**Syllabus:** Environmental Biology - Lecture & Lab  
**Course Number:** BIOL 2306 & BIOL 2106  
**Semester & Year:** Fall & Spring 2024-2025

**Instructor Information**

Name: Katie Teer

BS in Secondary Education- Life Science

MS in Curriculum and Instruction with 18 hours in Biology   
 Office: Texarkana College – Biology Building Rm 31

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**Textbook Information**

**Environmental Science** 3rd edition (AP)Friedland and Relyea (2019)

**Environmental Biology**  Matthew R. Fisher (free online textbook) <https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/envirobiology/>

**Class Contact Hours**

* Environmental Biology is originally a one semester college course
* Since there is no other course to offer in the spring, this class will be spread out over a full high school year.

**Student Learning Outcomes for the Course**

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| --- |
| *At the conclusion of the* ***lecture and laboratory portion*** *of this course students should be able to:*  1. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.  2. Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory.  3. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.  4. Explain the structure and impact of biogeochemical cycles.  5. Describe energy transformations across trophic levels.  6. Illustrate abiotic/biotic interactions and symbiotic relationships.  7. Identify various types of natural resources, human impact on these resources, and common resource management practices.  8. Quantify and analyze the impact of lifestyle on the environment.  9. Depict evolutionary trends and adaptations to environmental changes.  10. Describe environmental hazards and risks and the social and economic ramifications.  11. Describe ecological and statistical techniques and approaches used in the study of environmental biology. |

**Student Assessment**

* Daily work, labs, and quizzes – 50%; Tests and Projects – 50%
* NO RETAKES OR RETESTS ON ANY ASSIGNMENT!!! (This is a college-level class and TC does not allow these.)
* **Late policy**: Daily assignments will be accepted late with a 10 point deduction each day for up to five days. After the fifth day, a zero will remain in the gradebook. Class projects or extended time assignments **will not** be accepted late.
* The semester exam is 10% of the semester average. We will take a semester exam in the spring.
* Every student (registered or not) will be required to take semester exams.
* The grade you receive for this class will be the same grade used for Biology 1306 (the lecture portion) at TC. However, your lab grades will be entered separately in the TC gradebook and your lab grade may be different than your lecture grade. All lab assignments will be the same weight and I will drop the lowest grade.

**Grading Scale for dual credit course:** (Anything below a 70 is an F for high school credit!)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Semester Grade** | **Course Average** |
| **A** | 90-100 |
| **B** | 80-89 |
| **C** | 70-79 |
| **D** | 60-69 |
| **F** | 59-below |

**Class Schedule**

**1st Nine Weeks**

* Unit 1 – Introduction to Science and Environmental Systems
* Unit 2 – The Living World: Ecosystems and Biodiversity

**2nd Nine Weeks**

* Unit 3 – Biological and Human Populations
* Unit 4 – Earth Systems and Resources

**3rd Nine Weeks**

* Unit 5 – Land Use
* Unit 6 – Energy Resources and Consumption

**4th Nine Weeks**

* Unit 7 – Pollution: Aquatic, Atmospheric, and Terrestrial
* Unit 8 – Global Change and a Sustainable Future

**Absentee Policy**

The course will follow the Pleasant Grove High School attendance policy. Remember…. In DC classes, too many absences may result in you being dropped from the class. You must come to class!!

**Make-up Policy**

At least two test grades will be given each nine weeks. Since tests count 50%, it is very important that the student do his or her best and be prepared and present for each test. No retakes are allowed for any quiz or test. If a student is not present on the day a test is administered or lab conducted, an alternative test or lab activity may be taken or assigned. These must be done in the appropriate time frame based on district policy. Alternatives will cover the same material; however, number of questions and format is at the teacher's discretion. If not taken in a timely manner, student may receive a zero or reduced credit on the assignment/test. Students are encouraged to complete assignments in advance, especially when the absence is due to a school-related activity.

**Class Rules & Expectations**

1. Be on time.
2. Be prepared.
3. Be respectful.
4. Work hard.
5. Be responsible.
6. Be open to learning new concepts.

**Materials**

1. Something to write on, something to write with, and somewhere to keep your work.
2. Chromebook (be sure it is charged!)
3. Projects may require additional materials as needed.

**Classroom Policies and Procedures**

1. No cheating!!! Academic dishonesty is prohibited. This may result in a zero on the assignment/test and a phone call to parents. Academic dishonesty could also result in you being dropped from the college course.
2. No cell phones, electronic devices, or headphones at any time during class. Cell phones or other devices will be turned in at the beginning of class, and students will retrieve them before they leave. No exceptions. This is school policy!
3. If you have a planned absence it is your responsibility to get your work ahead of time. If it is unexpected, you must get your work upon return. Make up work timelines follow handbook procedure. **YOU** are responsible for getting work that you missed or will be missing!
4. PowerPoints/Presentations, assignments, articles, videos, and other links will be posted on Google Classroom. This is an excellent resource if you miss class
5. Take advantage of tutorials, Claim time, and Hawk Help. These are an excellent opportunity for help!
6. Chromebooks will be utilized for specific purposes throughout the year, but not on a daily basis. If we are not using them as a class on assignments and activities, chromebooks should be put away. Usage will be monitored and all network usage rules apply. Improper use of chromebooks will result in disciplinary action.
7. You will use EHallpass when you need to leave the room, however you will not be able to leave class regularly. Use your time between classes wisely.
8. All other student handbook rules and policies will be followed.

**Group Work**

* Science is social and group work is highly encouraged both in and out of class (except on quizzes and tests!)
* However…
  + Group work involves: working together, sharing ideas, helping each other, collaborating, brainstorming, discussing
  + Group work does not involve: copying, splitting up the work, telling answers, one person working while the others relax

**Labs**

* Students must follow all safety guidelines. (These are posted in Google Classroom.) Failure to do this can result in removal from the lab and alternative assignments.
* Not all labs will be able to be completed during class time. Parts of some labs must be done outside of class, including pre and post lab assignments. Some labs require students to come in at times other than normal class times and it is the students'/group's responsibility to do so.
* In labs, students will be encouraged to engage in the following:
  + Generate questions for investigation
  + Choose which variable to investigate
  + Design and conduct experiments
  + Design experimental procedures
  + Collect, analyze, interpret and display data
  + Determine how to present conclusions
* Lab work will be presented and recorded in a variety of ways. This may include lab handouts, mini-posters and presentations, or lab notebooks.
* Labs may also include pre-labs and lab reflections.
* It is very important to be present on lab days. Missing lab work is very difficult to make-up. You are responsible for ALL lab concepts and material, even if you were not present for the lab.
* Lab quizzes and tests will be given. You need to understand the lab...not just complete it!

**Academic Integrity Statement**

Scholastic dishonesty, involving but not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism, col­lusion, or falsification of records will make the student liable for disciplinary action after being investigated by the Dean of Students. Proven violations of this nature will result in the student being dropped from the class with an “F”.

This policy applies campus wide, including TC Testing Center, as well as off-campus classroom or lab sites, including dual credit campuses. This information can be found in the Student Handbook at <https://texarkanacollege.edu>.

**Disability Act Statement**

Texarkana College complies with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and makes reasonable accommodations upon request. Please contact Larry Andrews at 903.823.3283, or go by the Recruitment, Advisement, and Retention Department located in the Administration building for personal assistance.

If you have an accommodation letter from their office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, please present it to me so we can discuss the accommodations that you might need for this class. *It is best to request these changes at the beginning if not before the start of class* so there is ample time to make the accommodations.

**By signing this statement**, **I agree that I have received Mrs. Teer's syllabus, read it, and understand what is expected of me to perform satisfactorily in this course of study**.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
(**PRINT** First & LAST NAME)

Legal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TC Course Number / Section Number: BIOL 2306 and 2106

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please sign and return this page next class for a 100!**

**Keep the syllabus pages for future reference if needed. This is also posted in Google Classroom.**

Parent/Guardian Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Contact Info (email and/or phone number): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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