

## THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

### Course Outline

#### Part I

Programme Title	: Bachelor of Education (Honours) (Geography) (Five-year Full-time)
Programme QF Level	: 5
Course Title	: Global Environmental Issues
Course Code	: GGP3022
Department	: Social Sciences and Policy Studies
Credit Points	: 3
Contact Hours	: 39
Pre-requisite(s)	: Nil
Medium of Instruction	: English
Course Level	: 3

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#### Part II

The University's Graduate Attributes and seven Generic Intended Learning Outcomes (GILOs) represent the attributes of ideal EdUHK graduates and their expected qualities respectively. Learning outcomes work coherently at the University (GILOs), programme (Programme Intended Learning Outcomes) and course (Course Intended Learning Outcomes) levels to achieve the goal of nurturing students with important graduate attributes.

In gist, the Graduate Attributes for Sub-degree, Undergraduate, Taught Postgraduate, Professional Doctorate and Research Postgraduate students consist of the following three domains (i.e. in short "PEER & I"):

- Professional Excellence;
- Ethical Responsibility; &
- Innovation.

The descriptors under these three domains are different for the three groups of students in order to reflect the respective level of Graduate Attributes.

The seven GILOs are:

1. Problem Solving Skills
2. Critical Thinking Skills
3. Creative Thinking Skills
- 4a. Oral Communication Skills
- 4b. Written Communication Skills
5. Social Interaction Skills
6. Ethical Decision Making
7. Global Perspectives

## 1. Course Synopsis

This course introduces different global environmental issues and their relationships with contemporary socio-economic and political systems. Major environmental issues related to the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, the lithosphere, and the biosphere are covered by this course. The course covers issues, problems, actors, measures, policies and planning to handle the global environmental challenges. Management of these environmental issues in the context of sustainability will also be examined.

## 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

*Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:*

- CILO<sub>1</sub>: demonstrate competency in knowledge of a broad range of environmental problems and their impacts.
- CILO<sub>2</sub>: explain the relationships between human activities and environmental degradation.
- CILO<sub>3</sub>: relate the issues of economic, political to environmental policies and planning.
- CILO<sub>4</sub>: evaluate the effectiveness of different measures for tackling environmental problems.

## 3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
1. Introduction of the major global environmental issues.	CILO <sub>1,2</sub>	Lecturer-led Q&A Textual inquiry Group discussion
2. Examination of various environmental problems such as pollution, food problems, waste management etc.	CILO <sub>1,2,3</sub>	Lecturer-led Q&A Textual inquiry Group discussion Video analysis
3. Exploration of the measures and their effectiveness on tackling environmental problems.	CILO <sub>1,2,4</sub>	Lecturer-led Q&A Textual inquiry
4. Introduction of key actors in global environmental politics and public policy, including global environmental regimes, environmental regulations, economic policies and social policies for environmental protection.	CILO <sub>2,3</sub>	Lecturer-led Q&A Textual inquiry Group discussion Web-search
5. Sustainable development and intelligent management of the planet for the present and future generations.	CILO <sub>3,4</sub>	Lecturer-led Q&A Textual inquiry Oral presentation

## 4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILO
Individual assignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1000-word essay examining what each student has learnt during the course</li> </ul>	30%	CILO <sub>1, 2,4</sub>
Group presentation and participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of the group project in relation to the governmental policies to global environmental issues</li> <li>Participation in discussions and online activities, including individual responses and group discussions</li> </ul>	30%	CILO <sub>1,2,3,4</sub>
Final examination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-hour written examination</li> </ul>	40%	CILO <sub>1,2,3,4</sub>

## 5. Required Text(s)

Cunningham, William P, Cunningham, William P., & Cunningham, Mary Ann. (2014). *Environmental Science : A Global Concern* (Thirteenth ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education.

United Nations Environmental Programme (2012) *Global Environmental Outlook 5: Environment for the future we want*.

URL: <http://web.unep.org/geo/assessments/global-assessments/global-environment-outlook-5>

Wright, R., & Boorse, D. (2015). *Environmental science: Toward a sustainable future* (Thirteenth ed.). Hoboken, NJ : Pearson Higher Education.

## 6. Recommended Readings

Pickering, K. & L. Owen (1997) *An Introduction to Global Environmental Issues*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. London and New York: Routledge.

Kemp, D. (1994) *Global Environmental Issues: A Climatological Approach*. London & New York; Routledge.

Kovach, R. (1995) *Earth's Fury: An Introduction to Natural Hazards and Disasters*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall.

Goudie, A (2007) *The Human Impact on the Natural Environmental: Past, Present and Future*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Oxford: Blackwell Pub.

Houghton, J. (2009) *Global Warming: the Complete Briefing*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Edinburgh: Cambridge.

Mackenzie, F.T. (2011) *Our Changing Planet: An Introduction to Earth System Science and Global Environmental Change*. New Jersey: Pearson Education.

## 7. Related Web Resources

Greener: Global Reference on the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources

<http://0->

[find.galegroup.com.edlis.ied.edu.hk/grnr/infomark.do?selectedTab=ALL&userGroupName=hkioel&prodId=GRNR&searchType=AdvancedSearchForm&queryId=Locale%28en%2CUS%2C%29%3AFQE%3D%28SN%2C9%291046-8021%24&type=search&version=1.0&source=null](http://find.galegroup.com.edlis.ied.edu.hk/grnr/infomark.do?selectedTab=ALL&userGroupName=hkioel&prodId=GRNR&searchType=AdvancedSearchForm&queryId=Locale%28en%2CUS%2C%29%3AFQE%3D%28SN%2C9%291046-8021%24&type=search&version=1.0&source=null)

350.org: international campaign to promote just and science-based solutions to climate crisis

[www.350.org](http://www.350.org)

GreenFILE information on human impacts on the environment

<http://library.ied.edu.hk/record=b1762886~S5>

The International Research Center for Climate and Society

<http://portal.iri.columbia.edu/portal/server.pt>

## 8. Related Journals

*International Journal of Global Environmental Issues*

*Environmental Studies and Policy. Earth Action Network, Inc.*

*Development and Change*

*Environment and Behaviour*

*Environment and Planning D: Society & Space*

*Environmental Communication: A Journal of Nature and Culture*

*GAIA: Ecological Perspectives for Science and Society*

*Global Environmental Change*

*International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management*

*Journal of Environmental Psychology*

*Organization and Environment*

## 9. Academic Honesty

The University upholds the principles of honesty in all areas of academic work. We expect our students to carry out all academic activities honestly and in good faith. Please refer to the *Policy on Academic Honesty, Responsibility and Integrity* (<https://www.eduhk.hk/re/uploads/docs/00000000016336798924548BbN5>). Students should familiarize themselves with the Policy.

## 10. Others

Newspaper articles, magazines and other on-line videos on relevant current issues will be used wherever and whenever necessary and feasible.

*Updated December 2023*