

**SYLLABUS: GLY 2038 Sustainability in a Changing Earth**  
**University of Florida, Department of Geological Sciences**

**Semester:** Fall 2019

**Credits:** 3

**Meeting Location:** Williamson 202

**Meeting Time:** T (6-7), R (6)

**INSTRUCTOR**

Instructor: Dr. William F Kenney

Office: 207 Williamson Hall

Office hours: Thursday 9:30-10:30 and by appointment

Phone: 352-392-8664

e-mail: [kenney@ufl.edu](mailto:kenney@ufl.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course, we will focus on efforts and challenges to sustaining ecosystem services for a growing population in the context of dynamic earth surface processes.

**Course Objectives:** It is the goal of this course that, by the end, students will:

- Have a basic understanding of prevalent sustainability issues from an Earth Science perspective.
- Develop skills to use the scientific literature to research sustainability issues.

**COURSE MATERIALS**

**Required Textbook**

Title: Sustainability: A Comprehensive Foundation

ISBN: 9781300132370

Cover: Paperback Book, but available for free download online

Author: Tom Theis, Jonathan Tomkin

Publisher: Connexions

Edition: First

Copyright: U of I Open Source Textbook Initiative (Creative Commons Attribution 2.5) 2012

This text is required

Free download

<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/sustainability-a-comprehensive-foundation>

In addition, there will be selected readings and viewings delivered by email.

## ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING

Your grade for this class will be the result of your performance on the

3 TESTS (60%)

GROUP PROJECT (10%)

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS (10%)

FINAL EXAM (20%)

### Final Grade Scale

A = ≥93%, A- = 90-92.99, B+ = 87-89.99, B = 83-86.99, B- = 80-82.99, C+ = 77-79.99, C = 73-76.99, C- = 70-72.99, D+ = 67-69.99, D = 63-66.99, D- = 60-62.99, E < 60

For further information on UF's Grading Policy, consult:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

### Attendance and Absence

Students are expected to complete all requirements (assignments, problem sets, discussions, and quizzes) on the specified dates and will not be granted an alternate due date unless they have an acceptable reason (e.g. medical emergency, observance of religious holidays, military obligation) or pre-arranged consent of the instructor. These requests must be timely and accompanied by all necessary written documentation.

'In-class activities' must be turned in by the end of each class period. They can be turned in only up to 1 week after the class they are due but will receive half credit. This does not apply to the online course, for which there will be no late work accepted.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

### Classroom policy

Students should bring to each class meeting a laptop or similar device for use in taking notes, completing in-class activities, and accessing the internet. However, use of mobile devices and computers during class for purposes other than viewing readings or conducting sanctioned research is not allowed. Cell phones must be put on "vibrate" during class. Students who receive or make calls or text messages or engage in other disruptive behavior during class will be asked to leave. Students should also bring pen/pencil and paper to each class.

### Academic Honesty Policy

Students must conform to UF's academic honesty policy regarding plagiarism and other forms of cheating. This means that on all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

The university specifically prohibits cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation, bribery, conspiracy, and fabrication. For more information about the definition of these terms and other

aspects of the Honesty Guidelines, see <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student---conduct---honor---code/>. All students found to have cheated, plagiarized, or otherwise violated the Honor Code in any assignment for this course will be prosecuted to the full extent of the university honor policy, including judicial action and the sanctions listed in paragraph XI of the Student Conduct Code. For serious violations, you will fail this course.

### **Software Use**

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Please do not hesitate to ask for accommodation for a documented disability. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Please ask the instructor if you would like any assistance in this process. Please provide this information to your instructor within the first two weeks of the semester.

### **Instructor Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### **Drop/Add/Withdrawal**

A student can drop/add during the drop add period with no penalty. After drop/add, a student who drops will receive a W until the date listed in the academic calendar. After that date, the student may be assigned an "E" (fail). Note: it is the responsibility of the STUDENT to withdraw from a course, not the instructor. Failure to participate/complete the class is NOT a drop.

### **Additional Resources**

Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help may contact the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; or the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies. Other Resources available on-campus for students include:

- a. Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling;
- b. Interpersonal Violence Counseling, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161
- c. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>August 20</b>	Course Introduction, Tragedy of the Commons Population Growth
August 22	Global Fisheries
<b>August 27</b>	Global Fisheries
September 3	Global Fisheries
<b>September 5</b>	Red Tide
September 10	Plastics in the Ocean
<b>September 12</b>	BP Oil Spill
September 17	Review Test 1
September 19	Test 1
<b>September 24</b>	Dr. Elise Morrison: Corridors of Change in Aquatic Zones
September 26	Rivers, Deltas and Dams
<b>October 1</b>	Surface Waters, Water Quality and Eutrophication
October 3	Dr. Jim Jawitz: Drinking Water & Water Scarcity
<b>October 8</b>	Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades
October 10	Dr. Christine Angelini: Coastal Restoration
<b>October 15</b>	Dr. Mark Brenner: Lakes
October 17	<b>Dr. Donny Smoak:</b> Mangrove Forests
October 22	Review Test 2
October 24	Test 2
<b>October 29</b>	Dr. Andrew Zimmerman: Climate Change
October 31	Dr. Andrew Zimmerman: Climate Change

<b>November 5</b>	<b>Dr. Andrea Dutton:</b> Sea Level Rise
November 7	<b>Dr. Pete Adams:</b> Beaches and Inlets
November 12	Group Projects Workshop
November 14	Oil and Petroleum Products
November 19	Review Test 3
November 21	Test 3
November 26	Movie Assignment
December 3	Project Presentations