

We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring
will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time.

T.S. Eliot

TCORE 122B Spring 2018
Tu/TH 8 – 10:05 a.m. in TLB 115



I prefer to be contacted via email or text and do not respond quickly to voicemails. Please identify yourself in all messages with your full name and the class you are in. This especially applies to text messages. Alternatively, use the smartphone barcode (to the left) to send me a text message with the course information and my phone number already entered.



Please check Canvas and your UW Email regularly (a few times per week) for updates and messages pertaining to this class. Information on Canvas is more current and trumps this syllabus.

Contact Info:

Instructor: Rus Higley

Phone: 206.715.0576

Email: rhigley@uw.edu

Office Hours: M/W/F from 7:15-8 (in our classroom) and by appointment (location TBD)

Course Description:

Humans are impacting the earth in numerous ways. The choices you make can have a positive or negative impact. For example, the cotton in a single t-shirt uses over 800 gallons of water to grow. This quarter we are going to look at many of these, including climate change, e-waste, death by plastic, tragedy of the commons and Affluenza. Instead of a textbook, we'll be using a variety of readings including a comic book that help us explore the choices we make. Your decisions make a difference...choose wisely.

The course stresses a scientific approach toward understanding nature and contemporary problems in the environment. The course treats environmental science as an interdisciplinary study integrating the natural sciences and social sciences. It applies physical, chemical, biological and geological principles to understand ecosystems, the impact humans have on ecosystems, and how these impacts, in turn, affect the human condition around the world.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course, you should be able to do the following:

1. Students will gain an appreciation for the scientific and non-scientific issues implicit in addressing environmental problems, particularly as they concern conservation of species, habitats, and ecosystems.
2. Students will be able to apply lessons from several case studies to the analysis of novel problems or issues in conservation biology.
3. Students will increase their ability to find, critically read and assess the scientific evidence presented in popular press accounts of conservation issues.
4. Students will become familiar with some of the ethical, scientific, and societal concerns inherent in conservation biology, and become better equipped to evaluate environmental issues as citizens and media consumers.

5. Students will improve their ability to communicate their ideas and opinions through verbal, written, and visual media.
6. Students should be able to recognize, appreciate and respect the multiple and complex “sides” of different environmental problems.

This course addresses the following Student Learning Outcomes of the Environmental Science Program.

- Be conversant in theoretical concepts of the biological and physical sciences and their application to understanding and studying the environment.
- Develop a basic understanding of the humanities and social sciences, and the interdisciplinary connections between these subjects and the natural sciences, in order to understand and solve environmental issues.
- Exhibit the ability to interpret and communicate information related to environmental issues in written and oral forms appropriate to both scientific and non-technical audiences.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply interdisciplinary training to environmental problems of local, regional, national, or global significance.
- Understand the role of individuals and participate in the creation of solutions for environmental problems.
- Participate in engaged inquiry as a means of connecting classroom learning to real-world environmental problem solving and establishing the skills needed for life-long learning

Method of Instruction:

The course will be taught with a hands-on component including lecture, discussion, and lab/field-based studies as well as online materials. There will be exercises in which you can reinforce and demonstrate learning.

Attendance Policies:

You are expected to attend classes regularly. **Course material will not be repeated for those who miss a class AND YOU WILL LOSE POINTS.** Consider finding a class buddy or two who can be contacted to get missed assignments, handouts, and lectures.

Work load:

A “normal”, 5-credit, class meets in person for 4 hours/week. A general rule of thumb is that to do well in the course, a student will need to spend 2-3 hours outside of class for each hour in class. This works out to 8-12 hours per week on your own for your class. I encourage you to take advantage of all the resources available. Additionally, if science does not come easily to you, you will likely find the course even more challenging and therefore it may consume even more time.



“This C+ isn't consistent with the vision I have of myself.”

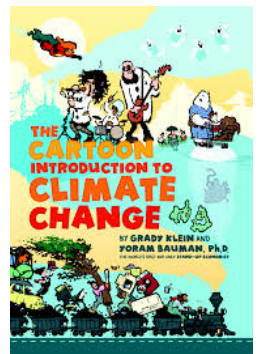
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Required Text:

Cartoon Intro Climate Change, by Klein and Bauman

Additionally, we will be using a combination of articles and chapters, which I will provide as PDFs, and an online textbook which can be found at

<http://www.learner.org/courses/envsci/index.html>.



Software:

All work done outside of class should be typed, doubled-spaced, size 11 font, with standard margins. Ideally, save the document as a pdf (file→save as→choose type) so that the formatting is locked and doesn't depend on our computers talking nicely to each other.

Tests and Grading Policy:

University of Washington Tacoma's grading policies and grading symbols are in the latest catalog. It is recommended that these be reviewed.

- Only grades of a 0.7 or above will earn credit at the UWT. Below 0.7, the assigned grade is a 0.0.
- *Withdrawals:* Students who have not officially withdrawn from the class by the official withdrawal date will receive a grade based on the work they have completed to that date, even if they have stopped attending class. Be aware that, if you stop coming to class and do not withdraw, you are likely to earn a 0.0 in the class, which will remain permanently on your transcript. It is very hard for your grade point average to recover from such a grade. I cannot withdraw you after that date.
- *Incompletes:* An "incomplete" is a grade on your transcript that is converted to a decimal grade when you finish all of your work for the course. It is intended for students who are successfully passing the course until the very end, when they encounter a major emergency, such as a car accident or hospital stay. It is not intended for students who have failed to turn in most of the work over the course of the quarter. Students requesting an incomplete must have finished at least 80 percent of the course work and have an approved and documented reason for not completing the course. Incompletes must be completed in a certain time frame; if the work is not completed within that time, the incomplete converts to the grade the student earns without having done that work.
- *Grades:* *Grades will be assigned on a decimal grading scale. The scale is based upon your earned percentage of the total possible points*

	%			%			%			%			%	
A	4.0	95	B+	3.3	88	B-	2.6	81	C	1.9	71	D+	1.2	63
A	3.9	94	B+	3.2	87	B-	2.5	80	C-	1.8	69	D	1.1	62
A	3.8	93	B	3.1	86	C+	2.4	79	C-	1.7	68	D	1.0	61
A-	3.7	92	B	3.0	85	C+	2.3	78	C-	1.6	67	D	0.9	60
A-	3.6	91	B	2.9	84	C+	2.2	77	C-	1.5	66	D-	0.8	59
A-	3.5	90	B-	2.8	83	C	2.1	75	D+	1.4	65	D-	0.7	58
B+	3.4	89	B-	2.7	82	C	2.0	73	D+	1.3	64	F	0.0	57

Grades are broken down into percentages not total points. In other words, if you get 50% of the Class Quizzes, you will have 5% (a 50% grade on 10% of your total course grade) towards the course total. Points are relevant only within the category as everything is generally recorded as a percentage. One class quiz, one discussion, one study guide, and one class activity/lab will be automatically dropped from the grades. Bonus opportunities are limited and not guaranteed.

Category	Percentage of Total
Class quiz	10%
Lab/Class Activities	20%
Discussions	15%
Public Service Announcement	15%
Study Guide Questions	10%
Exam	30%

Miscellaneous:

- I will respond to emails and phone messages within 2 business days.
- You are responsible for your access to a computer that meets the technical requirements for this class. Technical problems are not considered valid excuses for late or incomplete assignments. Have a backup plan, and plan ahead!
- No make-up exams will be given, except in extreme circumstances and unless prior arrangements have been made. If you can't make an exam for any reason, call me ASAP and if necessary leave a message.
- Reading assignments should be completed before the corresponding lesson.
- For important dates go to <http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/calendar>
- *The instructor reserves the right, with notification, to revise this syllabus or class schedule as necessary.*

Personal expectations of instructor and students:

- I recognize and respect diversity of ethnicity and race, gender, sexual identity, class, age, and disability. Differences provide us with opportunities to learn new things, compare experiences, test our assertions, understand ourselves better, and find common ground. Differences also sometimes engender conflict. In the midst of that conflict, I ask everyone to maintain a language and an attitude of respect.
- As an instructor at the University of Washington, Tacoma, I will endeavor to insure that this classroom is free of any harassment, which has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment. Furthermore, I will insure that each female and male has an equal voice in this class and that each voice is equally valued.
- Behavior that disturbs the class is not acceptable and the student may be asked to leave the area. This especially includes but is not limited to the usage of cell phones (*silence them*).
- To be a successful student in our class, you need to do the following:
 - **Ask for help...**before something is due. This can be the week or hours before it is due. It is NOT 2 minutes before class starts.
 - **Bring your questions...**and don't be afraid to ask them. I guarantee others have similar questions.
 - **Come to class...**ready to learn with the supplies you need (pen/pencil, paper, brain food, etc).
 - **Do the work...**Chapter quizzes and worksheet quizzes are intended to be easy points. Lab points are earned by participating in class. Don't waste these points.

Expectations for Success and other resources:

- **Late work.** Online assignments are due by the end of the day. In class work is due generally in class although there may be a "complete later" component. Late work is worth at most 50% of the grade and is not accepted more than one week after the due date. If you have a serious personal issue and need an extension on an assignment, please contact me **in advance** to make alternate arrangements and get a possible no-penalty extension. I reserve the right not to grant extensions. I do not grant extensions after due dates have passed. There is no guarantee that late work will be graded promptly.
- **Sick policy.** We all get sick sometimes. Do not come to school and endanger yourself or spread your germs. Remember, you are still responsible for everything that you missed while you were sick. If you are going to miss something crucial in class, contact me ASAP so we can make alternate arrangements and expect to spend some time catching up when you are feeling better. **Do not disappear** and then reappear when you are better expecting to catch up! I will not

necessarily provide make up opportunities in that case and you could receive no credit for the work you missed. Note that if you are sick for multiple classes, contact me ASAP to discuss your situation and the possibility of taking a hardship withdrawal.

- **Citation format.** I expect all written work with citations to use a standard format. It might seem like an unnecessary hoop for you to jump through, but there are a number of good reasons for this. Any official work you submit for publication will ask for a specific citation format that you must adhere to; it is good practice to learn to follow directions and pay attention to the details. It also helps others interpret what your citations are if they are reported in a familiar format. I have adopted the official CSE format, in order to make my requirement more standard and to give you a place to look if you need more help. Documents are posted on Canvas to help you with this.
- **Format.** Documents will typically be submitted through Canvas. When submitting your work, the BEST format is as a PDF as this is a lock of your view and doesn't rely on our settings or programs matching. You can download a free pdf converter like Primo PDF but most office programs now have under "save as" where you choose pdf as the format. Alternatively, please submit all doc, docx, or rtf. WPS will not be accepted.
- **Class presence.** Please come on time, turn off and put away your phone and other gadgets, and open your mind. Please respect the rest of class including their different opinions and abilities. Ultimately, this is your time to learn in an open and safe environment!
- **Class announcements and webpage.** I often make important announcements in class or on Canvas. Not being in class is not an excuse for not being aware. Be sure to have someone in class who can reliably pass on this information to you. Check Canvas and your UW email regularly. You may also want to make sure that Canvas is set up to forward announcements to an external email.
- **A word about returning work.** To get any papers that remain after the final, please give me a self-address, stamped, and large sized envelope and I will mail them to you. Remember that you will need papers in the portfolio that you must complete before you can graduate, so keeping all your papers across your career at UWT is a good idea.
- **Counseling Center (Student Health and Wellness - SHAW).** The Counseling Center offers short-term, problem-focused counseling to UW Tacoma students who may feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities of college, work, family, and relationships. Counselors are available to help students cope with stresses and personal issues that may interfere with their ability to perform in school. The service is provided confidentially and without additional charge to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students. To schedule an appointment, please call 253-692-4522 or stop by the Student Counseling Center (SCC), located in MAT 354. Additional information can also be found by visiting www.tacoma.uw.edu/counseling.
- **Disability Support Services (Student Health and Wellness - SHAW)** The University of Washington Tacoma is committed to making physical facilities and instructional programs accessible to students with disabilities. Disability Support Services (DSS), located in MAT 354, functions as the focal point for coordination of services for students with disabilities. If you have a physical, emotional, or mental disability that "substantially limits one or more major life activities [including walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working]," and will require accommodation in this class, please contact DSS at 253-692-4508, email at dssuwt@uw.edu, uwtshaw@uw.edu or visit tacoma.uw.edu/dss for assistance

- **Teaching and Learning Center (TLC)** offers free academic support for students at all levels. We offer one-on-one consultations and group workshops in writing, math, statistics, science, and Spanish. We also work with students on questions about English grammar & vocabulary, reading, and learning strategies. We are located in Snoqualmie 260 and online. Our schedules for appointments and drop-in visits are posted on our website at tacoma.uw.edu/tlc. For special needs or subject tutoring requests, please email uwteach@uw.edu or call 253-692-4417. (TLC) 2nd floor of the Snoqualmie building
 - Writing & Spanish support: writing consultations, online tutoring, workshops & support
 - Quantitative skills support: peer tutoring available for math, science, statistics and more...
 - ESL Support - Help for students whose first language is not English
- **Library** The UW Tacoma Library provides resources and services to support finding resources for your assignments. We guide students through the research process, helping you learn how to develop effective strategies and find and evaluate appropriate resources. In addition to research and instructional support, we manage course reserves and print and digital collections and provide spaces for group and individual study. For assistance or more information, visit our service desks, located in SNO and TLB, or our website, tacoma.uw.edu/library/library.
- **Campus Safety Information**
 - Escort Service— Safety escorts are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, there is no time limit. Call the main office line at 253-692-4416.
 - In case of a fire alarm—Take your valuables and leave the building. Plan to return to class once the alarm has stopped. Do not return until you have received an all-clear from somebody "official," the web or email.
 - In case of an earthquake—DROP, COVER, and HOLD. Once the shaking stops, take your valuables and leave the building. Do not plan to return for the rest of the day. Do not return to the building until you have received an all-clear from somebody "official," the web or email.
 - Safe Campus - Preventing violence is a shared responsibility in which everyone at the UW plays apart. The SafeCampus website (washington.edu/safecampus/uwt/) provides information on counseling and safety resources, University policies, and violence reporting requirements help us maintain a safe personal, work and learning environment.
- **Incomplete** An Incomplete is given only when the student has been in attendance and has done satisfactory work until within two weeks of the end of the quarter and has furnished proof satisfactory to the instructor that the work cannot be completed because of illness or other circumstances beyond the student's control. A written statement of the reason for the giving of the Incomplete, listing the work which the student will need to do to remove it, must be filed by the instructor with the head of the department or the dean of the college in which the course is given.
- **Plagiarism** A major part of your experience at UW Tacoma will be reading, synthesizing, and using the knowledge and ideas of others. To plagiarize is to use the ideas—or unique phrasing of those ideas—without acknowledging that they originate from someone or someplace other than you. Attributing where you get your information builds your own authority to speak on that topic and provides valuable backing to the arguments you make. Attribution also distinguishes your ideas and words from those of others who came before you. At the University of Washington, plagiarism is a violation of the student conduct code, and the consequences can be serious. Though citing, quoting, and paraphrasing can be confusing at first, it is essential for your success at UWT that you familiarize yourself with these important conventions of academic writing. Additionally, plagiarism can be understood differently in various disciplines. For instance, the ways in which one summarizes others' ideas in texts, or attributes information from texts in one's own paper, are not the same in the sciences as they are in the humanities, or the social sciences. This means it is

vital that you understand the specific expectations and guidelines for writing that will help you avoid plagiarizing in this class. If you have questions about what amounts to plagiarism, you are strongly encouraged to seek guidance from faculty and the Teaching and Learning Center as soon as possible. For more information, please refer to UWT's Academic Honesty: Cheating and Plagiarism and Student Counseling Center web pages

- **Electronic Devices** (including, but not limited to, cell phones, tablets and laptops) may only be used in the classroom with the permission of the instructor. Activities that are not relevant to the course, such as checking/ sending email, playing games and surfing the web, are considered disruptive activities when class is in session.
- **Inclement Weather** - Always check the UWT Home Page: official campus closures or delays will be announced there first. Course Announcements and Email regarding assignments and expectations during a closure will follow once the severity of the situation is known.
 - "Call 253-383-INFO or check the UW Tacoma homepage to determine whether campus operations have been suspended or delayed. If not, but driving conditions remain problematic, call the professor's office number. This number should provide information on whether a particular class will be held or not, and/or the status of pending assignments. If the first two numbers have been contacted and the student is still unable to determine whether a class(es) will be held, or the student has a part-time instructor who does not have an office phone or contact number, call the program office number for updated information.

Self and Family Support Resources:

Everyone needs a little help sometimes. Here are a few campus resources on campus to help you get through those challenging times.

Student Success Mentoring Program - Connect with a faculty or staff mentor

Counseling Center (Office of Student Success) - The Counseling Center offers short-term, problem-focused counseling to UW Tacoma students who may feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities of college, work, family, and relationships. Counselors are available to help students cope with stresses and personal issues that may interfere with their ability to perform in school. The service is provided confidentially and without additional charge to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students. To schedule an appointment, please call 253-692-4522, email uwtshaw@uw.edu, or stop by the Student Counseling Center (SCC), located in MAT 354. Additional information can also be found by visiting www.tacoma.uw.edu/counseling.

UWT student Health Center - LBH 102; 1742 Market Street, Tacoma WA, 98402. Basic services at Student Health Services (SHS) are provided at no cost to currently enrolled UW Tacoma students. However, you may incur costs for services provided off campus, such as lab tests, and for some on-campus services, such as immunizations. The SHS staff will identify any services that you would have to pay for. http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/studentaffairs/SHW/shs_healthservices_about.cfm.html

The Pantry - to provide supplemental, nutritional, and culturally relevant food as well as hygiene items to all UWT students and their families. Location and information can be found by visiting: tacoma.uw.edu/thepantry Stop by during weekly drop-in hours (DOUGAN 104) Check website for hours.

Resources for low income and people experiencing homelessness: <http://mdc-hope.org>

Shelter for Young adults near our campus: **Beacon Center - Shelter** for young adults 18-24. Open daily 6:30pm – 6:30am. Doors close at 10 pm. Located at: Beacon Senior Center 415 South 13th Street Tacoma, WA. The shelter has 40 beds and serves young people ages 18-24. Please call 253-256-3087 for more information. <http://www.communityyouthservices.org/piercecounty.shtml>

Oasis center - Oasis transforms the lives of queer youth by creating a safe place to learn, connect, and thrive. Oasis envisions a world in which queer youth are valued in the community as strong, creative leaders. Oasis is the only drop-in and support center dedicated to the needs of LGBTQ youth ages 14-24 in Pierce County. We are a youth-adult partnership in which youth and adults come together for shared teaching learning and action! Office Phone: 253-671-2838. Emergency Cell Phone: (253) 988-2108

Short-term Loan Program - The Office of Student Financial Aid has funds available for short-term loans to assist students with temporary cash flow problems. Additional information can also be found by visiting: tacoma.uw.edu/uwt/admissions/financial-aid/loans

Policy on Children in Class - "While we recognize that many students have childcare needs, we ask that you not bring children to class. Generally, children tend to be disruptive, and often times the subject matter being discussed is not appropriate for them to hear. If you find yourself in a situation where you have no choice but to bring a child or children with you, you must seek permission from your course instructor prior to class. If permission is granted, you are responsible for seeing that the child or children are not disruptive.

**Remember we are all in this together. If you need help ask.
If you see someone in need of help, offer your assistance.**

