Course Outcome Summary

General Education Satisfier Course

BIOL 156 Introduction to Environmental Science

Course Information
Division: Science/Mathematics
Contact Hours: 90
Lecture Hours: 45
Lab Hours: 45
Total Credits: 4

Prerequisites
Reading 090, English 090 and MATH 090 or qualifying scores on ACT or COMPASS tests

Course Description
An introduction to environmental science stressing fundamental concepts and principles of ecology, ecosystem structure and function, population dynamics, resources and pollution. This course reflects applications of physical, chemical, biological and geological principles to define ecological change, both natural and anthropogenic. Topics include land use, food resources, mineral resources, energy, air, water and the causative interrelationships between human values and socio-economic, political, and environmental problems. Course requires laboratory work. This course is open to both science- and non-science majors.

This course is approved as a General Education competency satisfier.

General Education Goal: Critical Thinking
Competency: Understand the elements of scientific inquiry and scientific principles in a natural science college laboratory course setting.
Learning Outcome: Students will use the scientific method to define a problem, utilize appropriate methods to solve the problem, and propose and evaluate a solution to the problem.

General Education Learning Objectives
A. Observe and describe natural phenomena and formulate hypotheses.
B. Plan and implement scientific experiments to test hypotheses.
C. Utilize scientific laboratory skills for data collection within a college laboratory setting.
D. Evaluate experimental data and propose solutions based on this data.
E. Evaluate the proposed implications of a solution.

Course Outcomes
In order to evidence success in this course, the students will be able to:

1. Identify the scientific, social scientific and humanistic aspects of environmental issues.
   Applies to General Education Objectives
   A. Observe and describe natural phenomena and formulate hypotheses.
   B. Plan and implement scientific experiments to test hypotheses.
   C. Utilize scientific laboratory skills for data collection within a college laboratory setting.
   D. Evaluate experimental data and propose solutions based on this data.
   E. Evaluate the proposed implications of a solution.

2. Describe the structure and function of significant environmental systems.
   Applies to General Education Objectives
   A. Observe and describe natural phenomena and formulate hypotheses.
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B. Plan and implement scientific experiments to test hypotheses.
C. Utilize scientific laboratory skills for data collection within a college laboratory setting.
D. Evaluate experimental data and propose solutions based on this data.
E. Evaluate the proposed implications of a solution.

3. Identify, locate, evaluate, synthesize and present current information on environmental issues.
   
   Applies to General Education Objectives
   A. Observe and describe natural phenomena and formulate hypotheses.
   B. Plan and implement scientific experiments to test hypotheses.
   C. Utilize scientific laboratory skills for data collection within a college laboratory setting.
   D. Evaluate experimental data and propose solutions based on this data.
   E. Evaluate the proposed implications of a solution.

4. Identify and understand environmental problems, formulate testable hypothesis and evaluate potential solutions using scientific reasoning
   
   Applies to General Education Objectives
   A. Observe and describe natural phenomena and formulate hypotheses.
   B. Plan and implement scientific experiments to test hypotheses.
   C. Utilize scientific laboratory skills for data collection within a college laboratory setting.
   D. Evaluate experimental data and propose solutions based on this data.
   E. Evaluate the proposed implications of a solution.

5. Evaluate critically arguments regarding environmental issues.
   
   Applies to General Education Objectives
   A. Observe and describe natural phenomena and formulate hypotheses.
   B. Plan and implement scientific experiments to test hypotheses.
   C. Utilize scientific laboratory skills for data collection within a college laboratory setting.
   D. Evaluate experimental data and propose solutions based on this data.
   E. Evaluate the proposed implications of a solution.

6. Understand the impact your way of life has on the environment and apply your understanding of environmental issues to your own choices.
   
   Applies to General Education Objectives
   A. Observe and describe natural phenomena and formulate hypotheses.
   B. Plan and implement scientific experiments to test hypotheses.
   C. Utilize scientific laboratory skills for data collection within a college laboratory setting.
   D. Evaluate experimental data and propose solutions based on this data.
   E. Evaluate the proposed implications of a solution.

Last updated: April 13, 2015
By: