

**PSYC 321: ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**  
Fall Semester 2018

**PROFESSOR**

Name: Mark A. Ferguson, Ph.D.  
Email: [mark.ferguson@uwsp.edu](mailto:mark.ferguson@uwsp.edu)  
Phone: 715-346-3959  
Office: SCI B337  
Hours: TR 12:30-1:45pm or  
by appointment

**COURSE**

Section: 1  
Meetings: TR 2-3:15pm  
Location: SCI D230  
Prerequisite: PSYC 110  
GEP: ER  
Credits: 3

**TEXTBOOKS AND WEBSITE**

Clayton, S., & Myers, G. L. (2015). *Conservation psychology: Understanding and promoting human care for nature* (2nd ed.). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.

Steg, L., van den Berg, A. E., & de Groot, J. I. M. (2012). *Environmental psychology: An introduction*. Malden, MA: BPS Blackwell.

The Desire2Learn (D2L) website will be used to distribute documents and post grades: <http://www.uwsp.edu/d2l/Pages/default.aspx>. You will need your UWSP login and password to access the system. For assistance, contact the IT Service Desk (see <http://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/ServiceDesk/default.aspx> for more information).

**DESCRIPTION**

This course offers an overview of theory and research in environmental psychology—a subfield of psychology that examines the relationship between humans and the natural environment. The course begins with a brief introduction to the field. It then discusses the three major areas of study in environmental psychology. The first area examines how the environment affects humans' thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. The second area of study examines how humans' thoughts, feelings, and behaviors affect the environment. The third area of study examines strategies for improving the interaction between humans and the environment. The course ends by considering core themes, recent developments, and future directions.

**OBJECTIVES**

There are two emphases in this course—to understand the concepts and principles of environmental psychology, as well as to apply them to everyday human-environment relationships. By completing the course, you will be able to:

1. Identify interactions between human society and the natural environment.
2. Analyze the individual, social, cultural, and ecological factors that influence environmental sustainability.
3. Evaluate competing claims that inform environmental debates.

**CALENDAR**

<b>Overview</b>			<b>Clayton</b>	<b>Steg</b>
Unit 1	Introduction	T 9/4, R 9/6	1	1
Unit 2	Nature	T 9/11, R 9/13	4	7
Unit 3	Health	T 9/18, R 9/20		3, 5, 6
<b>Personal Influences</b>				
Unit 4	Values	T 10/2, R 10/4	5	14
Unit 5	Risk	T 10/9, R 10/11	6	2
Unit 6	Emotion	T 10/16, R 10/18	12	
<b>Collective Influences</b>				
Unit 7	Identities	T 10/30, R 11/1	8	16
Unit 8	Norms	T 11/6, R 11/8		12, 15
Unit 9	Conflict	T 11/13, R 11/25	7	17
<b>Social Interventions</b>				
Unit 10	Sustainability	T 11/27, R 11/29	9	13
Unit 11	Information	T 12/4, R 12/6	11	21
Unit 12	Policy	T 12/11, R 12/13	10	22
<b>Exam Dates</b>			<b>Bonus Days</b>	
Exam 1: T 9/25, Covers Units 1-3			R 9/27, R 10/25	
Exam 2: T 10/23, Covers Units 4-6				
Exam 3: T 11/20, Covers Units 7-9				
Exam 4: M 12/17, Covers Units 10-12 (10:15am-12:45pm)				

*This calendar is subject to revision. Any changes will be announced in class.*

**REQUIREMENTS**

**Exams.** There will be four exams in this course. Each exam will cover 3 units of material (about 100 pages of reading) and consist of 45 multiple choice questions. You will choose the 40 questions that you would like to answer. See the calendar for dates and material covered. The exams will be worth 400 points or 74% of your final grade.

**Papers.** There will be two papers in this course. The papers will require you to examine and analyze environmental issues using relevant materials. They will be limited to two typed, double-spaced pages (12 point font, 1-inch margins, no wasted space, etcetera). Paper topics will be announced in class and must be submitted via D2L’s dropbox by the date specified. The papers will be worth 80 points or 15% of your final grade.

**Participation.** There will be a number of class participation activities in the course. Five of them will count toward your final grade. The specific dates will not be announced in advance. Participation activities will be worth 60 points or 11% of your final grade.

You can use the tables below to track your performance in the course, as well as to calculate your final grade.

Assessment	Earned Points	Possible Points
Exam 1	_____	100
Exam 2	_____	100
Exam 3	_____	100
Exam 4	_____	100
Paper 1	_____	40
Paper 2	_____	40
Participation 1	_____	12
Participation 2	_____	12
Participation 3	_____	12
Participation 4	_____	12
Participation 5	_____	12
<i>Total</i>	_____	540

Final Grade	Total Points	Percent Overall
A	502-540	93-100
A-	486-501	90-92
B+	470-485	87-89
B	448-469	83-86
B-	432-447	80-82
C+	416-431	77-79
C	394-415	73-76
C-	378-393	70-72
D+	362-377	67-69
D	324-361	60-66
F	000-323	00-59

## POLICIES

**Assessment.** To maintain the integrity of in-class exams, the use of electronic devices will not be permitted during exams without prior documented approval from Disability Services or other pertinent offices on campus. This includes requests to use mobile devices for foreign language translation assistance. Students who are found using devices will be dismissed and receive zeroes on their exams. Other penalties will be considered under the misconduct policy.

**Attendance.** The professor will not take formal attendance in this course. Nonetheless, consistent attendance is the best way to perform well. Lectures and readings only partly overlap, but material from both will be needed for the exams. In addition, a number of graded classroom activities will take place during the semester. Students with poorer attendance records generally earn lower final grades in this course.

**Communication.** Please contact the professor with your questions or concerns related to this course, as well as other academic and career-related issues. Office hours are the most reliable means of contact. The professor holds around three office hours per week. If you cannot attend office hours, schedule an appointment. Email is the next most reliable means of contact. The professor generally respond to emails in two business days (this means that he will not respond on evenings or weekends). To avoid being snagged by email filters, type PSYC 321 in the subject line. Emails requiring a lot of discussion will be referred to office hours. Other means of contacting the professor (such as calling or stopping by outside of office hours) are typically unreliable.

**Disabilities.** UWSP is committed to reasonable and appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (the library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or [DATC@uwsp.edu](mailto:DATC@uwsp.edu).

**Emergencies.** In the event of a *medical emergency*, call 911 or use the Red Emergency Phone outside of our classroom. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to those in need. In the event of a *tornado warning*, proceed to the lowest level interior room without windows. See <http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx> for floor plans showing the severe weather shelters near our classroom (such as SCI D279). Avoid wide-span structures (such as gyms, pools, or large classrooms). In the event of a *fire alarm*, evacuate the building in a calm manner and meet on the north side of SCI (outside the HEC). Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals. In the event of an *Active Shooter/Code React*, Run/Escape, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out, and remain quiet. Call 911 when it is safe to do so. Follow instructions of emergency responders. See UWSP's Emergency Management site at <http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt> for details on emergency response procedures.

**Illegalities.** Under several federal and state laws, as well as university guidelines, the professor is required to report acts of a criminal or offensive nature that occur in and outside of class. This includes acts of sexual harassment and assault, bias and hate crimes, illicit drug use, and acts of violence. Any disclosure or description of these incidents, current or in the past, may be reported to the Dean of Students (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/>) or local authorities.

**Incompletes.** Incompletes will only be considered for students in exceptional situations, such as serious medical or emergency situations. They are not available for students who feel overwhelmed by routine academic or extracurricular activities. Requests for incompletes must be accompanied by documentation. In most cases, all coursework must be finished within one semester to avoid receiving an F in the course.

**Makeups.** Makeups assessments (including class participation activities) will only be considered for students who cannot complete them on time due to academic, athletic, or religious obligations, major illnesses, or comparable reasons. Requests for makeups must be accompanied by documentation, such as letters from coaches, doctors, or spiritual leaders. In most cases, makeups must be completed within a week of the original deadline to avoid receiving a zero for the assessment.

**Misconduct.** The professor takes instances of misconduct (such as cheating and plagiarism) seriously. The minimum penalty for an instance of misconduct will be a zero on the assessment. Other penalties will be considered under university policy. Please do not put yourself and others through disciplinary proceedings. To learn more about UWSP's policies, go to: <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>.

**Professionalism.** UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, a set of expectations (called the Rights and Responsibilities document) has been developed for students and professors. For more information, go to: <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf>.