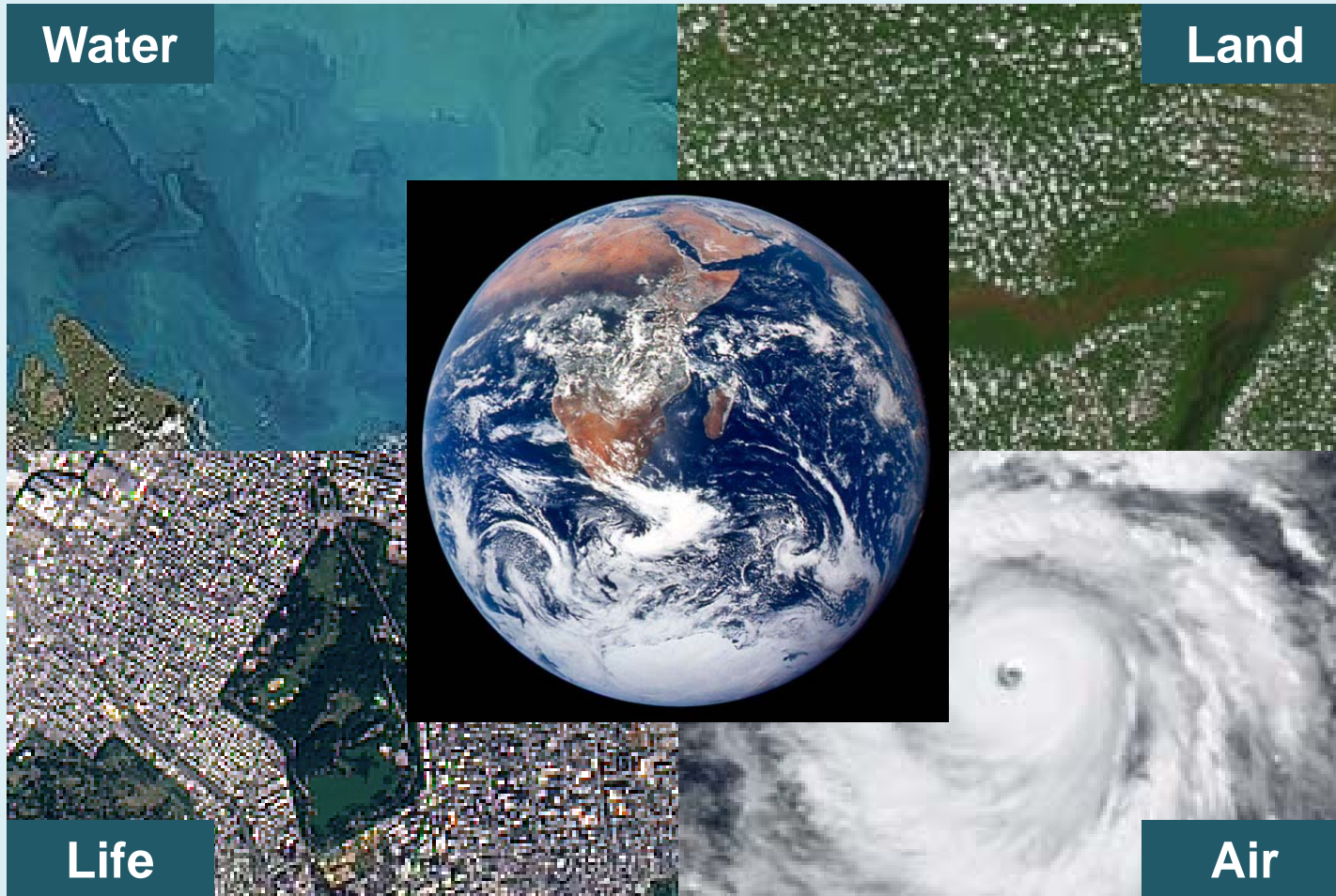


Our planet...



It is where we live. And it is the only home we have!!

Our challenge: live, work and play *sustainably*

System that functions indefinitely without depleting necessary material and energy resources



A sustainable society can meet its needs without impinging on future generations

What are the environmental sciences?

Interdisciplinary science that seeks to understand natural environmental processes, how humans are influencing these processes, and how best to deal with environmental problems

It involves the fields of:

Biology Chemistry Geology Physics Mathematics

Statistics Ecology Agriculture Urban Studies ...

An environmental scientist usually specializes in one of these disciplines, but must have training in all and consider and account for the influence of the other disciplines on their work.

Goals for this course

The course will help you understand the scientific process, learn scientific approaches and apply them to environmental science, be able to evaluate scientific and environmental information. And...

make decisions based on incomplete information.

Prepare you to be informed voters, neighbors and consumers!

Recent NYT Articles on Environment

1/26 *Ozone hole is repairing itself, but might contribute to warming*

1/26 *Intergov'tal Panel on Climate Change announces new report format*

1/22 *Change of plans for dredging the Hudson for PCBs*

Some Questions To Ponder About

- Where does your drinking water come from? Is it safe to drink?
- What pathogens are lurking in your environment and how can diseases from them be prevented?
- How might global climate change affect weather patterns?
- How can the world economies move away from fossil fuels?
- What is your “carbon footprint”?
- If everyone lived like you, how would the earth react?
- How can you reduce the amount of resources and energy you use?

Consider Environmental Science Major/Minor !

- BA and BS degrees
- Degree programs offered at CUNY
- More environmental courses offered than programs at NYU or Columbia

Green Jobs!!

energy sector, engineering, law, public health, education, consulting, politics, forestry, parks...

Ensci111/100

Intro to the Environment / Our Planet in the 21C

Course Staff:

- Lecturer

Kimmy Szeto

kimmy.szeto@qc.cuny.edu

Office: SB, D-211

Office Hours: Sat after lecture

- Lab Instructor

Ning Ma: contact info to be provided in first lab.

Introduction to Course

- Course Design
 - Course Policies
 - Course Mechanics
- How to do well
 - Expectations
 - Assistance
- Introduction to me

Course Design

- Exams partition course into 3 segments
 - (1) Foundations of Environmental Science
 - (2) Land, Water and Air
 - (3) Human Activities

Textbook

Environment: the Science Behind the Stories by
Jay Withgott and Scott Brennan

Course Mechanics

- Lecture is 60% and Lab is 40% of overall grade
- Attend the labs and hand in all the reports!
- Problems with Lab Sections
 - 1) Speak with your Lab Instructor
 - 2) Speak with Course Coordinator Prof. George Hendrey

Course Mechanics

<u>Component</u>	<u>Weight</u>
• 3 Exams	60%
• POP Quizzes	10%
• Journal	15%
• Homework	10%
• Class Participation	5%

Missed Exams/Quizzes

- **Zero** on the Exam
- NO make up Quizzes

For Exams:

- If there is a legitimate absence you must contact me ahead of time
- If there is an emergency you must contact me ASAP

→ Email or

Call dept and leave a message: 718-997-3300

Homework

- Read the chapters from the textbook **BEFORE** you come to class.
- Journal entries
 - (1) write a brief summary of the day's lecture
 - (2) pose at least two questions
 - (3) answer the questions from the previous entry

I want you to succeed!

- Come to class, listen and TAKE NOTES
- Make a vocabulary list from your reading
- Do readings BEFORE class
- Study – lecture notes, vocabulary lists

How to take notes

~~Monitoring Air Pollution~~

- The EPA monitors air pollution in the U.S.
- Set minimum air quality standards known as National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)
- Standards are based on the highest levels tolerable of “criteria pollutants” without ill side-effects
- Primary standards protect human health, secondary standards protect public welfare (plants, animals, structures, visibility)

What I would have written down...

Slide 23

- EPA on Air Quality
 - sets NAAQS = National Ambient Air Quality Standards
 - Standards: max ??criteria pollutants level w/o bad effect
 - What stds do:
 - Protect human health
 - “ public welfare

Other Hints

- Come to class!
- Understand figures/graphs
 - discuss
 - annotate
- Try to explain point of last lecture to your friends
- Take Advantage of QC Tutoring
 - Kiely Hall, Academic Skills Center
 - Science Tutoring Center, Remsen Hall

Ask for Environmental Science Tutor