



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®
WINDWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OCN 102, INTRODUCTION TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

3 credits (CRN 63405)

(WWW)

INSTRUCTOR: Pavica Srsen

OFFICE: Hale 'Imiloa 119

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

TELEPHONE: (808) 236-9257

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EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall/2022

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai'i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide the Ko'olau region of O'ahu and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to the basic principles of environmental science and sustainability as they apply to analysis of environmental systems on a global scale. The integrated natures of ocean, terrestrial and atmospheric systems will be introduced by first introducing the Earth's major ecosystems and then discussing their coupled integration. The concepts of sustainability will be infused into the course with an emphasis on the importance of sustaining resources and mitigating pollution to ecosystems. This issue of sustainability will be approached from the perspective of the impact that 9 billion or more people will impose upon the planet's resources and ecosystems. Similarly, this course will include the concepts of sustainability with Native Hawaiian culture and indigenous knowledge. (3 hours lecture) WCC DB

PREREQUISITES

No prerequisites nor co-requisites.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of taking this course, students can expect to attain the following outcomes:

1. Define the Earth's major ecosystems and the major flows of matter and energy through them.
2. List the identity, source and action of the major pollutants that disrupt these ecosystems.
3. Relate the carrying capacities of each major ecosystem relative to these pollutant loads, as well as the consequences to the environment if they fail.

4. Define the fundamentals of sustainability metrics in terms of major impact categories (into which pollutants and activities are grouped) and their units.
5. State how the cultural practices and indigenous knowledge of the Native Hawaiians relate to sustainability.

COURSE CONTENT

Topics may include:

- Science of the Environment
- Ecosystem Productivity
- Population Growth
- Natural Resources
- Principles of Ecology
- The Atmosphere
- The Oceans
- Natural Biochemical Cycles
- Water and Energy Cycles
- The Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services
- Biomes
- Biodiversity and Biodiversity Crisis
- Energy and Energy Use
- Earth Systems
- Land and Coastal Degradation
- Pollution
- Environmental Economics
- Environmental Law and Justice

COURSE TASKS and ASSESSMENTS

Reading: Reading assignments (class handouts) will be posted on class Laulima site.

Quizzes (up to 25 total): The quizzes will not be timed and will be administered through the Internet (Laulima) and will be available during specified time periods (normally for a week). These quizzes will address the detailed content and major concepts presented in the assigned readings. These quizzes may be taken using home computers connected to the Internet; students may refer to instructional resources (text book, notes, etc.) while taking the quizzes. The student can re-take a quiz within the week it is due. The student will receive a zero score for a missed quiz. *No make-up quizzes for missed quizzes will be administered for undocumented illness or emergency. Quizzes missed or receiving zeros or low scores because of computer and/or Internet problems may not be made up. The student should also note that quizzes are only reviewable from the course Laulima site if the student has taken them. The student should not expect to be able to review quizzes that the student has not accessed from the course Laulima site during the quiz availability period.*

Homework Assignments (between 0-4 total): Generally, homework assignments will be distributed and submitted via Laulima. These are not timed and a student is allowed to save their work and return to the assignment multiple times until the submission deadline (usually a week after it is made available). The student will receive a zero score for turning in the assignments after the due date unless prior arrangements were made. The general rules described in the

Quizzes section apply to the HW assignments as well.

Examinations: There will be **no examinations**

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

In summary, as described above, grading will be based upon:

Online Quizzes

Online Homework Assignments

- **Assignment scores and instructor's feedback** will be available via Lulima's Gradebook tool within one week of the assignment due date. Students are welcome to ask follow-up questions and discuss the feedback/scores with the instructor using any currently available ways of communication with the instructor (in class, via email, individual or group video meetings, or phone call).

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A	90% or above in total points.
B	80-89.9% of total points.
C	65-79.9% of total points.
D	55-64.9% of total points.
F	Below 55% of total points or informal or incomplete official withdrawal from course.
I	Incomplete; given at the INSTRUCTOR'S OPTION when student is unable to complete a small part of the course because of circumstances beyond his or her control. It is the STUDENT'S responsibility to make up incomplete work. Failure to satisfactorily make up incomplete work within the appropriate time period will result in a grade change for "I" to the contingency grade identified by the instructor (see catalog).
CR	65% or above in total points; the student must indicate the intent to take the course as CR/NC in writing by the end of the 10th week of classes (see catalog).
NC	Below 65% of total points; this grade only available under the CR/NC option (see above and see catalog).
N	NOT GIVEN EXCEPT UNDER EXTREMELY RARE CIRCUMSTANCES (e.g., documented serious illness or emergency that prevents the student from officially withdrawing from the course); never used as an alternative for an "F" grade.
W	Official withdrawal from the course after the third week and prior to the end of the 10th week of classes (see catalog).

Waiver of minimum requirements for specific grades may be given only in unique situations at the instructor's discretion.

LEARNING RESOURCES

- No textbook is required to be purchased for this course. All learning resources will be distributed via course Laulima site.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

Pavica Srsen is an oceanography instructor at Windward Community College. She holds a MSc. in Oceanography from School for Ocean and Earth Science and Technology ([SOEST](#)) at UH Mānoa and have various research interests in the field of benthic ecology (i.e. organisms inhabiting the sea floor). At WCC, she teaches environmental science and ocean-related courses and mentors students interested in completing a semester-long research study (usually as a part of SCI 295V course).

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to behave politely, respectfully and professionally while communicating with the peers and the instructor via online discussions, email, video conferencing and other forms of interactions. A summary of the UH Internet Etiquette (i.e. “Netiquette”) is available for students to review in Laulima’s Week 0 lesson.

The instructor can be reached via:

- Email: pavica@hawaii.edu; expect a response within 24 hours Monday-Friday, 48 hours during the weekend and holidays.
- Phone: 808-236-9257, normally Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 4 pm.
- By appointment via Zoom video conference (<https://zoom.us/my/pavica> or <https://zoom.us/j/7959785170>).

COURSE TECHNOLOGY

Course Technology

- Students are expected to become familiar with [Laulima](#), an official UH LMS accessible from the [WCC main web site](#), under “Services for Students” tab. To log in, please use your University of Hawaii login information, the same one used to log into your UH email and MyUH/STAR systems. To access Laulima (Sakai) Accessibility information follow this link: [Laulima Accessibility](#).

Hardware and Software Expectations:

Students should be comfortable operating a computer browser, such as Mozilla Firefox or Safari, using email, downloading and uploading files. In addition, students should be comfortable using Adobe Acrobat Reader ([download the free software here](#)) and basics programs within Microsoft Office package (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint). Microsoft Office can be obtained via University of Hawai‘i’s [Information Technology Services](#).

It is recommended that you:

- Use a more recent model desktop or laptop (2014 or later), either Windows or Mac.
- Have access to reliable high-speed Internet connection.
- Use Mozilla Firefox as your web browser, as Laulima is designed to work best with it. Note: that we do not recommend using *Internet Explorer* for submitting work or taking tests in Laulima.

- Depending on your browser settings, PDF files may open in a new window or tab or automatically download to your download folder

Laulima technical support:

University of Hawai‘i’s [Information Technology Services Help Desk](#) is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays) either via email (help@hawaii.edu) or by phone (808-956-2669). Laulima support can also be accessed directly from any Laulima page by clicking on *Request Assistance* link at the bottom of the page.

Accessibility information:

- University of Hawai‘i’s accessibility policies and services are available at the following link: [Accessibility at UH](#).
- To access the accessibility information for each software used in the course, follow the links below:
 - [Macintosh Accessibility Info](#)
 - [Laulima Accessibility Info](#)
 - [Mozilla Firefox Accessibility Info](#)
 - [Microsoft Office Accessibility Info](#)
 - [Adobe Acrobat Reader Accessibility Info](#)

SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

Tutorial services

Tutorial services are offered free of charge and open to all WCC students currently enrolled. Tutoring may be long-term, short-term, or single visit, depending upon the needs of the student. To sign up for a tutor, refer to one of the many programs listed below:

- **Tutor.com:** The University of Hawaii Community Colleges offers free online, on-demand tutoring, through [Tutor.com](#).
- **TRiO Student Support Services (TRiO SSS):** The purpose of [TRiO SSS](#) is to provide services (everything from tutoring to filing taxes to financial aid and food) and to foster an institutional climate supportive of the success of low-income, first-generation, and/or disabled college students.
- **Ho‘onui Ike:** [Ho‘onui Ike](#) is an academic assistance program that utilizes peer-assisted study and coaching sessions.
- **Ka Piko Student Success Services:** [Ka Piko Student Success Services](#) are free to all WCC students and consist of the following resources (please follow the links below for more information):
 - [Math Lab](#)
 - [Writing Center](#)
 - [Speech Lab](#)
 - [Supplemental Instruction](#) (SI)
 - [Peer Mentoring Center](#)

Other student services

- [WCC Library](#), located in Hale La‘akea, provides access to printed and digital books, periodicals, articles and more. In addition, it provides access to video and audio resources, as well as computers, individual and group study areas and rooms.

- [WCC Bookstore](#): textbooks, computers, software, food items and more can be purchased here.
- [Testing Center](#) (located in Hale La‘akea) provides test proctoring services for placement tests, distance education online and written tests and make-up tests for campus courses.
- WCC [Counseling and Advising](#) department, located in Hale ‘Ākoakoa 212, is comprised of college counselors, faculty and support staff who work to support students’ personal and academic growth and development.
- WCC [Mental Health and Wellness](#) provides a range of counseling services and activities on campus to support students’ life goals and academic goals.
- [Disabilities Services](#), located in Hale La‘akea 232, provides information and services to students with disabilities in order to perform functions that might otherwise be difficult or impossible. Testing and academic accommodations can include the following: tape recorded material, note takers, use of adaptive equipment and more.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Accessibility Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Jodi Asato can be reached at (808) 235-7472, jodiaka@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale Kāko‘o 105 for more information.

Jodi A.-K. Asato
 Counselor, Disability Student Services Office
 Windward Community College
 Phone: (808) 235-7472
 Email: jodiaka@hawaii.edu

Website: [Windward CC Disability Student Services Office](#)

SEX DISCRIMINATION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES (TITLE IX)

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Jojo Miller, Confidential Advocate
 Phone: (808) 348-0663
 Email: advocate@hawaii.edu
 Office: Hale Kāko‘o 110

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource
 Phone: (808) 235-7393
 Email: dkahale3@hawaii.edu
 Office: Hale Kāko‘o 101

Karen Cho, Deputy Title IX Coordinator
 Phone: (808) 235-7404
 Email: kcho@hawaii.edu
 Office: Hale 'Alaka'i 120

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University's Title IX resources and the University's Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Work submitted by a student must be the student's own work. The work of others should be explicitly marked, such as through use of quotes or summarizing with reference to the original author.

Students can upload papers to <http://www.TurnItIn.com> to have papers checked for authenticity, highlighting where the paper potentially fails to appropriately reference sources.

In this class, students who commit academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism will have the following consequence(s):

Students will receive a failing grade for plagiarized assignments.

All cases of academic dishonesty are referred to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

For more information, students are encourage to review [UH Student Conduct Code](#).

ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

- Location: Alakai 121
- Phone: 808-235-7422
- Email: wccaa@hawaii.edu

APPENDIX

Student Responsibilities and Expectations

The student is expected to read all assigned reading materials, participate in all course activities, and complete all assignments on time.

Any changes in the course schedule, such as deadlines, etc., will be announced ahead of time via Lulima and UH email. It is the student's responsibility to be informed of these changes.

It is the student's responsibility to be informed about deadlines critical to making registration changes (e.g., last day of erase period and last day for making an official withdrawal).

Students should expect a level of difficulty comparable to other 100-level science courses intended for non-science majors. When difficult concepts and detailed information are presented, it is the student's responsibility to take the appropriate steps to learn and understand these concepts and information.

Science courses at WCC generally require two to three hours of independent private study time for each hour in class. However, because of the nature of the material presented in this course, more study time may be required (depends upon the student's science background). It is the student's responsibility to allocate the appropriate time needed for study in an environment conducive to quality study. The student must budget time efficiently and be realistic about all personal and professional commitments that consume time.

How to Succeed in This Class

Understanding any science involves understanding many difficult concepts and vocabulary, not just knowing facts. The student should know that the details to these concepts are important. In addition, the student will be introduced to hundreds of new words. In some cases, words that are familiar in a context other than marine science will be introduced in the context of this course.

The student will need to understand and use these terms in a marine science context.

Students are expected to participate in all course activities and complete all course assignments on time.

The student will not succeed in this class without reading all assigned readings and taking careful notes.

The student should ask the instructor to explain the things that the student does not understand.