# 11/26/2022

# brcc keystone logo

Baton Rouge Community College

*Academic Affairs Master Syllabus*

Date Approved: 2 February 2023

Term and Year of Implementation: Spring 2023

**Course Title:** Environmental Science

**BRCC Course Rubric:** ENSC 1103

**Previous Course Rubric**: ENSC 201

**Lecture Hours per week-Lab Hours per week-Credit Hours**: 3-0-3

**Per semester: Lecture Hours-Lab Hours-Instructional Contact Hours**: 45-0-45

**Louisiana Common Course Number:** CEVS 1103

**CIP Code:** 03.0104

**Course Description:** Facilitates the learning of science concepts and skills necessary to identify, understand, and analyze select Louisiana and world environmental issues from scientific, social, economic, and political perspectives. Introduces students to potential career paths in environmental science fields.

**Prerequisites:**  None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Suggested Enrollment Cap:** 30 (25 online)

**Learning Outcomes.** *Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to:*

1. Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of environmental science concepts in the areas of ecosystems and biodiversity, renewable and nonrenewable resources, environmental quality, global changes, and environmental policy and decision making.

2. Apply environmental science concepts to his/her life, to the natural world, and to society using decision-making skills.

3. Interpret images, scientific graphs and models used to illustrate environmental concepts.

4. Describe careers in environmental science fields, including the activities and skills required, within the context of environmental issues discussed in the course.

**General Education Learning Outcome(s):** This course supports the development of competency in the following area(s). Students will:

Use scientific concepts to analyze environmental issues and civic responsibility. (General Education Competency in Scientific Reasoning)

**Assessment Measures.** Assessment of all learning outcomes will be measured using the following methods:

1. Administration of unit exams during the semester and a comprehensive final exam at the end of the semester.

2. Instructor-designed assignments including, but not limited to, written and oral assignments, projects, homework, and quizzes. All assignments will be graded with an instructor-designed rubric.

**Information to be included on the Instructor’s Course Syllabi:**

* ***Disability Statement*:** Baton Rouge Community College seeks to meet the needs of its students in many ways. See the Office of Disability Services to receive suggestions for disability statements that should be included in each syllabus.
* ***Grading:*** The College grading policy should be included in the course syllabus. Any special practices should also go here. This should include the instructor’s and/or the department’s policy for make-up work. For example in a speech course, “Speeches not given on due date will receive no grade higher than a sixty” or “Make-up work will not be accepted after the last day of class”.
* ***Attendance Policy*:** Include the overall attendance policy of the college. Instructors may want to add additional information in individual syllabi to meet the needs of their courses.
* ***General Policies*:** Instructors’ policy on the use of things such as beepers and cell phones and/or hand held programmable calculators should be covered in this section.
* ***Cheating and Plagiarism*:** This must be included in all syllabi and should include the penalties for incidents in a given class. Students should have a clear idea of what constitutes cheating in a given course.
* ***Safety Concerns:*** In some courses, this may be a major issue. For example, “No student will be allowed in the lab without safety glasses”. General statements such as, “Items that may be harmful to one’s self or others should not be brought to class”.
* ***Library/ Learning Resources:*** Since the development of the total person is part of our mission, assignments in the library and/or the Learning Resources Center should be included to assist students in enhancing skills and in using resources. Students should be encouraged to use the library for reading enjoyment as part of lifelong learning.

**Expanded Course Outline:**

I. Introduction to Environmental Science

A. Observing and investigating the environment

B. Careers in Environmental Science fields (Scientists and Technicians)

1) Educational pathways

2) Knowledge and skills needed

3) Work activities

C. Environmental problem solving

D. Environmental decision making

II. Ecosystems and Biodiversity

A. Levels of Organization

B. Interdependence of living things

C. Adaptation of living things

D. Energy flow

E. Cycling of matter

F. Kinds of ecosystems

G. Population dynamics and changing ecosystems

H. Sustaining ecosystems

III. Human Population Dynamics

A. History of human population

B. Global distribution of population

C. Carrying capacity

D. Cultural and economic influence

E. Risk analysis

F. Economics and the environment

G. Urbanization and suburban sprawl

IV. Renewable and Nonrenewable Resources

A. Water

B. Air, atmosphere, and climate

C. Land and soil

D. Energy

E. Waste

F. Civic environmentalism and public policy