Issues in Environmental Health 10:832:437
Mark Gregory Robson, PhD, MPH, DrPH
Class meets on Tuesday evenings 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Foran Hall Room 138 B

My office is in Room 204A in Foran Hall, second floor of this building. My office phone is 848-932-6276 and my cell is 908-239-4923. My e-mail is robson@aesop.rutgers.edu, e-mail is the preferred method for contact. Office hours are before and after class and by appointment. For an appointment please contact Mrs. Karen Yudin at 848-932-6361 or yudin@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Required Text:

Learning Goals & Objectives:
This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the various areas of study within environmental health. Through readings and class discussion, students will develop an understanding of the environmental issues that help shape the health of humans, animals and the environment. Students will explore the disciplines concerned with the recognition and control of environmental health threats.

- Students will understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.
- Students will be able to apply concepts about human and social behavior to particular questions or situations.
- Students will be able to formulate, evaluate, and communicate conclusions and inferences from quantitative data.

Grading:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hour Exam One</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Hour Exam Two</td>
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<td>Hour Exam Three</td>
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<td>Group Presentation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation and attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Grades represent the level of quality of the student's performance measured against standards of knowledge, skill, and understanding as evaluated by the instructor. Grades are reported to the university registrar at the end of the semester by the following symbols:
Presentations:
Students will team up in groups of three or four students and will be prepared to make a 15 to 20 minute presentation (usually PowerPoint) on one of the topics covered in this class. All members of the team are expected to participate in this assignment. The students will have two class times to meet and work on this presentation one in the beginning of the course and one midway through the course to allow for a convenient and prearranged meeting time. It is assumed that you will meet outside of the regular class times as well to be prepared for a thoughtful and interesting presentation. Students may select a topic outside of the topics listed on the syllabus as long as they have prior approval.

Written Paper:
You will be required to write one ten (10) page paper, double spaced plus references on one of the topics covered in the syllabus. The papers must be your own work, carefully and thoughtfully written. The papers are due on the last day of class, May 6, 2014.

Weekly assignments:
It is important that you read the chapters before the class meets, please make certain to read the chapters prior to the class meeting so you can participate in the class discussion.

Attendance & Participation:
Participation and attendance are part of your grade and both are expected in this course. Students who actively engage in class discussion and come prepared to contribute to the evening’s material will generally receive an A in participation. Cell phones must be silenced in class, and students using their phones will be asked to turn them off or leave. It is the responsibility of students who have been absent to find out what they have missed and obtain materials that may have been distributed in class. In the event of serious illness or emergency on the day of an exam, contact me before the exam. In case of examination scheduling conflicts please contact me at least one week prior to the exam. Students who do not make alternative arrangements before the exam will receive a zero (0) for that exam.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Chapter Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td><strong>Introduction and course outline and requirements</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td><em>Chapter 1</em> (large file, be patient)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 28</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 2, Chapter2B</strong></td>
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<td>Ecology and Environmental Health</td>
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<td>Toxicology</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Zhang et al. 2010. Environmental health in China: progress towards clean air and</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>safe water. The Lancet 375: 1110-1119.</td>
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3 Feb 4  Chapters 3 and 4
Environmental Epidemiology
Exposure Assessment

“However, we’re sort of at the limit of what we can do with epidemiology, using big numbers, large-scale studies, modeling exposure, and trying to look at the independent effects of pollutants.” Jonathan Grigg,

4 Feb 11  Chapters 12 and 15
Air Pollution
Water Pollution

5 Feb 18  Chapters 29 and 31
Risk Assessment
Risk Communication

6 Feb 25  Group Project meeting in classroom
Review for exam

7 Mar 4  Chapter 16
Solid and Hazardous Waste 7A 7B
FIRST HOUR EXAM

8 Mar 11  Chapter 25
Children 8A 8B

9 Mar 18  SPRING BREAK
Enjoy and be safe!

10  Mar 25  Chapters 10 and 13
   Climate Change 10C
   Energy Production 10A  10B (Urbanization)

11  Apr 1  Chapter 11
   Global Health

12  Apr 8  Group Project meeting in classroom
   Review for exam

13  Apr 15  Chapters 18 and 17
   Food Safety
   Pest Control and Pesticides
   SECOND HOUR EXAM

14  Apr 22  Chapter 23
   Environmental Disasters

15  Apr 29  Chapter 20 and 22
   Workplace Health and Safety
   Injuries
THIRD HOUR EXAM

16 May 6 Student Presentations
Papers are due

Helpful Links:


Environmental Health Perspectives. This monthly journal provides peer-reviewed news and research articles. <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/>


Further Education in Environmental Health:
Public Health Joint Degree (MPH) at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. <http://environment.yale.edu/academics/degrees/joint/mph>

Academic Integrity Policy:
All work submitted in an undergraduate course must be your own.

It is unethical and a violation of the University’s Academic Integrity Policy to present the ideas or words of another without clearly and fully identifying the source. Inadequate citations will be construed as an attempt to misrepresent the cited material as your own. Use the APA citation style which is described in the Publication manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition.

Plagiarism is the representation of the words or ideas of another as one’s own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be properly cited in the text or footnote. Acknowledgement is required when material from another source is stored in print, electronic, or other medium and

“Worldwide, 13 million deaths could be prevented every year by making our environments healthier.”

“In children under the age of five, one third of all disease is caused by the environmental factors such as unsafe water and air pollution.”

“Every year, the lives of four million children under 5 years – mostly in developing countries – could be saved by preventing environmental risks such as unsafe water and polluted air.”

“In developing countries, the main environmentally caused diseases are diarrhoeal disease, lower respiratory infections, unintentional injuries, and malaria.”

“Better environmental management could prevent 40% of deaths from malaria, 41% of deaths from lower respiratory infections, and 94% of deaths from diarrhoeal disease – three of the world's biggest childhood killers.”

“In the least developed countries, one third of death and disease is a direct result of environmental causes.”
is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one’s own words. To acknowledge a paraphrase properly, one might state: “to paraphrase Plato’s comment...” and conclude with a footnote identifying the exact reference. A footnote acknowledging only a directly quoted statement does not suffice to notify the reader of any preceding or succeeding paraphrased material. Information which is common knowledge, such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc., need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in the course must be acknowledged. In addition to materials specifically cited in the text, only materials that contribute to one’s general understanding of the subject may be acknowledged in the bibliography. Plagiarism can, in some cases, be a subtle issue. Any question about what constitutes plagiarism should be discussed with the faculty member.

Plagiarism as described in the University’s Academic Integrity Policy is as follows: “Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of another person’s words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course. Some common examples of plagiarism are:

- Copying word for word (i.e. quoting directly) from an oral, printed, or electronic source without proper attribution.
- Paraphrasing without proper attribution, i.e., presenting in one’s own words another person’s written words or ideas as if they were one’s own.
- Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement.
- Incorporating into one’s work graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other nontextual material from other sources without proper attribution."

Plagiarism along with any and all other violations of academic integrity by graduate and professional students will normally be penalized more severely than violations by undergraduate students. Since all violations of academic integrity by a graduate or professional student are potentially separable under the Academic Integrity Policy, faculty members should not adjudicate alleged academic integrity violations by graduate and professional students, but should refer such allegations to the appropriate Academic Integrity Facilitator (AIF) or to the Office of Student Conduct. The AIF that you should contact is Antoinette Y. Farmer, 848.932.5358. The student shall be notified in writing, by email or hand delivery, of the alleged violation and of the fact that the matter has been referred to the AIF for adjudication. This notification shall be done within 10 days of identifying the alleged violation. Once the student has been notified of the allegation, the student may not drop the course or withdraw from the school until the adjudication process is complete. A TZ or incomplete grade shall be assigned until the case is resolved. For more information regarding the Rutgers Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures, see: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers

To promote a strong culture of academic integrity, Rutgers has adopted the following honor pledge to be written and signed on examinations and major
course assignments submitted for grading: *On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination.*

**Disability Accommodation**

Please Note: Any student who believes that s/he may need an accommodation in this class due to a disability should contact the University Office of Disability Services, Lucy Stone Hall, Livingston Campus 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Suite A145, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8045, email address: dsoffice@rci.rutgers, Phone: (848) 445-6800, fax: (732) 445-3388, for a letter of accommodation. (Undergraduate New Brunswick students should contact the Coordinator for Students with Disabilities for their College.) Any student, who has already received a letter of accommodation, should contact the instructor privately to discuss implementation of his/her accommodations immediately. Failure to discuss implementation of accommodations with the instructor promptly may result in denial of your accommodations.