

San José State University

Office Location:	On Campus – WSQ111B
Telephone:	ENVS main office: (408) 924-2772 (please leave message)

Email:

Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes (Environmental Studies)

Required Texts/Readings/Materials

Textbook

Simon, Eric J. 2019. *Biology: The Core*. Third edition. Pearson Publishing. ISBN10: 0-134-8915-11. This book is available through the bookstore or from online retailers.

Packback

Packback deep dives is a writing and critical thinking application. You must have Packback to participate in this course. The application costs about \$29 for the semester.

Other Readings and Materials

Additional readings, videos, and other course materials will be available on Canvas.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

You will need access to a computer with an internet connection, Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, Canvas, YouTube and Zoom for both in-person and online classes. Canvas will be used extensively for all aspects of class: assignment submission, discussions, testing and communication. By University mandate our first lectures will be online until 2/14/2022. During this time, we will use Zoom for lecture and discussion time. Lectures may be recorded asynchronously and posted on Canvas. During in-person class time, always bring paper, a pencil and/or pens to class.

WiFi hotspots are available to check out locally through the San Jose Public Library System, which has 25 branches throughout San Jose. For more information on Wi-Fi hotspots check sjpl.org/hotspot. *If you have challenges with computer equipment or internet service, please let me know as a variety of help is available.*

Library Liaison

Peggy Cabrera (peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu) is the Library Liaison for the Department of Environmental Studies. She is a great resource, available for helping with research projects and scientific reference searches.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private study purposes only.

Additionally, course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share, or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, homework solutions, in-class audio/video recordings, etc. without instructor consent.

See [University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>.

Academic Integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy F15-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-7.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>. Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. **Cheating on**

exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that University Academic Integrity Policy F15-7 requires approval of both instructors.

Plagiarism, intentional or not, will not be tolerated in this course. This course is designed to provoke critical

From Mary Poffenroth, ENVS Department:

“The crux of the problem with AI in education is threefold:

1. Submitting work as your own that you did not create is defined as academic dishonesty under [our current university guidelines](#) and has a sliding scale of consequences, from failing the assignment to failing a class to being removed permanently from the university, depending on the severity and number of occurrences.
2. AI content creation engines, like OpenAI, are not always correct, and for general education classes like ours, you don't always have the content area expertise to know when things are wrong.
3. The act and practice of writing are official requirements of our class, as set forth by the university. If you have an external source – whether another person or tech – complete your writing requirement, then you can't be said to have mastery over the writing requirements of our class.

So, you may ask yourself where the line is drawn between an assistive tool that uses AI machine learning and NLP-Natural Language Processing like Grammarly or Packback (which is 100% approved for usage) and an AI content creation engine like OpenAI (which is not approved for use in our class). The best way I can describe the difference would be to use the analogy of building a house. Whether you have the best hammer or the cheapest, if you are hammering the nails into the wood itself, you can say to have built the house yourself. However, if you just gave a work crew the address and some general guidelines and then left, you can't claim to be a house builder. Grammarly is a tool, like having a really nice hammer. OpenAI (Jasper, ChatGPT, GPT-3, GPT-4, etc) is leaving a work crew with just some basic guidelines and an address while you're on the other side of town having lunch.

In our class, the process is part of the point. The process of researching and writing with low stakes now will better equip you to navigate higher-stakes, more complex problems in the future.

Whether a paid ghostwriter or an AI, using any person or service to create work for you that you submit for credit as if it were your own goes against our academic integrity policy. Additionally, ensure you feel confident in understanding the [SJSU Academic Integrity Policy](#), and please let me know if any questions come up!

Like the calculator, AI is here to stay. It will just be up to us as ethical members of the academic community to discern how, when, and where it's appropriate to use.”

Resources for Students

There are many resources on campus available to you. Some examples include: SJSU Peer Connections Center, the College of Social Science Access Center, SJSU Writing Center, SJSU Computing Services, SJSU Counseling and Psychological Service, SJSU Student Health Center, the Academic Success Center, and many places to use or get help with technology. See the [Syllabus Information web page](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/> for more info or come see me. (du/) ;:2 (cad)t intectsb p, C-6 1AM d1 (e)02 (e)4 2r

Class Attendance and Communication

You must attend class to achieve a good grade in the class. It is your responsibility to check Canvas and your email daily for announcements about class activities and assignments. Quiz and exam questions will be based on the information covered during the lecture, and important class information about tests and assignments will be given during the lecture. If you miss class and you do not have a university sanctioned absence excuse, you will not be able to make up any quizzes, exams, participation points, or assignments on that day. You will receive 0 points. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed by checking Canvas for any announcements and class assignments and then asking another student what you missed in class that day. Do not email me asking what you missed or what you need to do until you have first followed both these steps.

Canvas Instructions

For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. All written take home assignments are to be submitted in electronic form through Canvas unless otherwise noted. If you have trouble with Canvas submissions, please discuss with me *before* the due date and time. **All assignments are due on the due date and time listed in the course calendar.**

Lecture Materials

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Grading Information

Your grade will be based on your quizzes, exams, assignments, and class participation. Total points possible may change based on progress of the semester.

Grading Overview and Assessment of Learning Objectives

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Learning Objectives</i>
Quizzes (4)	60	CLO #1, 2, PLO #2, GELO #1, 2, 3
Exam 1	100	CLO #2, 3, PLO # 2, GELO #1, 2, 5, 6
Exam 2	100	CLO #2, 3, PLO #2, GELO #1, 2, 5, 6
Env. Science Topics (3)	120	CLO #3, PLO #1, 2, ILLO# 1, 2, 3, GELO # 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Ecology Assignment	30	CLO #1, 2, 3, GELO #4, 5, 6
Evolution Assignment	30	CLO #2, GELO #5, 6
Sustainability Assignment	30	CLO #2, GELO #5, 6
Field Trip Write-Up	30	CLO #2, 3, GELO #1, 5, 6