

San José State University
Department of Environmental Studies
EnvS 1-Introduction to Environmental Issues, Fall 2023 Sec 03

Course Schedule (Draft)

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice posted on Canvas as an announcement or via email. Be ready to discuss in class the key concepts for each section in the chapter. Extra credit assignment will be posted on Canvas.

Week	Dates	Topics & Reading	Assignments & Due Dates
1	8/21 & 8/23	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Read: Miller & Spoolman, Unit 1: Human and Sustainability: An Overview Chapter 1 (environmental problem, their causes and sustainability)</p> <p>Unit 2: Science, Ecological Principles and Sustainability Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 2 (Science)</p> <p>Critical Thinking (Section 2.1) AIC Worksheet</p>	<p>✓ Plagiarism Tutorial Quiz – Complete BEFORE 08/24</p> <p>Complete open book knowledge check quiz BEFORE class</p> <p>✓ Knowledge Check #1 (08/24 at 9 am)</p>
2	8/28 & 8/30	<p>Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 3 (ecosystem) Chapter 4 (biodiversity and evolution)</p> <p>Chapter 6 (the human population)</p>	<p>Complete open book knowledge check quiz BEFORE class</p> <p>✓ Knowledge Check #2: Chapter 3 (Aug 30 @ 9am)</p> <p>✓ Reflection Essay #1: Environmental Issues (Due: Sep 2 @ 9am)</p>
3	9/06	<p><i>No Class Monday 09/04 – Labor Day</i></p> <p>Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 5 (species interactions, ecological succession, and population control)</p> <p>Class Discussion: Debate & Defend #1 Big Box Store (Chapter 6)</p>	<p>Complete open book knowledge check quiz BEFORE class</p> <p>✓ Knowledge Check # 3: Chapter 5</p> <p>✓ <i>Debate & Defend #1: Complete the debate and defend worksheet before second class of the week.</i></p> <p>✓ Course Research Paper - STEP 1: Topic Proposal & AIC Worksheet (Due: Sep 7 @ 9am)</p>
4	9/11 & 9/13	<p>Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 7 (climate and terrestrial biodiversity)</p> <p>Chapter 8 (aquatic biodiversity)</p>	<p>✓ Case Study #1: Tropical Rain Forests</p> <p>✓ <i>Report #1: Big Box Store: Post 250-300 words write up (Due 09/18 @9 am)</i></p>

Week	Dates	Topics & Reading	Assignments & Due Dates
5	9/18 & 9/20	Unit 3: Sustaining Biodiversity Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 9 (sustaining biodiversity: Saving species and ecosystem services) Chapter 11 (sustaining aquatic biodiversity and ecosystem services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Knowledge Check # 4 (Chapter 9 & 11.2 & 11.3) ✓ Course Research Paper STEP 2: Outline & Annotated Bibliography (Sep 21 at 9am)
6	9/25 & 9/27	Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 10 (sustaining biodiversity: saving ecosystem and ecosystem services) Case Study Analysis #1 The Overfishing Crisis (Chapter 10) <i>Group Presentation (2-3 minute)</i> <i>Discussion: Is the species a sustainable choice for human consumption.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Group Activity: Poster session style presentation. Post your findings – One PowerPoint slide/ or use Canva BEFORE second class of the week. ✓ Post 250-300 words write up (Due 10/09 by 9:00 am). ✓ Case Study Analysis #2: Overfishing
7	10/02 & 10/04	Unit 4: Sustaining Natural Resources Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 12 Section 12.1 -12.3 (food production and the environment) Chapter 12 Section 12.4-12.6 (food production and the environment) Assignment Watch: Kiss The Ground Extra Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Class Discussion: EWG Healthy Living App & Reflection ✓ Critical Thinking Essay #2: The reality of plastics ✓ Knowledge Check # 5 (Chapter 12)
8	10/09 & 10/11	Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 13 (water resource 13.1, 13.2) Chapter 14 (geology and mineral resource)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Knowledge Check # 6 (Chapter 13) ✓ Case Study #3: Living Dangerously on Floodplains in Bangladesh <p>Course Research Paper STEP 3: Draft & Peer Review (Oct 12 at 9am)</p>
9	10/16 & 10/18	Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 15 (nonrenewable energy) You Teach! Class Discussion: Debate & Defend #2: Nuclear Waste Storage on Yucca Mountain (Chapter 15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Debate & Defend #2: Complete the debate and defend worksheet before first class of the week.
10	10/23 & 10/25	Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 16 (energy efficiency and renewable energy) <i>Guest Lecture:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Critical Thinking Essay #2: Biomimicry ✓ Report #2: Nuclear Waste Storage: Post 250-300 words write up (Due Oct 26 @ 9am).
11	10/30 & 11/01	Unit 5: Sustaining Environmental Quality Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 17 (environmental hazard & human health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Knowledge Check # 7 (Chapter 18)

Week	Dates	Topics & Reading	Assignments & Due Dates
		Chapter 18 (air pollution and ozone depletion)	✓ Critical Thinking Essay #3: <i>(Report)</i> Air Pollution and Climate Change (Due: Nov 1)
12	11/06 & 11/08	Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 19 (climate change) Class Discussion: <i>Debate & Defend #3: Climate Change (Chapter 19 -No worksheet)</i> Chapter 20 (water pollution) Chapter 21 (solid and hazardous waste)	✓ Knowledge Check # 8 (Chapter 21) ✓ Case Study Analysis #3: Environmental Justice (due: 11/22)
13	11/13 & 11/15	Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 22 (urbanization and sustainability) Unit 6: Sustaining Human Societies Chapter 23 (economics, environment and sustainability)	✓ <i>Critical Thinking #3: (Report) Driven from Home: Climate Change Refugees (Due: 11/13)</i>
14	11/20 & 11/22	Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 24 (politics, environment and sustainability) Read: Miller & Spoolman Chapter 25 (environmental worldviews, ethics and sustainability)	✓ Knowledge Check #9 (Chapter 24) ✓ Knowledge Check # 10 (Chapter 25 & Circular Economy)
Thanksgiving Break (11/23)			
15	11/27 & 11/29	You Teach & Activity (20 min each group) Class Discussion: <i>Debate & Defend #4: Sargent Ranch</i>	✓ Student Presentations & Activities ✓ Assignment: Final Reflection
16	12/04 & 12/06	You Teach & Activity (20 min each pair) You Teach & Activity (20 min each pair)	✓ Student Presentations & Activities ✓ Course Research Paper STEP 4: FINAL Course Research Paper (Dec 4 th at 9 am)
17	12/11		
Final Exam	Final Class Meeting 12/13 12:15-2:30 Final Reflection due by 9:30 am.		