

# NRES 150: People, Resources and the Biosphere

**Important Note:** This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in a course announcement in Canvas.

By enrolling in this course, you are pledging to actively participate and be respectful to other students and the instructor. If you have any issues or problems throughout the semester, please contact me asap so we can take care of things right away. As your instructor, I am here to help you be successful in this course...but you need to let me know if you need help.

## Course Information

### Instructor Information

**Instructor:** Dr. Holly Petrillo, Professor of Forestry

**Office:** TNR 363, UWSP Campus

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-11am or by appointment, via Zoom

If my office hours do not work with your schedule, please contact me to set up another time to meet. I am happy to set up another time for us to talk via Zoom.

**Office Telephone:** I am mostly working from home, so please contact me by email.

**E-mail:** [hpetrill@uwsp.edu](mailto:hpetrill@uwsp.edu) (preferred contact)

If you have any problems or questions with class, PLEASE contact me sooner rather than later, so we can get things cleared up.

### Course Information

**Course Description:** Global resource and environmental problems from a historic, socioeconomic, and biological perspective.

**Credits:** three (3)

**Prerequisite:** No prerequisites are required to take this course.

**GEP:** Environmental Responsibility (ER) and Social Sciences (SS)

### Expected Instructor Response Times

- I will attempt to respond to student emails within 48 hours (Monday through Friday). If you have not received a reply from me within 48 hours please resend your email.

- I will attempt to reply to and assess student discussion posts within 72 hours of discussions closing.
- I will attempt to grade written work within 72 hours, however longer written assignments may take me longer to read and assess.
- I generally do not check emails on weekends. I will try to respond to any emails sent over the weekends, on Monday.

## Textbook & Course Materials

### Required Text:

*National Geographic Learning Reader: Green*; 1<sup>st</sup> ed.

ISBN-13: 978-1133603580; ISBN-10: 1133603580

This text is available through UWSP Text Rental, or can be purchased online through Amazon.com or other online retailers.

### Text description:

Bring your learning to life with compelling images, media and text from National Geographic. GREEN will help you develop a clearer understanding of the world around you through engaging content. This reader's themes are inspired by our changing relationship with the earth, based on an understanding that the planet's resources are finite and that our future depends on preserving them. While the term "green" signifies a level of awareness about environmental concerns, it is used here in the broadest sense, to draw your attention to the state of the planet and to promote discourse on how to address the needs of the human population as well as the ecosystems that sustain life in our world. To what extent we see ourselves as members of a global community and to rethink how we will meet the growing needs of our population in the future are the two central questions this collection asks you to consider critically.

**Other Readings:** Required readings that are not from the text will be available in Canvas, in the module where the topic is being covered. Readings may be in document form (.doc, .pdf) or on a website.

## Course Technology Requirements

- Minimum recommended computer and internet configurations for online courses can be found [here](#).
- You will also need access to the following tools to participate in this course: **a stable internet connection (don't rely on cellular)**  
\*\*\*it is extremely important that you are able to access the internet multiple times during the week. You will not be able to succeed in this course if you do not have a stable internet connection. Please contact me asap if this becomes an issue.

## Course Structure

This course will be delivered entirely online through the course management system Canvas. You will use your UWSP account to login to the course from the [Canvas Login Page](#). If you have not activated your UWSP account, please

visit the [Manage Your Account](#) page to do so.

## Student Expectations

In this course you will be expected to complete the following types of tasks:

- communicate via email
- complete basic internet searches
- download and upload documents to the LMS (Canvas)
- read documents online
- view online videos
- participate in online discussions
- complete quizzes/tests online
- upload documents to Canvas to submit an assignment

\*\*\*It is critical that you use your UWSP email to communicate with me and your other instructors throughout the semester. Instructors and University staff use your UWSP email accounts to send important information. Please do not use your personal Gmail or other accounts for class or other UWSP business.\*\*\*

## Course Learning Outcomes

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs):** *By the end of this course:*

1. Students will be able to locate course expectations and policies.
2. Students will be able to explain how lifestyle choices influence sustainability.
3. Students will be able to identify causes and effects inherent in climate change.
4. Students will be able to identify the impact that environmental practices have on terrestrial ecosystems.
5. Students will be able to identify the impact that environmental practices have on aquatic ecosystems.

Each week of the course we will focus on one of the above Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), and more specific Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). CLOs and SLOs will be posted each week in Canvas, along with the tasks that need to be completed for each week.

You will meet the outcomes listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

- Participate in [Online Group Discussions](#)
- Complete [Written Assignments](#)
- Complete [Reading Quizzes](#)
- Complete [Module Quizzes](#)
- Participate in [two Sustainability Events and write a reflection](#)

## Topic Outline/Schedule

**Important Note:** Refer to the Canvas course home page for pertinent information. Activity and assignment details will be explained in detail within each week's corresponding Module. As tasks come due, they will appear in your "to do" list. If you have any questions, please contact your instructor. I encourage you to subscribe to Canvas notifications, so when I post something in Canvas, it sends you a notification to your email.

Each week, new information will appear with resources and tasks that need to be completed each week. I will usually post a video at the beginning of each week, explaining what we will be covering and what needs to be done. Assignments, discussions, quizzes, and other material will generally be due by 5pm on Thursdays.

### Modules (Topics) Covered in class:

Ecological Footprints

Water Resources

Climate Change

Agriculture

Product Certification and International Agriculture

You will see resources each week associated with these Modules. I would recommend logging into our course Canvas page multiple times throughout the week to access new course material and see what needs to be done that week. Generally, assignments, quizzes, discussions, etc. will be due on Thursdays at 5pm. It is very important to keep up with the course and watch for assignments, discussions, quizzes and due dates. Please contact me if you have any questions.

## Grading Policies

### Graded Course Activities

<u>Evaluation Type</u>	<u>Total Points</u>	<u>% of grade</u>
Discussions (3 @ 100 pts each)	300	30%

1. Ecological Footprints
2. Climate Change
3. Sustainable Meal

Written Assignments (5 @ 70 pts each)	350	35%
1. Sustainable UWSP		
2. Water use		
3. Sustainable Seafood		
4. Stakeholder Assignment		
5. Product Certification		
 Quizzes		
Reading Quizzes (5 @ 18 pts each)	90	9%
Module Quizzes (5 @ 24 pts each)	120	12%
 Sustainability Events Attendance and Reflection (2 @ 70 pts each)		
	140	14%

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<b>Total</b>	<b>1000 points</b>	<b>100%</b>
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**GENERAL GUIDELINES:**

This online course requires the student to be aware of due dates of discussion posts, assignments, quizzes, etc. There is something to do for the class each week, with some weeks having more than one discussion/quiz/assignment due. I will do my best to have several reminders and postings about when things are due, but it is very important for each student to stay on top of the course. If you feel you are falling behind or having trouble keeping up, it is important to contact me asap.

**DISCUSSIONS:**

We will have 3 discussions during the semester, each worth 100 points, for a total of 300 points and 30% of your total course grade. Students will be assigned to a group of six (6) students for discussions. You will stay in your assigned group for the entire semester, unless an issue arises. If you are having issues with your group, please contact me immediately. Each discussion will be open for approximately 2 weeks. Discussions generally involve some individual work, and also some work with your group. It is important to pay attention to the due dates for the Discussions. Some discussions will have 2 parts, where you will have one week to complete your individual part of the discussion, and then you have one more week to respond to your group members. Please do not wait until the last minute to connect with your group members. You will be graded on the completion and quality of your posts. Active and on-time participation is critical for discussions to work effectively and for students to have a positive experience in Discussions. Please participate!!! If you have questions about how to

post, etc. please contact me asap (well before the due date) so I can help you. See Canvas for the Discussion grading rubric.

#### WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

Five written assignments will be associated with course topics throughout the semester, worth 70 points each for a total of 350 points (35% of course grade). Each assignment will be completed individually and uploaded electronically to Canvas.

#### QUIZZES:

Two types of quizzes are given in this class: 1) Reading quizzes, which are associated with readings from the National Geographic Learning Reader (textbook), and 2) Module quizzes, which are based on resources and assignments given within each module.

Reading Quizzes: Five (5) reading quizzes will be given throughout the semester, which can be completed once you have done the assigned readings from the National Geographic Learning Reader. Each reading quiz is worth a total of 18 points, for a total of 90 points and 9% of your total grade.

Module Quizzes: Five (5) module quizzes will be given throughout the semester, worth 24 points each, for a total of 120 points and 12% of your total grade.

#### SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS! PARTICIPATION & REFLECTION:

You are required to participate in (in-person or virtually) two (2) sustainability-related events/films/documentaries/books/etc., and complete a written reflection of each one, worth 70 points each and 14% of your total course grade. The purpose of this is to get everyone in class actively participating in something related to sustainability during the semester. After attending/watching/reading the event/film/book, you will have to fill out a reflection form and upload your completed form to CANVAS. Some examples are: watching a film, TED talk, or reading a book related to sustainability, attendance at a sustainability-related event for a student organization, attending a farmers market and learning about local food, etc. Since many in-person events are not happening due to COVID-19, I will be providing online/virtual examples of ways you can complete your Sustainability Events during the semester. Events can be on- or off- campus, during the week or on the weekend, anywhere that you are! To make sure your event will 'count' please talk to me about it, either by email, or during office hours. Both sustainability assignments are due by the last day of class.

## **Participation**

Students are expected to participate in all online activities as listed on the course calendar. While there is not a specific 'participation grade' for this course, each student is expected to participate in all of the course 'tasks' (quizzes, group discussions and assignments). Failure to complete tasks will result in a zero grade for each thing not completed. Overall, failure to

participate in the course and complete tasks will negatively affect your course grade.

## **Complete Assignments**

**All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Canvas unless otherwise instructed.** Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from instructor *before the due date*.

**I know it is difficult for some of you to complete your assignments in your new living situations.** I ask that you contact me asap when you know you are not going to be able to complete an assignment on time, or when you realize you have missed an assignment. I am willing to work with everyone on an individual level to get your work completed before the end of the semester.

**I will not allow someone to make up work if I am contacted at the end of the semester and asked to make up several weeks' worth of material.** I am happy to help students on an individual basis, but I will not allow for someone to not participate for many weeks and expect to do all assignments at once. Please be respectful of me as well as yourself and be honest with me about your situation.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will negatively affect the student's grade.

## **Late Work Policy**

Pay close attention to deadlines. Late assignments, quizzes, or other course material will not be accepted unless the student has contacted the instructor in advance of the due date and received an extension, or if the student has documented an emergency or hardship that has prevented them from completing something on time. I understand that we are in challenging times, and as I stated above I am very willing to work with students to make up missing work; but I also expect you to reach out to me as soon as you can to make a plan to complete missing work and not to wait until the last minute to reach out.

## **Viewing Grades in Canvas**

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to Grades. Click on the Grades link in Canvas to view your points.

I will attempt to grade written work within 72 hours, however longer written assignments may take me longer to read and assess.

You will see a visual indication of new grades posted on your Canvas home page under the link to this course.

## Letter Grade Assignment

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Points Earned	Percentage
A	925-1000	92.5-100%
A-	895-924	89.5-92.4%
B+	865-894	86.5-89.4%
B	825-864	82.5-86.4%
B-	795-824	79.5-82.4%
C+	765-794	76.5-79.4%
C	725-764	72.5-76.4%
C-	695-724	69.5-72.4%
D+	665-694	66.5-69.4%
D	595-664	59.5-66.4%
F	< 594	0-59.4%

## Course Policies

### Netiquette Guidelines

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course community.

The following netiquette tips will enhance the learning experience for everyone in the course:

- Do not dominate any discussion.
- Give other students the opportunity to join in the discussion.
- Do not use offensive language. Present ideas appropriately.
- Be cautious in using Internet language. For example, do not capitalize all letters since this suggests shouting.
- Popular emoticons such as 😊 or / can be helpful to convey your tone but do not overdo or overuse them.



- Avoid using vernacular and/or slang language. This could possibly lead to misinterpretation.
- Never make fun of someone's ability to read or write.
- Share tips with other students.
- Keep an "open-mind" and be willing to express even your minority opinion. Minority opinions have to be respected.
- Think and edit before you push the "Send" button.
- Do not hesitate to ask for feedback.
- Using humor is acceptable

Adapted from:

Mintu-Wimsatt, A., Kernek, C., & Lozada, H. R. (2010). *Netiquette: Make it part of your syllabus*. Journal of Online Learning and Teaching, 6(1). Retrieved from [http://jolt.merlot.org/vol6no1/mintu-wimsatt\\_0310.htm](http://jolt.merlot.org/vol6no1/mintu-wimsatt_0310.htm)

Shea, V. (1994). Netiquette. Albion.com. Retrieved from: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/book/>.

## **Build Rapport**

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

## **Understand When You May Drop This Course**

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

## **Incomplete Policy**

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will only be assigned if the instructor, student, and Dean of Students have been notified and collectively developed a schedule for completion of coursework. All incomplete course assignments must be completed within one month from the end of the semester.

## **Inform Your Instructor of Any Accommodations Needed**

If you have a documented disability and verification from the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) and wish to discuss academic accommodations,

please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to Disability Services and meet with a Disability Services counselor to request special accommodation *before* classes start.

The Disability and Assistive Technology Center is located in 609 Albertson Hall and can be contacted by phone at (715) 346-3365 (Voice) (715) 346-3362 (TDD only) or via email at [datctr@uwsp.edu](mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu)

### **Statement of Policy**

UW-Stevens Point will modify academic program requirements as necessary to ensure that they do not discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities. The modifications should not affect the substance of educational programs or compromise academic standards; nor should they intrude upon academic freedom. Examinations or other procedures used for evaluating students' academic achievements may be adapted. The results of such evaluation must demonstrate the student's achievement in the academic activity, rather than describe his/her disability.

*If modifications are required due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center in 609 ALB, or (715) 346-3365.*

### **Commit to Integrity**

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

### **UWSP Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures**

#### **Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures**

UWSP 14.01 Statement of principles

The board of regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the university of Wisconsin system believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the university of Wisconsin system. The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.

UWSP 14.03 Academic misconduct subject to disciplinary action.

(1) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

- (a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;

- (b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
- (c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
- (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
- (e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance; or
- (f) Assists other students in any of these acts.

(2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination; collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another; submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas; stealing examinations or course materials; submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student; knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

## Religious Beliefs

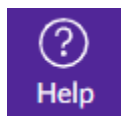
Relief from any academic requirement due to religious beliefs will be accommodated according to UWS 22.03, with notification within the first three weeks of class.

## Technical Assistance

NEED IT HELP?

- Visit with a [Student Technology Tutor](#)
- Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)
  - o IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
  - o IT Service Desk Email: [techhelp@uwsp.edu](mailto:techhelp@uwsp.edu)

NEED CANVAS HELP?



Click on the  button in the global (left) navigation menu of Canvas and note the options that appear:

Support Options	Explanations
<p><b>Ask Your Instructor a Question</b> Submit a question to your instructor</p>	Use <b>Ask Your Instructor a Question</b> sparingly; technical questions are best reserved for Canvas personnel and help as detailed below.
<p><b>Chat with Canvas Support (Student)</b> Live Chat with Canvas Support 24x7!</p>	<b>Chatting with Canvas Support (Student)</b> will initiate a <i>text chat</i> with Canvas support. Response can be qualified with severity level.
<p><b>Contact Canvas Support via email</b> Canvas support will email a response</p>	<b>Contacting Canvas Support via email</b> will allow you to explain in detail or even upload a screenshot to show your particular difficulty.
<p><b>Contact Canvas Support via phone</b> Find the phone number for your institution</p>	Calling the Canvas number will let Canvas know that you're from UWSP; phone option is available 24/7.
<p><b>Search the Canvas Guides</b> Find answers to common questions</p>	<b>Searching the <a href="#">Canvas guides</a></b> connects you to documents that are searchable by issue. You may also opt for <b><a href="#">Canvas video guides</a></b> .
<p><b>Submit a Feature Idea</b> Have an idea to improve Canvas?</p>	If you have an idea for Canvas that might make instructions or navigation easier, feel free to offer your thoughts through this <b>Submit a Feature Idea</b> avenue.

*All options are available 24/7; however, if you opt to email your instructor, s/he may not be available immediately.*

- Self-train on Canvas through the [Self-enrolling/paced Canvas training course](#)