

New York University
Department of Nutrition, Food Studies, and Public Health
 E33.2356.001 – Environmental Health Problems (3 Credits)
 Fall Semester 2007
 Thursdays 6:45 PM – 8:25 PM
 (194 Mercer Street – between Bleecker and W. Houston), Room 305
 Professor Andrew Burgie

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
9/6 -	Introduction to Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)	Ch. 1, A, B
9/13 -	Environmental Toxicology & Risk Assessment	Ch. 6, 7
9/20 -	Government Regulations and Their Impact on EH&S	Ch. 5, 8
9/27 -	Water Supply Issues: Sources, Contaminants & Health	Ch. 14
10/4 -	Waste Water Issues (NYC)	Ch. 15
10/11 -	Food Additives & Contaminants/Consumer Product Safety	Ch. 9
10/18* -	Introduction to Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S)	
10/25* -	MID-TERM EXAMINATION	
11/1 -	Air Contaminants: Sources and Characteristics	Ch. 11
11/8 -	Air Contaminants: Health Effects and Current Issues	Ch. 12
11/15 -	Solid and Hazardous Wastes	Ch. 16
11/22 -	Thanksgiving Recess (No Class)	
11/29 -	Solid and Hazardous Wastes	Ch. 16
12/6* -	Asbestos Hazards & Lead Hazards	Ch. 7
12/11* -	Legislative Day	
12/13 -	Reading Day (No Class) – TERM PAPER DUE	
12/20* -	FINAL EXAM	

Required Textbook: Our Global Environment: A Health Perspective (Waveland Press, Inc.) by Anne Nadakavukaren, c.2005 ISBN 1-57766-402-7

CLASS TIPS

1. Please obtain class notes and handouts (if applicable) from another student if you must miss a class. Exams questions will reflect both in-class material and reading assignments.
2. Please do the assigned reading BEFORE coming to class.
3. The exam format will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions.
4. Having Internet access is *expected* be it at home, at work, or at school. Please speak with me if this is an issue.
5. My contact information is as follows: My work number is (212) 481-7652. My e-mail address is aburgie@hunter.cuny.edu. I am available after class or an appointment can be made for a longer discussion.
6. Any student attending NYU who needs an accommodation due to a chronic, psychological, visual, mobility and/or learning disability, or is Deaf or Hard of Hearing should register with the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at (212) 998-4980, 240 Greene Street, www.nyu.edu/csd.

COURSE GRADING

Mid-Term Exam – 30% Term Paper – 30% Final Exam (not cumulative) – 30%
Class Participation – 10%

TERM PAPER REQUIREMENTS

A *research paper* that covers “cutting-edge” environmental health issues is *required* from each student. A sampling of topics is given on the next page.

Each term paper should discuss the latest findings on the selected topic and *go beyond any information that is presented in the textbook or in class on the topic*. Any information obtained on the subject (book, journal, website, etc.) should be reputable, scholarly, and current (within last three years, depending on topic).

Please be sure to include any information concerning dose and related health effects, if applicable.

The body of the paper should be between 8 to 10, double-spaced, typewritten pages of text with a standard-size legible font (i.e., Times Roman, 12 pt). Charts, photos, graphs, lists, tables, appendices, etc. **are** welcome and are *not* included in the page count.

Please be sure to cite references often in order to support statements and to *avoid plagiarism*. Please consult with NYU Libraries if you have any questions about researching, composing or formatting term papers.

Please be prepared to give me a status as to the progress of your report *by the mid-term*. *Please do not wait until the last minute to research your topic to find out that you have insufficient information to complete the report on time.*

	SOME SUGGESTED RESEARCH TOPIC EXAMPLES	STUDENT
1	Municipal Solid Waste Disposal: Problems & Solutions (Location/Waste Stream Specific)	
2	The Science and Research Supporting the Theory of Endocrine Disruptors (Agent/Health Effect Specific)	
3	Environmental Health Issues Impacting Children (Agent/Illness Specific)	
4	Risks Posed by Disinfection By-products and Potential Solutions	
5	Mercury Contamination of Waters: Its Origin and Impact on Human and Ecosystem Health? (Site Specific)	
6	The Status of Superfund: Should it Continue?	
7	Environmental Justice Issues (Site Specific)	
8	Nuclear Power Generation Worldwide: Its Risks and Benefits	
9	Air Pollution & Its Health Effects (Agent/Origin Specific)	
10	Country-specific Case Study of Its Greatest Environmental Threats and Solutions	
11	Case study in EH risk management or communication	
12	How valuable is risk assessment?	
13	Cost-benefit analysis – how valuable is it?	
14	Survey of major global issue by country, continent	
15	Survey of major local issues (pick a municipality)	
16	Issues of water quality in the USA or elsewhere	
17	Cancer clusters, in general or one in particular	
18	Global warming – Is it for real?	
19	What needs to be done to combat global warming (scientific/global policy analysis)?	
20	The status of and ways to improve recycling (in a specific place)	
21	Asthma causation and incidence in recent years	
22	Discuss specific worker health and safety issues for particular industry and safeguards to implement	