

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT**  
**Faculty of Health Sciences**  
*Department of Environmental Health*

**ENHL 200**

**ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH**

**Spring 2019-2020**

**Course Syllabus**

**Course Description in the Catalogue:**

*ENHL 200 (3 credits):* This course exposes students to major local and global environmental issues relating to air, water, land and energy and the importance of proper integrated management to promote and protect public health and achieve sustainable development. In addition, the course highlights the importance of environmental laws and policies as major tools in the management of environmental health issues. Environmental ethics is also emphasized as a critical core factor of the management process. The importance of environmental awareness of different stakeholders is exposed as a means to achieve proposed objectives.

**Instructor:**

*Dr. Joumana A. Nasr*

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**Office Hours:**

Days: Mondays and Wednesdays

Time: from 10.15 till 11.45

Or by appointment

**Time & Place of Class Sessions:**

Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Time: 12.30 – 1.45

Place: Van Dyck Hall – Room: 201

## Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Explain the connections between what we as humans do to the environment and what the environment, in turn, does to our health.
- 2. Define the human activities that contribute to the improvement or deterioration of the environment.
- 3. Identify the interactions between the environment, society, economy and health.
- 4. Explain various ways to deal ethically with our environment.

## Teaching Strategy:

The course material will be presented using LCD projection in class and the lectures will be posted on Moodle after each class session. Additionally, the course includes case studies, group projects and documentary sessions and receives guest lecturers in an attempt to make the environmental health topics more attractive, interactive and friendly. Two exams will be delivered to evaluate the students' understanding of the material.

## Assessment of the Learning Outcomes:

Course Learning Outcome	Assessment of the Learning Outcome
1. Explain the connections between what we as humans do to the environment and what the environment, in turn, does to our health.	Exams, Projects
2. Define the human activities that contribute to the improvement or deterioration of the environment.	Exams, Projects
3. Identify the interactions between the environment, society, economy and health.	Exams, Projects
4. Introduce various ways to deal ethically with our environment.	Exams

## Course Requirements, Policies & Evaluation:

### Students' Background:

The course is a Science Elective for freshman students only.

### Attendance:

- Attendance will be taken at the beginning or end of every session.

- Students are expected to be in class on time. Any student who is late to class will be considered absent. Any student who leaves class before the end of the session will be considered absent as well.
- A student is responsible for the work done and the announcements made in class during his/her absence.

**Evaluation:**

- Midterm Exam: 30%
- Final Exam: 35%
- Project: 25% (Outline: 5% - Presentation: 20%)
- Attendance: 5%
- Participation (Class participation in discussions and case studies): 5%

**N.B.**

1) Failure to take a scheduled exam/presentation will result in a **zero** being recorded for that exam/presentation. Make-up opportunities will be given only to students who ask for it and provide a very valid excuse with supportive documents; namely a written medical report from AUB infirmary/hospital. The instructor reserves the right to change the format and the level of difficulty of any make-up exam. Make-up exams must be scheduled within one week of the original examination date.

2) “Students who fail to credit properly ideas or materials taken from another commit plagiarism. Putting your name on a piece of work -any part of which is not yours- constitutes plagiarism, unless that piece is clearly marked and the work from which you have borrowed is fully identified. Plagiarism is a violation of the universities’ academic regulations and is subject to disciplinary action” (AUB Catalogue).

3) Students are responsible for:

- All material covered in class (power point presentations, case studies, class notes, and class discussions);
- The guests’ lectures (presentation, discussion & class notes);
- The movies/documentaries;
- Any assigned reading or exercise.

**Course Drop Date:**

The last day for a student to withdraw from this course is **Thursday April 9, 2020**. By that time, any student with a grade below 60 is advised to withdraw.

**Code of Conduct:**

Based on the rules and regulations of AUB, any attempt of cheating, plagiarism or any misconduct would result in actions against the student (Code of Conduct, 2019).

**Students' Comments on Course Procedures and Policies:**

Students' feedback on any aspect of this course is welcomed. It is recommended to submit your comments in writing and then discuss them with me outside class time.

**Students with Special Needs:**

'AUB strives to make learning experiences accessible for all. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to a disability (such as ADHD, learning difficulties, mental health conditions, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please do not hesitate to inform the Accessible Education Office. In order to ensure that you receive the support you need and to facilitate a smooth accommodations process, you must register with the Accessible Education Office (AEO) as soon as possible: [accessibility@aub.edu.lb](mailto:accessibility@aub.edu.lb); [+961-1-350000](tel:+961-1-350000), x3246; West Hall, 314'.

**Non-Discrimination – Title IX – AUB:**

AUB is committed to facilitating a campus free of all forms of discrimination including sex/gender-based harassment prohibited by Title IX. The University's non-discrimination policy applies to, and protects, all students, faculty, and staff. If you think you have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. If you speak to a faculty or staff member about an issue such as harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination, the information will be kept as private as possible, however, faculty and designated staff are required to bring it to the attention of the University's Title IX Coordinator. Faculty can refer you to fully confidential resources, and you can find information and contacts at [www.aub.edu.lb/titleix](http://www.aub.edu.lb/titleix). To report an incident, contact the University's Title IX Coordinator Ms. Mitra Taub at 01-350000 ext. 2514, or [titleix@aub.edu.lb](mailto:titleix@aub.edu.lb). An anonymous report may be submitted online via Ethics Point at [www.aub.ethicspoint.com](http://www.aub.ethicspoint.com).

## Course Outline

Session Number	Lecture Number	Day	Date	Topic	Material	Corresponding Learning Outcomes
1	-----	R	23-1-2020	Syllabus	-----	-----
2	1	T	28-1-2020	Ambient Air Pollution	Handout	1-2
3	2	R	30-1-2020	Indoor Air Quality: The Building Related Illness & Sick Building Syndrome	Handout	1-2
4	3	T	4-2-2020	Water Scarcity: Causes, Implications and Management Strategies	Handout	1-2
5	4	R	6-2-2020	Drinking Water Quality & Control	Handout	1-2
6	5	T	11-2-2020	Food Quality & Control	Handout	1-2
7	6	R	13-2-2020	Organic Farming & Health	Handout	1-2
8	7	T	18-2-2020	Pesticides & Pest Management	Handout	1-2
9	-----	R	20-2-2020	Projects' Distribution and Explanation	-----	-----
10	-----	T	25-2-2020	<i>Guest Lecturer:</i> Environmental Awareness	Guest's Lecture	1-2
11	-----	R	27-2-2020	TBA	-----	-----
12	-----	<b>T</b>	<b>3-3-2020</b>	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	-----	-----
13	8	R	5-3-2020	Urbanization and Sustainable Development + Outline Submission	Handout	1-2-3
14	9	T	10-3-2020	Toxicology & Occupational Health Hazards	Handout	1-2-3
15	-----	R	12-3-2020	Feedback on Outlines	-----	-----
16	10	T	17-3-2020	Politics, Laws and the Environment	Handout	1-2- 3
17	11	R	19-3-2020	Economics and the Environment	Handout	1-2-3
18	12	T	24-3-2020	Ethics and The Environmental Worldviews & <i>Case Study (I)</i>	Handout	1-2-3-4
19	-----	R	26-3-2020	<i>Case Study (II)</i>	-----	1-2-3-4
20	-----	T	31-3-2020	<i>Guest Lecturer:</i> Environmental Management: The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	Guest's Lecture	2-3
21	-----	R	2-4-2020	<i>Guest Lecturer:</i> Forests & Forest Fires: The Case of Lebanon	Guest's Lecture	1-2
22	-----	T	7-4-2020	Presentations	-----	1-2-3
23	-----	R	9-4-2020	Presentations	-----	1-2-3
24	-----	T	14-4-2020	Presentations	-----	1-2-3
25	-----	R	16-4-2020	Presentations	-----	1-2-3
26	-----	T	21-4-2020	Environmental Debate Session	-----	1-2-3-4
27	-----	R	23-4-2020	Documentary Session & Discussion	-----	1-2
28	-----	T	28-4-2020	TBA	-----	-----
29	-----	R	30-4-2020	TBA	-----	-----

\* The Final Exam will be scheduled by the registrar.

\* This is the best forecast that I can make for the course. Any changes in the schedule or material will be announced in class or on Moodle.

\*TBA: To be assigned.

**Important Notice:**

Eating and use of laptops and mobile phones are forbidden in class (during the lectures and exams).

Checking the AUB e-mail and Moodle on daily basis is a must. You are responsible for any announcement sent to you by e-mail or posted on Moodle.

**Lectures' References:**

The references used in every lecture will be listed at the end of the lecture.

**For More References:****Internet resources**

Information about environmental issues is available on the internet. You are advised to refer to it for further information on any topic discussed in class.

**Other sources of information**

Many journals and books about environmental issues are available at any of the four major AUB libraries. You are advised to refer to them upon need.

*Enjoy the Semester  
&  
Good Luck*