

EHSC-GA1004-001 (BIOL-GA1004-001)
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
 COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2013

Tuesdays, 2:00PM - 4:45PM

Location: To be determined

INSTRUCTORS:

Dr. George Thurston (george.thurston@nyu.edu)

Mr. Lars Perlmutter [ldp272@nyu.edu] [Course TA]

Lecture #/Date	Topic	Reading Assignment(s)	Lecturer
1 / Jan. 29	Course Introduction. History and Trends in Environmental Health	Lippmann: Chpt 1 Friis: Chapter 1	Thurston
2 / Feb. 5	Overview of Contaminants and their Dispersion in the Environment	Lippmann: Chpts. 2 and 4	Cromar
3 / Feb. 12	Environmental Epidemiology	Friis: Chapter 2	Thurston
4 / Feb. 19	Toxicology and Risk Assessment	Friis: Chapter 3	Thurston
5 / Feb. 26	Environmental Policy and Regulation	Friis: Chapter 4 (Student Class Presentations Begin)	Thurston
6 / Mar. 5	Toxic Metals and Elements	Friis: Chapter 6	Thurston
Mar. 12	Midterm Exam	--	
Mar. 19	Spring Break: No Class	--	
7 / Mar. 26	Pesticides & Other Organic Chemicals	Friis: Chapter 7	Thurston
8 / Apr. 2	Ionizing and Non-ionizing Radiation	Friis: Chapter 8	Thurston
9 / Apr. 9	Water Quality	Friis: Chapter 9	Thurston
10 / Apr. 16	Indoor and Outdoor Air Quality	Friis: Chapter 10	Thurston
11 / Apr 23	Solid and Liquid Wastes	Friis: Chapter 12	Thurston
12 /Apr. 30	Occupational Health	Friis: chapter 13	Thurston
13 /May 7	Climate Change: Health Risks & Co-Benefits of Mitigation Measures	Friis: <i>pp. 267-274 and supplemental readings</i>	Thurston
May14 or 21	Final Exam	--	

Textbooks:

Required: Essentials of Environmental Health, 2nd Edition, by R. H. Friis. Jones and Bartlett, 2011.
 (Available for purchase from the NYU Bookstore)

Supplemental: Lippmann M, Cohen BS, and Schlesinger, RB. Environmental Health Science. Oxford Press. (2003) (.pdf of assigned sections provided on Blackboard)

Course Design

This is a comprehensive lecture format class that is suitable for graduate students, or undergraduate juniors and seniors, seeking an interdisciplinary introduction to environmental health. Students are encouraged to interact through in-class discussion and questioning. In addition, a classroom “clicker” is provided to each student to provide inputs during class lectures.

Course Objectives

At the completion of this course, students will have knowledge of environmental hazards with known and possible risks. They will have a better understanding of how these hazards are formed, their fate and distribution in the environment, and how to assess their potential effects in humans.

Course Assignments

1. Students are expected to attend class and read all related chapters *before* each class.
2. There is a midterm (1/3 of grade) and a cumulative final exam (1/3 of grade).
3. Students must either: a) make an in-class 15 minute presentation; or, b) write and turn in a 5 page paper (single-spaced, 1" margin, 12pt font) (1/3 of grade). Which student will give a paper or presentation will be determined in consultation with Ms. Lital Yinon (Course TA), so that approximately half the class does a class presentation, and half does a paper. These will be on a topic related to (but not the material covered in) one of the weekly Lectures 5 thru 13 topics of your choosing (but pre-approved by Ms. Yinon), and are due on the day of your chosen lecture. [Students must include relevant citations to peer-reviewed literature or well-regarded periodicals in either the presentation or paper. While there are many reputable websites available, they generally are not peer reviewed, and thus must not be your main citation.] Topic signup will be via the web, using DOODLE.

Office Hours

Dr. Thurston is based at the Sterling Forest campus of NYU School of Medicine in Tuxedo, NY and do not have set office space available at Washington Square. Mr. Perlmutter and Dr. Thurston are best reached by email. We plan to use NYU Blackboard for daily communication, dissemination of position topics, assignment submission, etc. Dr. Thurston may also be available for up to 2 hours before class at the Environmental Studies office on Mercer St., if an appointment is scheduled in advance.