz, etc.

Skyline College, 7214.

Phone: 650/738-4376.

E-mail: case@smccd.net



Requirements

All assignments must be completed to earn a passing grade. Class participation will be included in your grade.

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Project | 100 points |
| Draft project | 10 |
| Assignments | 60 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | 170 points |

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Grading | A \geq 88% |
| | B 75-87% |
| | C 60-74% |
| | D 45-59% |
| | F \leq 44% |

Read each assignment before coming to class and be prepared to discuss the content and answer questions on the content.

Honors credit will be received in this and a concurrent 100 or 200 level biology course upon successful completion of this course.

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in any non-Honors Biology level 100 or 200 course.

The Grade of W

You may wish to withdraw from this class. If you withdraw prior to 9-9-11 nothing will appear on your record. If you withdraw between 9-9-11 and 11-15-11, a *W* will appear on your transcript. You will receive a *W* for exceeding two absences prior to 11-15-11.

Anyone exceeding two absences after 11-15-11 will get a final grade of F.


Project





















You will work in groups of 3 students to write an Environmental Impact Statement. The project guidelines are online. You will receive your project and data in class.

Resources

Assignments, reading, and a glossary are posted on the BIOL 675 home page.

Go to <[http:// skylinecollege.edu/case/](http://skylinecollege.edu/case/)> and click on BIOL 675.

Class Schedule. Friday 1:10-2:00 P.M.  Read the assignments *before* class. All of the readings are online at <http://skylinecollege.edu/case>.

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Lecture</u> | <u>Reading/Assignments online</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Aug 19 | Hydrologic cycle & water use |  Demographics |
| Aug 26 | Water & life |  H ₂ O  Streamflow Answers from day 1 due |
| Sept 2 | Water Quality Testing (Lab 1) |  Water purity testing  Multiple tube technique MPN Table |
| Sept 9 | Productivity |  Wetlands Lab report 1 due |
| Sept 16 | Water Quality Testing (Lab 2) |  Water purity testing  Membrane filter technique |
| Sept 23 | Clean Water Act & your project |  Water pollution  Project. Be ready to pick your location Lab report 2 due |
| Sept 30 | Drinking water |  Water treatment  Subsidence Draft project procedure due |
| Oct 7 | Water laws |  Laws  Hetch Hetchy Valley In class assignment today |
| Oct 21 | Water pollution |  Bioremediation  BOD answers due |
| Nov 4 | Wastewater treatment |  Water pollution  Sewage treatment |
| Nov 18 | Water wars |  Water conflicts |
| Dec 2 | The future |  Aswan dam Streamflow answers due |
| Dec 9 | Student presentations | Bring grading form and peer evaluation form |
| Dec 12 | Student presentations | Bring grading form and peer evaluation form |