

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2024 RT-ONL	Instructor Name:	Dr. Baldev Singh
Course Title & #:	AG/Env science 110	Email:	Baldev.singh@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20008/20009	Webpage (optional):	NA
Classroom:	Online	Office #:	NA
Class Dates:	Feb12 to June 8	Office Hours:	4:55-5:55p.m(M) by email
Class Days:	M,W(Online-ZOOM)	Office Phone #:	None
Class Times:	6:00 p.m-7:25 p.m	Emergency Contact:	Tisha Nelson Economic & Workforce Development (760) 355-6361/ (760) 355-6161 Silvia M 760-355-6155 Math & Sci Div
Units:	3/ +3		

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with an overview and understanding of the relationships between human populations and the natural environment. The class will focus on basic concepts of science and ecosystem theory, human impacts on the biosphere, air, water, land, and environmental problems faced by the Imperial Valley that have regional and global consequences, and some of the proposed solutions. Field trips and activities may be included in this course. (Same as ENVS 110) (CSU, UC, UofA)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

No requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Discuss the growing human population and the related demand for resources (water, power, soil, hunger, etc.) and the impact that it places on agriculture. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4 & ILO5)

Course Objectives

Measurable course objectives and minimum standards for grade of "C." Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. describe the role of science, the use of the scientific method, the importance of stewardship, and the concept of sustainability in the environmental field. The student will also identify local and global environmental challenges.
2. recognize and describe the science, structure, function, dynamics, adaptations of and major threats to local and global ecosystems.
3. describe the environmental impacts of human population growth and material consumption nationally and internationally. The student will also identify some of the solutions that can address the population and consumption challenges.

5. describe the hydrological cycle and identify ways that humans negatively impact the cycle. The student will describe the quality of fresh water globally and identify major sources of water pollution. The student will apply these principles to local water bodies such as the New and Alamo Rivers and the Salton Sea. The student will also describe the political aspects of water allocations of the Colorado River and its impact on the Imperial Valley.

6. describe the state and federal laws and regulatory agencies that govern environmental concerns of air, water, land, human health, and chemical hazards. The student will also describe the use of cost-benefit analysis in the development of environmental policies.

7. identify common human health effects of environmental exposures. The student will recognize the steps involved in risk analysis, how risk perception affects individual and group decision making, and strategies for managing risks.

8. describe agricultural practices in the Imperial Valley with regard to the following concepts: soil characteristics; use of irrigation; the benefits and drawbacks of fertilizer use and pest control; the environmental impacts in air, soil, and water; and the economic impact regionally and nationally.

9. identify the major sources of air pollution locally and nationally. The student will recognize the benefits and environmental impacts of fossil fuels and describe alternatives to its use such as the development of solar, wind, and geothermal energy and the development of public transportation systems and alternative fuels for vehicles.

10. describe how materials are managed to minimize or eliminate environmental impacts. The student will identify the federal regulations governing the clean-up and handling of chemical and hazardous materials. The student will also describe the process of managing solid waste from source reduction to recycling.

11. identify solutions to local and global environmental problems. The student will also describe how politics, citizen involvement, and personal commitment can shape these solutions

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Reference Textbook •

Miller; G. T. & Spoolman, S. E. (2019) Environmental Science (16th ed.) Cengage ISBN-13: 978-1-337-56961-3

Other references

Miller; G. T. & Spoolman, S. E. (2020) Living In The Environment (20th ed.) Cengage ISBN-10: 0-357-14220-9

• Withgott, Jay H., Laposata, Matthew (2019). Environment: The Science behind the Stories (7th ed). Pearson. ISBN: 978-0134145

• Myers, N. & Spoolman, S. E. (2014). Environmental Issues & Solutions: a modular approach. Belmont: Cengage. ISBN-13: 978-0-538-73560-5

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Learning activities in this class will include, but not limited to recorded lectures, instructional YouTube videos, reading handouts, participating in instructor's guided discussions in canvas, experiential learning, assignments, quizzes and tests. Participation in class learning activities is highly encouraged and will have an impact on the final grade. Critical thinking and analytical approach to learning are emphasized. All quizzes/assignments/homework **must be turned in by due date.**

This is an online course and the mode of instruction is asynchronous. You're therefore advised to dedicate ample time for the daily instructional activities and assignments.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

What if I need to borrow technology or access to WIFI?

1. To request a loaner laptop, MYFI device, or other electronic device, please submit your request here: <https://imperial.edu/students/student-equity-and-achievement/>
2. If you'd like access the WIFI at the IVC campus, you can park in parking lots "I & J". Students must log into the IVC student WIFI by using their IVC email and password. The parking lots will be open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Guidelines for using parking WIFI:

- Park in every other space (empty space BETWEEN vehicles)
- Must have facemask available
- For best reception park near buildings
- Only park at marked student spaces
- Only owners of a valid disabled placard may use disabled parking spaces
- Only members of the same household in each vehicle
- Occupants **MUST** remain in vehicles
- Restrooms and other on-campus services not available
- College campus safety will monitor the parking lot
- Student code of conduct and all other parking guidelines are in effect
- Please do not leave any trash behind
- **parking permit is required**

If you have any questions about using parking WIFI, please call Student Affairs at 760- 355-6455!

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Students are advised to acquaint themselves with all rules and regulations of Standards of Student Conduct outlined in the Imperial Valley College General Catalog.

For writing assignments, it is expected that each student will demonstrate proficiency in the use of the English Language. Grammatical errors and writing that do not express ideas clearly will affect your grade.

Weekly discussion and Quizzes There will be weekly quizzes and discussion in canvas that will align with the module covered in that week. These quizzes will be in any format convenient with the subject matter of the module. NO POINTS For LATE SUBMISSIONS

Assignments/Special Project There will be assignments/Special Project about a topical issue in environmental science. Specific details about this project, including due date will be communicated.

Tests

There will be a 1st hourly Exam, two Mid-term Exams and a Final comprehensive Exam/Test.

The final will be a comprehensive test that will cover all the modules with emphasis on Post-Midterm modules. Test questions may include true/false, multiple choice and single mix or match answers

All students are advised to strictly adhere to the dates and times for the tests which will be communicated. There will be **no make-up tests**. Distribution of points is tentative may change depending on class performance

Distribution of grading points

Distribution of grading points • Special Situation Paper • Quizzes and participation 150 points • Ist/ Mid-term tests (2/3) 75 points each • Final Exam 100 points Final score will be calculated out of a possible* 475 points (100%). Weightage for points is tentative*** (Weightage can change according to performance of class/ changed situations) * Tentative- Can change by announcement in Class

Final grade will be as follows: • A= 100-90% • B = 89-80% • C = 79-70% • D = 69-60% • F =<59

NO MAKE UP EXAM

Final grade will be calculated out of the possible total of 100%

Grading Legend • A= 100-90% • B = 89-80% • C = 79-70% • D = 69-60% • F =<59%

All information regarding Quizzes/Tests will be posted on CANVAS updated every week. It is student's responsibility to check on CANVAS for **announcements** or these schedules

It is student's responsibility to drop the course as per IVC Policy if you need to do so*.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Detailed Anticipated (Tetative) Class schedule will be posted at last page of Syllabi. Classes Will be through Zoom.

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/Module #
WK 1 (Feb12-15)	Syllabus & Introduction Environmental Science and Sustainability	1
WK 2 (Feb19-21)	Science, matter and energy, Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Evolution contonued	2
WK 3 (Feb26-28)	Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Evolution Continued	2&3
Continue.....	In Progression.....	Continue.....

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****

Attendance

[Required Information: The below information is the IVC attendance policy.

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.

- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

What does it mean to "attend" an online class?

Attendance is critical to student success and for IVC to use federal aid funds. Acceptable indications of attendance are:

- Student submission of an academic assignment
- Student submission of an exam
- Student participation in an instructor-led Zoom conference
- Documented student interaction with class postings, such as an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction via modules
- A posting by the student showing the student's participation in an assignment created by the instructor
- A posting by the student in a discussion forum showing the student's participation in an online discussion about academic matters
- An email from the student or other documentation showing that the student has initiated contact with a faculty member to ask a question about an academic subject studied in the course.

Logging onto Canvas alone is NOT adequate to demonstrate academic attendance by the student.

Classroom Etiquette

[Required Information: Describe your policies regarding classroom conduct. The below is suggested language and may be modified for your course.]

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, only students enrolled in the class may attend; children are not allowed.

Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and

(11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

How am I expected to act in an online “classroom” (especially Zoom)?

Attending a virtual meeting can be a challenge when there are many students on one conference call. Participating in such meetings may count as class attendance, but disruptive behavior may also result in you not being admitted to future meetings. Follow the tips below for best results:

1) Be RESPECTFUL

a. Your written, verbal, and non-verbal communications should be respectful and focused on the learning topics of the class.

2) Find a QUIET LOCATION & SILENCE YOUR PHONE (if zooming)

a. People walking around and pets barking can be a distraction.

3) EAT AT A DIFFERENT TIME.

a. Crunching food or chugging drinks is distracting for others.

b. Synchronous zoom times are set in advance so reserve meals for outside class meetings.

4) ADJUST YOUR LIGHTING SO THAT OTHERS CAN SEE YOU

a. It is hard to see you in dim lighting so find a location with light.

b. If your back is to a bright window, you will be what is called “backlit” and not only is it hard on the eyes (glare) but you look like a silhouette.

5) POSITION THE CAMERA SO THAT YOUR FACE AND EYES ARE SHOWING

a. If you are using the camera, show your face; it helps others see your non-verbal cues.

b. You may be at home, but meeting in pajamas or shirtless is not appropriate so dress suitably. Comb your hair, clean your teeth, fix your clothes, etc. before your meeting time to show self-respect and respect for others.

6) Be READY TO LEARN AND PAY ATTENTION

a. Catch up on other emails or other work later.

b. If you are Zooming, silence your phone and put it away.

c. If you are in a room with a TV – turn it off.

7) USE YOUR MUTE BUTTON WHEN IN LOUD PLACES OR FOR DISTRACTIONS

a. Pets barking, children crying, sneezing, coughing, etc. can happen unexpectedly. It’s best if you conference in a private space, but if you can’t find a quiet place, when noises arise **MUTE** your laptop.

8) REMEMBER TO UNMUTE WHEN SPEAKING

a. Follow your instructor’s directions about using the “**raise hand**” icon or chat function to be recognized and to speak, but make sure you have unmuted your device.

b. Do not speak when someone else is speaking.

9) REMAIN FOCUSED AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING

a. Especially when the camera is on YOU, we can all see your actions. Engage in the meeting. Look at the camera. Listen to instruction. Answer questions when asked.

b. Do not use the Zoom meeting to meet with your peers or put on a “show” for them.

10) PAUSE YOUR VIDEO IF MOVING OR DOING SOMETHING DISTRACTING

- a. Emergencies happen. If you need to leave the room or get up and move about, stop your video.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service; using any Kind of AI or Instrument connected to AI.

How do I show academic honesty and integrity in an online "classroom"?

- **KEEP YOUR PASSWORDS CONFIDENTIAL.**
 - You have a unique password to access online software like Canvas. Never allow someone else to log-in to your account.
- **COMPLETE YOUR OWN COURSEWORK.**
 - When you register for an online class and log-in to Canvas, you do so with the understanding that you will produce your own work, take your own exams, and will do so without the assistance of others (unless directed by the instructor).

Examples of Academic Dishonesty that can occur in an online environment:

- Copying from others on a quiz, test, examination, or assignment;
- Allowing someone else to copy your answers on a quiz, test, exam, or assignment;
- Having someone else take an exam or quiz for you;
- Conferring with others during a test or quiz (if the instructor didn't explicitly say it was a group project, then he/she expects you to do the work without conferring with others);

- Buying or using a term paper or research paper from an internet source or other company or taking any work of another, even with permission, and presenting the work as your own;
- Excessive revising or editing by others that substantially alters your final work;
- Sharing information that allows other students an advantage on an exam (such as telling a peer what to expect on a make-up exam or prepping a student for a test in another section of the same class);
- Taking and using the words, work, or ideas of others and presenting any of these as your own work is plagiarism. This applies to all work generated by another, whether it be oral, written, or artistic work. Plagiarism may either be deliberate or unintentional.

Additional Services for Students

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

How do I access services now that we are mostly online?

- **CANVAS LMS.** Canvas is Imperial Valley College's Learning Management System. To log onto Canvas, use this link: [Canvas Student Login](#). The [Canvas Student Guides Site](#) provides a variety of support available to students 24 hours per day. Additionally, a 24/7 Canvas Support Hotline is available for students to use: 877-893-9853.
- **Learning Services.** In order to accommodate students and maximize student success during the COVID-19 Pandemic, all tutoring support is being provided through one Zoom link ([IVC online Tutoring](#)). When campus is open again, there are several learning labs to assist students. Whether you need support using computers, or you need a tutor, please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **Library Services.** Visit the Spencer Library's page on the IVC website for a wealth of valuable resources and online access to databases, e-books and more. Contact us so we can help you with instructional and research development skills (for those conducting research and writing academic papers). When campus re-opens, students also have access to tutoring services in the Study Skills Center as well as private study rooms for small study groups. There is more to our library than just books!
- **Career Services Center.** The Career Services Center is dedicated to serve all IVC students and Alumni. Services include Career Assessments, Resume and Cover Letter Assistance, Interview Preparation, Internship Opportunities and Job Placement.
- **Child Development Center.** The Preschool and Infant/Toddler Centers are on-campus demonstration lab programs that meet the educational, research, and service needs of the institution and community at large. The Preschool program (children three to five years of age) and the Infant/Toddler program (newborn to three years of age) is in buildings 2200 and 2300. Service is available to families who meet the California Department of Education qualifications for enrollment. The centers are open during COVID from Monday-Friday 7:15-5:30. Breakfast, lunch and snack are provided through the California Adult and Child Food Program. Location: Buildings 2200 and 2300. Phone: (760) 355-6528 or (760) 355-6232. Application: <https://forms.imperial.edu/view.php?id=150958>

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services \(DSP&S\)](#) office as soon as possible. When campus is open, the DSP&S office is in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **Student Health Center.** A Student Health Nurse is available on campus, but you must make an appointment. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provides basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128, or when campus reopens, visit Room 1536 for more information.
- **Mental Health Counseling Services.** Short-term individual, couples, family and group counseling services are available for currently enrolled students. Services are provided in a confidential, supportive, and culturally sensitive environment. Please contact the IVC Mental Health Counseling Services at 760-355-6310 for appointments, or when campus reopens visit Room 1536, for more information.

Veteran's Center

The mission of the [IVC Military and Veteran Success Center](#) is to provide a holistic approach to serving military/veteran students in three key areas: 1) Academics, 2) Health and Wellness, and 3) Camaraderie. The Center also serves as a central hub that connects military/veteran students, as well as their families, to campus and community resources. The goal is to ensure a seamless transition from military to civilian life. When campus reopens, the Center is in Building 600 (Office 624), telephone 760-355-6141.

Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS)

The Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS) offers services such as priority registration, book grants, transportation assistance, individualized counseling, tutoring, and community referrals to eligible students. Our staff is available to assist and support students in navigating personal, psychological, academic, and/or career-related issues through empathy, cultural-competence, and a commitment to equity and social justice. Also under the umbrella of EOPS is the CARE (Cooperative Agency Resources for Education) Program, designed to serve single parents and assist with addressing issues that are particular to this population. Students that are single parents receiving TANF/Cash Aid assistance may qualify for our CARE program. For additional information about the EOPS or CARE Programs please contact our Program Office 760.335-6407 and/or visit our Program website www.imperial.edu/students/eops for eligibility criteria and application procedures. We look forward to serving you! - EOPS/CARE Staff

Student Equity Program

The Student Equity & Achievement Program strives to improve Imperial Valley College's success outcomes, particularly for students who have been historically underrepresented and underserved. The college identifies strategies to monitor and address equity issues, making efforts to mitigate any

disproportionate impact on student success and achievement. Our institutional data provides insight surrounding student populations who historically, are not fully represented. SEA addresses disparities and/or disproportionate impact in student success across disaggregated student equity groups including gender, ethnicity, disability status, financial need, LGBTQIA+, Veterans, foster youth, homelessness, and formerly incarcerated students. The SEA Program also houses IVC’s Homeless Liaison, Foster Youth Liaison, Formerly Incarcerated Liaison, and Military Affiliated Liaison, who provide direct services and referrals to students in need. SEA strives to empower students experiencing insecurities related to food, housing, transportation, textbooks, and shower access. We recognize that students who struggle meeting their basic needs are also at an academic and economic disadvantage, creating barriers to academic success and wellness. We strive to remove barriers that affect IVC students’ access to enrollment, education, degree and certificate completion, and the ability to transfer to a university. SEA also provides outreach at local Imperial County high schools to ensure graduating seniors are successfully matriculated into the college and have a strong support system. Please visit us online for assistance at <https://imperial.edu/students/student-equity-and-achievement/> or call us at 760-355-6465 or when campus reopens, visit Building 401.

What if I cannot afford food, books, or need other help?

We have many resources that are available to you. Please tell us what you need by submitting your request(s) here: <https://imperial.edu/students/student-equity-and-achievement/>

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

Tentative Anticipated Class Schedule

Chapter/ Topics,	Activities	Dates
Chapter1 Environmental Science and Sustainability		Feb 12-15
Chapter 2 Science, matter and energy		Feb 19-22
Chapter 3 Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Evolution	*1st Exam	Feb26-28 *
Chapter 4 Species Interactions, Ecological Succession, and Population Control		Mar 4- 6
Chapter 5 The Human Population and Urbanization		Mar 11-13
Chapter 6 Climate and Biodiversity		Mar 18-20
Chapter 7 Sustaining Biodiversity – Saving Species and Ecosystems	*2nd Exam/Test	Mar25-27**
 BREAK APRIL (1-6) NO CLASSES		
Chapter 8 Food Production and the Environment		Apr08-10
Chapter 9 Water Resources and Water Pollution		Apr 15-17
Chapter 10 Geology and Nonrenewable Mineral Resources		Apr 22-24
Chapter 11 Energy Resources	3rd Exam/Test	Apr 29-May 1

Chapter 13 Air Pollution,	May 6-08
Chapter 14 Climate Change, and Ozone Depletion	May 13-16
Chapter 15 Solid and Hazardous Waste	May 20-22
Chap 16 & 17 Economics Politics World Reviews	May 27-29
Chap 17 Current Topics	June 04
June 6	Final Comprehensive Exam

All dates will be posted on CANVAS

The date for all tests are **Tentative**. ** These **can be changed by announcement** to class

This schedule is very tentative, *** you're therefore advised to follow the instructions provided at the beginning of every weekly module. Any other current topic can be added or any of above be emitted/deleted.

PLEASE BE REGULAR FOR CHECKING ALL INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN EVERY WEEK ON YOUR MODULE UPLOADED ON CANVAS

***** **Tentative Schedule** ***** (subject to change anytime in response to situation)