

## Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

### ENV 105 Introduction to Environment and Society Effective Term: Spring/Summer 2018

#### Course Cover

**Division:** Math, Science and Engineering Tech

**Department:** Physical Sciences

**Discipline:** Environmental Science

**Course Number:** 105

**Org Number:** 12300

**Full Course Title:** Introduction to Environment and Society

**Transcript Title:** Intro to Env and Society

**Is Consultation with other department(s) required:** No

**Publish in the Following:** College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page

**Reason for Submission:** Course Change

**Change Information:**

**Outcomes/Assessment**

**Rationale:** I will need to update the methods of assessment for the outcomes of ENV 105.

**Proposed Start Semester:** Spring/Summer 2018

**Course Description:** This course provides an in-depth look at the relationships between individuals, societies and the environment from the perspectives of science, humanities and social science disciplines. Local to global environmental issues and topics will be presented and analyzed through a combination of lecture, readings, classroom discussions and activities.

#### Course Credit Hours

**Variable hours:** No

**Credits:** 3

**Lecture Hours: Instructor:** 45 **Student:** 45

**Lab: Instructor:** 0 **Student:** 0

**Clinical: Instructor:** 0 **Student:** 0

**Total Contact Hours: Instructor:** 45 **Student:** 45

**Repeatable for Credit:** NO

**Grading Methods:** Letter Grades

Audit

**Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?:** NO (same sections)

#### College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

#### College-Level Math

Level 2

#### Requisites

#### General Education

MACRAO

MACRAO Science & Math

## **General Education**

EMU GenEd Diverse World

## **General Education Area 4 - Natural Science**

Assoc in Applied Sci - Area 4

Assoc in Science - Area 4

Assoc in Arts - Area 4

## **Michigan Transfer Agreement - MTA**

MTA Science (no lab)

## **Request Course Transfer**

### **Proposed For:**

Central Michigan University  
Eastern Michigan University  
Ferris State University  
Grand Valley State University  
Jackson Community College  
Michigan State University  
Oakland University  
University of Detroit - Mercy  
University of Michigan  
Wayne State University  
Western Michigan University

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Recognize and identify introductory environmental science principles and concepts involving the relationships between individuals, societies and the environment.

### **Assessment 1**

Assessment Tool: Common test questions

Assessment Date: Winter 2020

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: Random selected sample based on 50% of the students in each section offered

Number students to be assessed: 50% from each section offered with a minimum of one full section

How the assessment will be scored: Multiple choice questions will be scored using the answer key. Essay and short answer questions will be scored using a departmentally-developed rubric. Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of the students will correctly answer 75% of the outcome-related questions

Who will score and analyze the data: Appropriate environmental science faculty will assess the data

2. Apply appropriate environmental science principles and concepts to analyze and interpret data such as maps, charts, diagrams, readings and graphs.

### **Assessment 1**

Assessment Tool: Common test questions

Assessment Date: Winter 2020

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: Random selected sample based on 50% of the students in each section offered

Number students to be assessed: 50% from each section offered with a minimum of one full section

How the assessment will be scored: Multiple choice questions will be scored using the answer key. Essay and short answer questions will be scored using a departmentally-developed rubric. Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of the students will correctly answer 75% of the outcome-related questions

Who will score and analyze the data: Appropriate environmental science faculty will assess the data

3. Write a research paper based on an environmental topic covered in this course.

#### **Assessment 1**

Assessment Tool: Research paper

Assessment Date: Winter 2020

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: Random selected sample based on 50% of the students in each section offered

Number students to be assessed: 50% from each section offered with a minimum of one full section

How the assessment will be scored: Essay will be scored using a departmentally-developed rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score a 2.5 (between acceptable and good) or above on a rubric scale of not acceptable (1), acceptable (2), good (3), and exemplary (4)

Who will score and analyze the data: Appropriate environmental science faculty will assess the data

#### **Course Objectives**

1. Describe the various implications for the sustainability of environmental systems as the human population grows.
2. Explain why the environmental impacts of individuals and groups differ enormously based on variations in technology and affluence.
3. List and explain examples of economic mechanisms that exist that may help solve environmental problems, such as green taxes, markets for pollution and green consumer choices.
4. Provide an example of how human needs and wants influence the ways humans use or exploit a particular natural resource.
5. Explain the purpose and outcome of the Montreal Protocol as it relates to the stratospheric ozone layer.
6. List some of the problems associated with assessing environmental issues, such as cultural differences, socioeconomic status, and politics.
7. Provide examples of some of the political and economic implications relating to the human use of natural resources.
8. Explain how carbon dioxide concentrations contribute to global climate change, including references to the Greenhouse Effect.
9. Compare and contrast how living things in the past and modern society have altered the carbon cycle.
10. Explain how a cap-and-trade system differs from a traditional regulatory approach in limiting pollutant emissions.
11. Offer and explain three reasons why the Kyoto Protocol is considered a "shallow treaty."
12. Explain the causes and effects of acid precipitation.
13. Describe the conditions before and after "dolphin safe" labeling as they relate to dolphins, tuna and green consumer campaigns.
14. Relate how the production, packaging and transportation of bottled water are environmentally benign ways for humans to get and consume water.
15. Compare and contrast the various types of scarcity, including hydrological, socioeconomic and perceptual, as they relate to water shortages.
16. Provide examples of possible driving forces behind the privatization of water.

17. Explain the controversy surrounding biotechnology that allows us to change and create new species of food.
18. Describe examples of the processes that influence the consumption and production of foods.
19. Write a 5-6 page research paper that covers a topic related to the interactions between the environment and society.
20. Discuss the interactions and relationships between the environment, individuals and society.
21. Analyze and discuss environmental issues from various readings across a variety of disciplines that interpret the link between social and environmental issues.
22. Explain the dimensions and range of environmental problems which are local, national and global.
23. Analyze and explain the place of humans in ecosystems throughout history, with insights from several disciplines.
24. Identify and explore various solutions, from a variety of perspectives to confront environmental challenges.
25. Explain the concept of sustainability as it relates to environmental issues.
26. Compare and contrast self-serving interests to collective interests as it relates to environmental issues.

### **New Resources for Course**

#### **Course Textbooks/Resources**

Textbooks

Robbins,P., J. Hintz, and A. Moore. *Environment and Society*, 2 ed. Wiley-Blackwell, 2014, ISBN: 9781118451564.

Manuals

Periodicals

Software

#### **Equipment/Facilities**

Level III classroom

Computer workstations/lab

<b><u>Reviewer</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
<b>Faculty Preparer:</b> <i>Suzanne Albach</i>	<i>Faculty Preparer</i>	<i>Sep 28, 2017</i>
<b>Department Chair/Area Director:</b> <i>Kathleen Butcher</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Oct 05, 2017</i>
<b>Dean:</b> <i>Kristin Good</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Oct 11, 2017</i>
<b>Curriculum Committee Chair:</b> <i>Lisa Veasey</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Nov 06, 2017</i>
<b>Assessment Committee Chair:</b> <i>Michelle Garey</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Nov 07, 2017</i>
<b>Vice President for Instruction:</b> <i>Kimberly Hurns</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Nov 07, 2017</i>