

Course Synopsis:

This course will introduce students to the science behind processes occurring on the Earth and within its atmosphere. The course will look at relationships between environmental degradation and human activity, in terms of the physical, chemical, and biological processes operating at or near the Earth's surface. The environmental costs and consequences of human activity are examined in an attempt to define balances between human living conditions and environmental integrity. **The course is science-based and intended for students interested in pursuing environmental issues from a scientific (physical, chemical, biological, and mathematical) perspective.**

education in Environmental Science. That said, careers in Environmental Science are increasingly crossing traditional boundaries and thus, students in all disciplines are welcome to join in the course to improve their scientific literacy. This course forms an important entry point for all Environmental Science programs, and is also useful as a science credit or for general interest of students in other programs.

Course Evaluation:

Course Content and Schedule

Date	Lecture topic	Reading	Happening this week
Sept. 10	Introduction to Environmental Science	Chapters 1 and 2	
Sept. 17	Matter, Energy, & the Systems Approach to Environmental Science	Chapter 2 refresher	Lab 1-odd practical sessions
Sept. 24	Earth Systems, Ecosystems and Global Biogeochemical Cycles	Chapter 3	Lab 1-even practical sessions

Laboratory/ Practical Details:

This course includes hands-on laboratory- and field-based data collection, and assignments directly related to the collected data. A freely available lab manual has been created that details lab safety, schedules, and assignments. The manual is available via Quercus. **Please read the following key points *and* the laboratory manual carefully:**

Practical Assignment Due Dates:

Assignments 1, 2, and 3 are due at the **START** of your next lab.

Assignments 1, 2, and 3 are to be submitted directly to your TA in the lab.

For example, for someone in PRA001, the assignment related to Lab 1 (held on Sept. 20th) would be due at the start of the Lab 2 (on Oct 4).

Assignment

8. **Any assignment, for any reason, handed in more than 5 business days late, will not be accepted for marking.** Note that this rule applies as well to students who decide to add the course later in the semester.
- 9.

Short emails will usually be answered with appropriate, short responses. Long, drawn out questions and/or questions pertaining to very general subjects, which are likely to be of interest to the entire class, should be posted on **the Quercus (Discussion Board module)** so that the entire class may benefit from the answer.

ensure a response (most Hotmail, Gmail, etc end up in my junkmail, never to be seen). **Please**

1. The UofT home page <http://www.utoronto.ca>