

EVS 3000L | Environmental Science Lab | Spring 2024 | 1 Credit

Tuesday Section:	Wednesday Section:
Instructor: Rachel L. Walsh, SNRE PhD Student rachel.walsh@ufl.edu Office Hours: Tuesdays 11am-12pm or by appointment 2030 McCarty Hall D or via Zoom: https://ufl.zoom.us/j/92455059885	Instructor: Sarah Steele Cabrera, SNRE PhD Candidate ssteelecabrera@ufl.edu Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-3pm or by appointment 2053 McCarty Hall D and on Zoom: https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95878350808
Class meeting time: 12:50pm - 3:50pm Location: Newins-Ziegler, Rm. 376*	Class meeting time: 8:30am - 11:30am Location: Turlington Hall, Rm. 2350*

*Note: The location of the class will vary by week, with some labs taking place off-campus or outdoors. The instructor will notify the students of the class meeting location in advance. Students must attend the lab section they are enrolled in.

PREREQUISITES AND COURSE DESCRIPTION:

[CHM 2045](#) or [CHM 2047](#) or [CHM 2095](#)

Hands-on experience in data collection and analysis for environmental science and management.

COURSE MATERIALS:

There are no required textbooks. Readings will be made available via Canvas.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Environmental science is an interdisciplinary field of study that integrates physical, biological and social sciences to study the interactions between humans and the environment. Through environmental science, we strive to understand the natural systems of the Earth, the impacts of human activities on these systems, and the development of solutions to environmental problems. Because of the diversity and interconnectedness of all aspects of human-environment relationships, environmental science careers are diverse. Environmental scientists work on problems spanning biogeochemical cycles, energy systems, pollution control and mitigation, natural resource management, and much more!

Our objectives in this lab are to give you 1) exposure to the diversity of environmental science careers, 2) an introduction to field- and lab-based methodologies and quantitative techniques,

commonly used in environmental research, and 3) professional development opportunities to help you progress in the field.

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

Lab activities will break roughly into three categories:

- Career exploration activities—guest lectures from environmental science professionals about their career trajectory, researching career options which match your interests, or engaging in small-group discussions with professionals with whom you share interests.
- Research exercises—learning about and practicing common methods for studying environmental problems from different perspectives, including policy, human dimensions, and biology (e.g., hands-on sampling projects, tours of research facilities and field sites, and tutorials of basic statistical programs).
- Professional development activities—developing key practical skills for professional behavior, finding career opportunities that interest you, and preparing compelling application materials.

These activities correspond to the three primary learning outcomes for the course. At the conclusion of this course, students will:

- Be able to recognize the many possible professional trajectories in environmental science, research environmental careers.
- Plan basic research projects to address questions in the natural and social dimensions of environmental science.
- Generate professional communications and application materials for career opportunities.

COMMUNICATION:

All course communication outside of class and office hours should be done through Canvas. You are responsible for checking both Canvas and your UF email regularly to keep up to date. If you have questions or need help outside of class or office hours, we will do our best to respond to Canvas messages within 2 working days; we may be unavailable on weekends and breaks. This means you may want to work on your assignments early, so you have time to reach out to us if you run into any problems.

SEMESTER SCHEDULE (subject to change):

Week	Date	Topic	Location	Guest
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1	January 9/10	Careers and Graduate School	Classroom	SNRE graduate students
2	January 16/17	Science Education and Communication	Florida Museum of Natural History (Powell Hall)	Alberto Lopez, Youth Outreach Coordinator, FLMNH
3	January 23/24	Land Management, Forestry, and Conservation	Austin Cary Forest	Scott Sager, Forester, Austin Cary Forest
4	January 30/31	Resume/CV Workshop	TBA	TBA
5	February 6/7	Environmental Policy	TBA	TBA
6	February 13/14	Terrestrial Field Methods	TBA	TBA
7	February 20/21	Introduction to Research Skills and Data Analysis	TBA	Laurel Kaminsky, UF Libraries
8	February 27/28	Invasive Species, Imperiled Species, Deep-Sea Ecosystems, Coastal Wetlands	USGS Wetland and Aquatic Research Center	USGS Staff
9	March 5/6	Social Science	TBA	TBA
10	March 12/13	No Class - Spring Break	N/A	N/A
11	March 19/20	Climate Science	TBA	TBA
12	March 26/27	Environmental Justice	TBA	TBA
13	April 2/3	Sustainable Waste Management	TBA	TBA

14	April 9/10	Wetland Field Methods	Natural Area Teaching Laboratory	Alex Baecher, WEC PhD Candidate
15	April 16/17	Aquatic Field Methods	TBA	TBA
16	April 23/24	Presentations, Wrap-up	Classroom	N/A

CRITICAL DATES:

No class on March 12-13 due to Spring break.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Since this is an experiential learning class, attendance and participation are vital to student success in the course. Attendance will be taken each week that class meets in-person. Participation credit will be determined based on your interactions, questions, comments, punctuality, and attentiveness. Cell phone and computer use during inappropriate times (e.g., presentations by classmates, instructors, and guests) will result in point deductions. Students are required to ride with the group to off-campus sites. If you are not at the designated meeting point at the scheduled departure time, we will leave without you, and you will receive a 0 for participation and attendance that day. We expect you to interact in a polite and professional manner with your instructors, classmates, and the environmental professionals we will meet with.

In the event a student is absent from class, the student will need to contact their instructor regarding a make-up lab assignment in order to earn the points for that day of lab. This make-up assignment will be due within two weeks of the missed class date unless an alternate due date has been agreed to by the instructor.

For absences extending across multiple course meeting periods, it is imperative that students communicate with their instructor and work on a plan to make up missed labs. These situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. We are committed to working with students to ensure that learning objectives are met while recognizing that students may face unexpected challenges during the semester.

This course will follow University attendance policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Several times throughout the semester, there will be a short assignment associated with that week's lab. Assignments will be graded for effort and completeness. All assignments will be weighted equally towards your final grade.

FINAL PROJECT:

Instead of a final exam, students in this course will complete a final project. More details about the activity will be discussed in class by mid-semester.

LATE POLICY:

Late assignments will be marked off by 10% each week they are late. If circumstances change such that you have trouble completing either the final project or multiple weekly assignments on time, we encourage you to get in touch with your instructor.

PROPER ATTIRE:

Proper attire may vary based on the conditions and the environment we will be in. Several of the class trips require closed-toed shoes and long pants. There will be times when you may wish to wear boots, as we may be in wet, muddy locations. Also, we may experience inclement weather such as rain. Please check the forecast and have rain gear when appropriate. Please contact your instructor if you need assistance in acquiring appropriate attire.

Announcements will be posted on Canvas/emailed each week to give further direction regarding appropriate attire for field trips.

COURSE ADJUSTMENTS:

As a class, we will all work to foster a culture of compassion and empathy for one another. As instructors, we will make every effort to accommodate your needs. Any changes to the schedule or assignments will be announced via Canvas and updated on the Canvas calendar. If you encounter new circumstances or challenges this semester that affect your ability to do the assignments as designed, please reach out to your instructor and we will try to find a solution that supports your well-being and have the best learning experience possible. The sooner you open a line of communication with us, the better-positioned your instructors will be to help. Please, do not hesitate to get in touch with your instructor at any point.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic

accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>

COURSE GRADING:

Component	Percent
Attendance/Participation	70%
Weekly Assignments	15%
Final Project	15%
<u>Total</u>	<u>100%</u>

GRADING SCALE:

	A 93.0 – 100%	A- 90.0 – 92.9%
B+ 87.0 – 89.9%	B 83.0 – 86.9%	B- 80.0 – 82.9%
C+ 77.0 – 79.9%	C 73.0 – 76.9%	C- 70.0 – 72.9%
D+ 67.0 - 69.9%	D 63.0 – 66.9%	D- 60.0 – 62.9%
	F <60.0%	

GRADES AND GRADE POINTS:

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS:

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at:

<https://gatorevals.a.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period

opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

RECORDING POLICY:

Our sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate are agreeing to have their images and voices recorded. Recordings will only be made available to students enrolled in the course via the course Canvas page. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated.

Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration for disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

SOFTWARE USE:

All faculty, staff, and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

CAMPUS HELPING RESOURCES:

Academic Resources:

- *E-learning technical support:* Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
- [Career Connections Center](#): Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
- [Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- [Teaching Center](#): Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
- [Writing Studio](#): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- *On-Campus Student Complaints:* Visit the [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage](#) for more information.
- *On-Line Student Complaints:* [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

Health and Wellness Resources:

- *U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center:* Visit the [Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [Student Health Care Center website](#).
- *University Police Department:* Visit [UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the [UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).
- *GatorWell Health Promotion Services:* For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.