

Term Information

Effective Term Autumn 2023
Previous Value Summer 2012

Course Change Information

What change is being proposed? (If more than one, what changes are being proposed?)

Inclusion in the new GE as a course in the Sustainability Theme

What is the rationale for the proposed change(s)?

This existing Earth Science course is a natural fit as a 2000-level course in the new GE Theme Sustainability and has been updated to highlight how it fulfills the ELOs of the Theme.

What are the programmatic implications of the proposed change(s)?

(e.g. program requirements to be added or removed, changes to be made in available resources, effect on other programs that use the course)?

None

Is approval of the request contingent upon the approval of other course or curricular program request? No

Is this a request to withdraw the course? No

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area	Earth Sciences
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org	School of Earth Sciences - D0656
College/Academic Group	Arts and Sciences
Level/Career	Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog	2210
Course Title	Energy, Mineral Resources, and Society
Transcript Abbreviation	Energy Min Res Soc
Course Description	Geologic origin, world distribution, and uses of mineral resources critical to society; topics include mineral and fossil fuels, metallic ores, and industrial minerals.
Semester Credit Hours/Units	Fixed: 3

Offering Information

Length Of Course	14 Week, 12 Week, 8 Week, 7 Week, 6 Week
Flexibly Scheduled Course	Sometimes
Does any section of this course have a distance education component?	No
Grading Basis	Letter Grade
Repeatable	No
Course Components	Lecture
Grade Roster Component	Lecture
Credit Available by Exam	No
Admission Condition Course	Yes
Admission Condition	Natural Science
Off Campus	Never
Campus of Offering	Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark, Wooster
<i>Previous Value</i>	<i>Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark</i>

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Exclusions

Previous Value

Not open to students with credit for EarthSci 210 or GeolSci 210.

Electronically Enforced

No

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code

40.0601

Subsidy Level

Baccalaureate Course

Intended Rank

Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Requirement/Elective Designation

Required for this unit's degrees, majors, and/or minors

General Education course:

Physical Science; Sustainability

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Previous Value

Required for this unit's degrees, majors, and/or minors

General Education course:

Physical Science

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- Students understand the basic facts, principles, theories, and methods of modern science.
- Students learn key events in the development of science and recognize that science is an evolving body of knowledge.
- Students describe the inter-dependence of scientific and technological developments.
- Students recognize social and philosophical implications of scientific discoveries and understand the potential of science and technology to address problems of the contemporary world

Previous Value

Content Topic List

- Understand and apply four overarching concepts throughout the course where relevant - linked earth systems, population growth impact on supply and demand, sustainability, and DEI.
- Obtain an appreciation for the occurrence and world distribution of critical energy and mineral resources, their uses in society, and environmental and societal impacts of their exploitation.
- Describe common energy and earth materials, their mode of origin (genesis), and the technology used to develop them.
- Articulate resource availability, production, and consumption (with sustainability and resilience in mind), current and impending mineral and fossil fuel shortages, & their possible political impacts
- All these aspects are integral to the life cycle assessment approach (LCA) that students are introduced to in this class.
- Describe the impact of resource development, implementation, and environmental impacts on underrepresented and marginalized peoples.

Previous Value

- *Classification of earth resources; world, U.S. production, consumption*
- *Coal, oil, and natural gas*
- *Oil shale and tar sand; exploration for oil & gas*
- *Alternative energy sources*
- *Water resources*
- *Metals and mineralizing processes*
- *Mineral leasing and mineral claims on federal lands*
- *Molybdenum and copper; lead and zinc; gold and silver*
- *Building materials and dimension stones*
- *Gems, kimberlite, and diamonds; fertilizer resources*
- *Sulfur, salt, asbestos, and resources for the future*

Sought Concurrence

No

Attachments

- EARTHSC 2210 Syllbus Jan 31 2023.docx: syllabus
(Syllabus. Owner: Griffith, Elizabeth M)
- submission-sustainability Jan 31 2023.pdf: application for Sustainability Theme
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Griffith, Elizabeth M)

Comments

COURSE CHANGE REQUEST
2210 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
Chantal
02/05/2023

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Griffith, Elizabeth M	01/31/2023 09:13 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Griffith, Elizabeth M	01/31/2023 09:14 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal	02/05/2023 10:09 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Cody, Emily Kathryn Jenkins, Mary Ellen Bigler Hanlin, Deborah Kay Hilty, Michael Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal Steele, Rachel Lea	02/05/2023 10:09 PM	ASCCAO Approval

Earth Sciences 2210

Energy, Mineral Resources and Society

Autumn 2023 - The Ohio State University - 3 credits

Time and Place

Three 55-minute classes per week in person (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday)

Location: TBD

Instructor: Prof. David R. Cole, Ph.D.

Email: cole.618@osu.edu

Phone: (614) 688-7407

Office: 305 Mendenhall Laboratory

Office Hours: By appointment

Catalog Course Description: Geologic origin, world distribution, and uses of mineral resources critical to society; topics include mineral and fossil fuels, metallic ores, and industrial minerals.

Course Description

This course deals with the occurrence and world distribution of critical energy and mineral resources and their uses in society. Topics include fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) and other energy resources (e.g., wind, solar, nuclear, geothermal), metallic ores, and industrial minerals. The course discusses resource availability, production, and consumption (with economic viability, sustainability, and resilience in mind), current and possible mineral and fossil fuel shortages, and their possible impact on relationships between the U. S. and her global partners.

Textbooks (recommended)

Earth Resources and the Environment (4th edition) Published by Pearson Pub.

J. R. Craig, D. J. Vaughan, B. J. Skinner

Earth's Natural Resources, 1st edition, John V. Walther

(A few copies are available on Reserve at the Orton Hall Geology Library)

Course Rationale

As the world's population grows and expands, humans are placing a greater demand on earth resources and global economies, in addition to an increase in environmental impacts. The balance of supply and demand is also influenced by rapid change in the world's climate. College-educated consumers, voters, and decision-makers need to understand the scope and impact of these changes and the role that science and technology play in advancing society. Studying our global energy and mineral resource portfolio provides a valuable perspective for this understanding. Issues of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) will also be covered in the course.

General Education Expected Learning Outcomes:

- Students understand the basic facts, principles, theories, and methods of modern science.
- Students learn key events in the development of science and recognize that science is an evolving body of knowledge.

- Students describe the inter-dependence of scientific and technological developments.
- Students recognize social and philosophical implications of scientific discoveries and understand the potential of science and technology to address problems of the contemporary world

Specific Learning Outcomes - Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

- Understand and apply four overarching concepts throughout the course where relevant - linked earth systems, population growth impact on supply and demand, sustainability, and DEI.
- Obtain an appreciation for the occurrence and world distribution of critical energy and mineral resources, their uses in society, and environmental and societal impacts of their exploitation.
- Describe common energy and earth materials, their mode of origin (genesis), and the technology used to develop them.
- Articulate resource availability, production, and consumption (with sustainability and resilience in mind), current and impending mineral and fossil fuel shortages, and their possible impact on relationships between the U. S. and our global partners. All these aspects are integral to the life cycle assessment approach (LCA) that students are introduced to in this class.
- Describe the impact of resource development, implementation, and environmental impacts on underrepresented and marginalized peoples.

As part of the **Sustainability** Theme of the General Education curriculum, this course is designed to prepare students to be able to do the following (ELO=Expected Learning Outcome):

General Theme **GOAL 1:** Successful students will analyze an important topic or idea at a more advanced and in-depth level than the foundations.

ELO 1.1 Engage in critical and logical thinking (about the topic or idea of the theme).

ELO 1.2 Engage in an advanced, in-depth, scholarly exploration of the topic or idea of the theme.

General Theme **GOAL 2:** Successful students will integrate approaches to the theme by making connections to out-of-classroom experiences with academic knowledge or across disciplines and/or to work they have done in previous classes and that they anticipate doing in future.

ELO 2.1 Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences (as they apply to the theme).

ELO 2.2 Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.

Sustainability Theme **GOAL 3:** Students analyze and explain how social and natural systems function, interact, and evolve over time; how human wellbeing depends on these interactions; how actions have impacts on subsequent generations and societies globally; and how human values, behaviors, and institutions impact multi-faceted, potential solutions across time.

- ELO 3.1 Describe elements of the fundamental dependence of humans on Earth and environmental systems and on the resilience of these systems.
- ELO 3.2 Describe, analyze and critique the roles and impacts of human activity and technology on both human society and the natural world, in the past, currently, and in the future.
- ELO 3.3 Devise informed and meaningful responses to problems and arguments in the area of sustainability based on the interpretation of appropriate evidence and an explicit statement of values.

We will achieve these goals (and associated ELOs) by viewing the varied Earth resources as complex interconnected systems that, when fully developed, exhibit both positive benefits and negative impacts to humankind. The students are exposed to not only the geological context regarding the formation and distribution of these but also the economics of development and exploitation that can improve a region or country’s economic status but also can adversely impact its environment and people. Given that many resources are nonrenewable (i.e., finite), especially key metals and nonmetals, we discuss resource life expectancy and how this impacts the sustainable growth of a region or country. While many developed countries have robust and resilient infrastructure, developing countries rich in one or more natural resources are prone to ignore or minimize the environmental impacts of resource development and their effect on indigenous peoples.

Through the lectures, assignments, and the group research projects, they are challenged to assess how Earth’s natural resources can be exploited in both positive and negative ways from the consequences of the intersection of resource exploitation and humankind and their vulnerabilities. The group research project (a “mini-capstone”) is of particular importance as it asks the students to identify a key energy or mineral resource and describe this topic in terms of the key concepts – sustainability, population growth, linked Earth systems and justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI), assess the magnitude, frequency, and scope of its impact on economics, the environment, and people, and provide a synthesis of the future outlook.

Instructional Methodology

This course will be taught in a lecture/discussion format illustrated with PowerPoint presentations, videos, maps, diagrams, digital photographs, and content on Web sites. Student learning will be assessed with in-class scheduled quizzes, in-class group presentations, and assigned exercises. Lectures and videos will be posted in Carmen.

Course Grade

Your final course grade will be calculated based on total points as follows:

Lecture quizzes (6)	120 (20 points each)
Exercise 1	6
Exercise 2	20
Ted Talks	10
In-class team presentations	15
TOTAL	171

All quizzes will be performed in-class. Each scheduled quiz will be taken twice on the same day. For scheduled quizzes, the first time taken will be with no notes, and students will not be permitted to receive assistance or take the quiz as part of a group. Students will then re-take the quiz, and this time notes and discussion among fellow students will be permitted. The overall grade for each quiz will consist of 70% from the first take, and 30% from the second take. Questions will be a mixture of multiple choice, true/false, and short answers. There will be no cumulative final exam. Dr. Cole will provide more details about each quiz in class. Study guides are provided for most quizzes.

There are **NO** make-up quizzes except for valid reasons (e.g., medical excuse; NCAA athletic event). *If you are sick, you MUST have a note signed by your medical doctor (i.e., a licensed physician) and dated the same day as the quiz.*

In-class presentations:

Short “TED” talks (5 minutes plus 3 for questions) will be delivered by each student on a topic of their choosing that falls within the limits of the course – energy or mineral resources and their relationship to society. We will discuss this more in class but there is an aspirational goal that the students introduce a course-relevant topic that has impacted them or those they know – drawing the societal link. A grading rubric will be provided to the students.

Class presentations: The purpose of the In-Class Group Presentation is to challenge the students to conduct in-depth research into an Energy or Mineral Resource-relevant topic using an interdisciplinary and integrative approach that considers exploration and exploitation sustainability in the context of population growth, linked earth systems, and diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Besides the experience gained from working in a team environment and sharing responsibility in the effort, the students are asked to assess how earth processes, natural or anthropogenic, impact the environment and humankind and its desire for a sustainable future. They must discuss their topic in terms of frequency, magnitude, and scope of the impact on sustainable systems and, through critical thinking, provide possible strategies for mitigation and/or adaptation to minimize or eliminate the negative environmental impact.

Operationally, depending on enrollment, the class will be split into teams ranging from 3 to 5 students. Each team will be expected to present a 12-minute talk plus 3 minutes for Q&A on a particular topic that falls under ‘Energy, Mineral Resources and Society’ with the focus on sustainability, economic and environmental impacts. This may include topics such as – a given energy vector like coal, oil, natural gas, geothermal, etc., a specific metal commodity like gold, copper or zinc, the economics of a specific resource, environmental impacts of resource extraction and use, and whether they are sustainable. The instructor will provide more details in class, including the group breakdowns and ideas for presentation topics. The rubric for grading is as follows (total points = 32): Quality of slides (5 pts), Knowledge of topic (10 pts) Thoroughness of the materials (must consider DEI) (10 pts), Smoothness of the presentation (5 pts - team coordination; continuity, staying on time), Level of interaction generated with the class during the Q&A (2 pts).

Assignments (two)

Assignment 1 – How much area of the United States is mined? (6 points)

This math exercise challenges the students to assess how much land area of the U.S. is currently surfaced mined. They are given the starting point that 0.25% of the land surface is being mined. They are then asked (a) what is this total in square miles for the U.S. (b) what states are closest to this area within a factor to 10%, (c) how many Ohio Stadiums does this equal knowing it occupies 14.5 acres, and (d) to break this down between metallic (e.g., copper, gold) and nonmetallic ore occurrences (i.e., coal, building stone, sand and gravel, etc.).

Assignment 2 – Evaluation of a potential coal deposit in Appalachia (20 points)

*In many parts of the United States and globally, where coal beds are close to the surface the coal is removed from the ground by strip mining. Geologic knowledge is required to find and develop coal fields, and to help in the safe and efficient day-to-day operation of the mine. A knowledge of economics is needed for profitable operations. This exercise concerns a hypothetical but realistic situation where an Appalachian Basin coal field must be evaluated for **Buckeye Power and Electric (BP&E)**, for whom you are working as a consultant. The company has an option to lease the property shown on a combined geologic-topographic map provided in the exercise. The company may decide to the option based on the results of the exercise.*

The students are given details as to the thickness of the coal, ore grade, elevation of the bottom of the deposit, and costs for removing overburden to get to the coal, mining the coal and then environmental clean-up including land reclamation. The students must complete the map, estimate are, volume and tonnage of the coal and overburden, and then calculate the assorted costs. Then based on the current market value of coal decide whether this is a profitable venture or not.

Academic Misconduct

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's Code of Student Conduct, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's Code of Student Conduct and this syllabus may constitute "Academic Misconduct."

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an "excuse" for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the University's Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University. For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (<http://studentconduct.osu.edu> (Links to an external site.)).

Students with Disabilities

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu (Links to an external site.); 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Wellness & Mental Health

As a student, you or someone you know may experience a range of issues that may cause barriers to learning, may lead to diminished academic performance or may reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol or drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Ohio State University offers services for students to assist with addressing these concerns. You can learn more about the range of services available on campus via the Office of Student Life Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24-hour emergency help is available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Diversity Statement

As your instructor in this course, I strongly support OSU's general commitment to diversity:

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

If you experience any lack of respect in this context either by myself or any of your fellow students, please do not hesitate to reach out to me (by Carmen email) or a neutral party (e.g. the Office of Diversity and Inclusion: odi@osu.edu). Also, if you have a name and/or set of pronouns that differ from those apparent to me on Carmen, please let me know!

Other: Communication

For periodic announcements to the entire class, I will send a mass email to all students via Carmen. I will use your **OSU email account** for this purpose. I realize that many of you have other email accounts through services such as Goggle, Yahoo, or Hotmail. You must remember to check your OSU email account, or you may miss important announcements such as a change in Lecture topic or my absence due to sickness or unscheduled travel (e.g., family emergency).

Course Schedule & Outline

Part 1: Key Concepts, Resource Classification-Exploitation-Impacts, Mining

Lecture 1: Introduction, syllabus, resource classification, key concepts

Overview of the types of resources (e.g., non-renewable, renewable). four key concepts – linked earth systems, sustainability, human population, and justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Introduce sustainability and resiliency concepts in the context of varied earth resources development.

Lecture 2: US and world population, resource production and consumption patterns

Historical overview of science and technology relevant to resource exploration, exploitation, and societal and environmental impacts. Examples of supply and demand driven by population growth, resource life cycle.

Lecture 3: Resource exploitation and impacts

Overview of mining technology and challenges. Generation of waste and environmental and health impacts. Importance of government policy and regulations on domestic and global production and consumption. ***Exercise 1 – US mining area, due the following week***

Lecture 4: Non-renewables, intro to fossil fuels, coal part 1

Humanity's top ten problems for the next 50 years – energy is identified as first, then water, food, and environment/climate round out the top five. Overview of the types and quantities of fossil fuels that we use to drive society. Coal genesis and occurrences are described.

Lecture 5: Coal part 2

This lecture outlines coal mining technologies, coal mine disasters, environmental and health effects, contribution to global CO₂ emissions and climate change. We address the question is use of coal wise and sustainable for future generations. ***Exercise 2 – Coal deposit assessment, due in four weeks; this lecture accommodates some time to introduce and explain the exercise***

Quiz 1 – Lectures 1-5

Ted Talks (typically takes up two class periods depending on number of students enrolled)

Part 2: Nonrenewable Energy Continued Including Nuclear

Lecture 6: Petroleum, part 1

In this lecture we introduce some of the history behind the discovery of oil in the U.S. and its impact of U.S. economy. Global occurrences, production and uses by society of oil are highlighted. The geological ‘ingredients’ necessary to form an oil deposit are reviewed. Exploration strategies are discussed. Students are directed to watch the PBS series via Youtube on ‘The Prize. The Quest for Oil, Money, and Power’. Based on Daniel Yergin’s Pulitzer Prize winning book of the same name.

Lecture 7: Petroleum, part 2

Details are presented on the formation of oil in marine and lake environments. The concept of geologic traps to host oil are outlined (e.g., faults, anticlines). Domestic and global reserves, production and consumption through time are presented along with the concept of “peak oil”- can oil be sustainable. Environmental issues are highlighted like nature oil leakage at the surface, oil spills from shipping accidents and operational disasters like the Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico.

Lecture 8: Natural gas-hydraulic fracturing

Overview of how hydrocarbon-bearing shale deposits formed? Where they are located in the US. Summary of the hydraulic fracturing technology. Why it needs to be used for oil and gas recovery from shales. Highlights the benefits and concerns associated with hydraulic fracturing – shift in the US economy – less reliant on foreign oil and gas making us more resilient and sustainable - ‘the energy transition’, economic boom and bust cycles for regions and communities, issues of water use and environmental contamination – a regional and local problem.

Lecture 9: Nuclear energy, part 1

This lecture explores what is nuclear energy with a review of atoms and radioactivity. What mineral resources are used to produce nuclear energy – uranium, where are the reserves and who produces it. What is its contribution to the Ohio energy portfolio, the U.S., and the world. How does a nuclear reactor work – water use is a key aspect.

Lecture 10: Nuclear energy, part 2

Part 2 of nuclear energy covers the environmental issues associate with mine wastes and uranium in groundwater, disposal of radioactive waste, water consumption required to produce energy, accidents and concern about natural disasters that could disrupt energy production and environmental consequences

Quiz 2 – Lectures 6 - 10

Part 3: Renewable Resources – Solar, Wind, Hydroelectric, and Water

Lecture 11: Renewable energy overview with focus on solar, wind

This lecture addresses the current energy transition to the use of renewable technologies. Discussion topics focus on: Role of solar and wind in the energy mix of the U.S. and globally. Accessibility of both in the U.S. and globally. Description of the different types of solar energy – passive, thermal photovoltaic. How a solar PV cell works. How does a wind turbine work - both require natural resources – metals and nonmetals? Domestic trends in cost and number of installations through time. Projections for solar and wind use in the future and their role in energy sustainability and DEI in the U.S.

Lecture 12: Hydroelectric

Introduces the importance of hydro in the U.S. and global energy electricity mix relative to solar and wind. A summary of the types of dams are presented with examples from the U.S. and China. We discuss how climate change and how the shift in drought conditions in the U.S. can threaten hydro power production, hence an impactor on sustainability. Environmental impact of dams on land use and ecosystems is also touched on.

Lecture 13: Geothermal and ocean tides

While not a renewable, geothermal is known to have a minimal environmental impact – i.e., very clean. It is not a major contributor to the electricity mix but is growing in popularity. This lecture outlines the types of geothermal systems, their occurrence whose relationship is linked to plate tectonics and high heat flow regimes, and how energy is extracted from water and steam. Tidal energy which is a renewable to discussed – how it works, where and which counties are starting to take advantage of its potential.

Lecture 14: Biofuels, U.S. energy geographic distribution

The biofuels portion of this lecture covers what it is, the different types of plant and organic matter used to make fuel, the life cycle of biofuel production from source to processing to the varied products. The notion it is a carbon-neutral or a negative carbon energy vector is dispelled as combustion of biofuels does produce CO₂. The second part of this lecture brings full circle the discussion of renewable energy in the U.S., where we can find it, and are we on an ascending trajectory in the implementation that drives the U.S. to be more sustainable.

Lecture 15: Water resources

Outlines several interconnected topics including: Water properties (it is a unique molecule); U.S. resources and use (Who has (clean) water and who does not – a JEDI issue in part); Groundwater concepts (e.g., vadose zone, water table, draw down); Example of a regional aquifer under stress due to over use and climate change - Ogallala Aquifer; a revisiting of the California Drought – farm produce productivity impacts; the global deployment of desalination for sustainable agriculture, industry, and the health and well-being of communities. Introduces what we mean by water pollution and the various types of pollutants (e.g., heavy metals, agriculture runoff – fertilizers, synthetic chemicals). We discuss the global problem of poor-quality water for disadvantaged people and the impact on their health and well-being.

Lecture 16: Switch On documentary from Prof. Scott Tinker (UT Austin)

We view portions of this video and then discuss key aspects that delve into how disadvantaged people access energy, what kind and their attempts to gain access to modern technology. We focus on barriers to achieving energy equity.

Quiz 3 – Lectures 11-16

Part 4: Mineral Resources for a Sustainable Future - Metals

Lecture 17: Metals and mineralization processes

This lecture provides an introductory overview of - why we care about mineral resources. We summarize the different classifications of metallic and non-metallic earth materials and the varied processes that formed them. Their role in U.S. and global economy and what is our net import reliance, their role in everyday lives, the production and consumption in the U.S. and globally, recognizing that not all countries who mine resources also refine them and/or lead in their consumption. No one country has economic deposits of every metal and non-metal. Of particular concern is how we lack sustainability in most metal commodities, hence our increased reliance on foreign sources.

Lecture 18: Iron and manganese

The topics covered in this lecture act as a template for succeeding lectures on different metals or non-metals: what forms do the metals come in - i.e., mineralogy, what types of deposits host the minerals, how did they form, where are they located especially in the U.S., what is the current estimate of U.S. and global reserves (addresses life expectancy of the resource), what is the U.S. reliance on imports (sustainability and resilience issues), current trends in cost, what technology is used to refine or process ore, who leads in production and consumption of products, what are the advantages of exploiting the resource (country GDP, workforce development) and disadvantages (land, water and ecosystem impacts, displaced population, pollution, adverse health effects especially for underrepresented peoples).

In addition to the topics outlined above, this lecture also draws the link between the emergence of an oxygen rich atmosphere and banded iron formations, and the fact that relatively young Mn nodules found on the ocean floor (a few million years old) occur as far back as 540 million years ago.

Lecture 19: Aluminum, silicon, and titanium

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

This lecture emphasizes the importance of silicon and aluminum as the first and second most abundant metals on Earth, and their importance in everyday life. Aluminum is the ‘poster child’ element in terms of the success of recycling (circular economy) and its impact on sustainability. The extraordinary number of uses of titanium are highlighted.

Lecture 20: Scarce metals – nickel and copper

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

Nickel and copper are introduced as examples of the scarce metals (<1% by weight in Earth’s crust) that commonly occur together in high temperature deposits. Sea floor hydrothermal vents known as ‘black smokers’ are highlighted as a modern-day source of copper, zinc and lead. We discuss how at low temperature they occur as the weather products of high energy deposits either in soil or metal rich oxidized zones, thus illustrating the concept of linked earth systems – geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere (with climate change integral to this).

Lecture 21: Scarce metals zinc and lead, and precious metals gold and silver

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

This lecture continues the coverage of other scarce metals – zinc and lead - which commonly occur together in certain types of metallic ore deposits and are observed in sea floor hydrothermal vents. The U.S. continues to mine both from sedimentary-hosted deposits located dominantly in Missouri and Tennessee. Australia and China lead the world in zinc and lead ore reserves.

We cover the history of gold and silver mining in the US, where the U.S currently mines these metals mostly in Nevada, the decline in South African gold and the emergence of China as a major player on the global market.

Quiz 4 – Lectures 17 – 21

Part 5: Non-Metals, Industrial minerals, Building Materials

Lecture 22: Rare earth elements

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

This lecture highlights how vital rare earth elements are to renewable energy and communications hardware like the cell phones. This lecture also devotes some time to the emergence of China as the most important global player in rare earth mining and production – i.e., controls the global market and hence cost. It also has the worst record for environmental impact due to egregious dumping of toxic process waste fluids onto the land surface in Inner Mongolia.

Lecture 23: Kimberlites and diamonds

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

This lecture deals with the origin of diamonds, their occurrences worldwide, and the types of deposits in which they are found. It also covers great discoveries through time, including very recent ones, the concern over the use of ‘blood or conflict diamonds’ to finance war and terror chiefly in Africa, and at the recent developments in diamond technology, including the formation of synthetic micro-diamonds at high temperatures but atmospheric pressures.

Lecture 24: Industrial rocks and minerals

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

This lecture covers lesser-known industrial rocks and minerals that are used every day in drilling for energy and non-energy resources; and as filters for such things as swimming pool water, cooking oil, and wine, and for processes that require molecular-level control – i.e., natural sorbents and membranes

Lecture 25: Building materials and historic sites

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

Almost every known rock type has contributed in some way to the construction of homes, civic buildings, roads, bridges, and dams. As a group, this is by far the largest volume solid mineral commodity that we extract from Earth, second only to the fossil fuels in value. The lecture discusses crushed stone (road, building foundations, concrete), the most widely used building material and limestone (calcium carbonate) the most common rock type in building materials.

Quiz 5 – Lectures 22 - 25

Group Presentations (before Thanksgiving break)

Special Lecture - Presentation Instructions and Planning

Groups 1 – 5 Presentations

Groups 6 – 10 Presentations

Part 6: Chemical Minerals, Future Trends in Resources, and Energy and Resource Justice (DEI)

Lecture 26: Evaporite minerals – lithium, boron, fluoride, iodine

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

This lecture focuses on a very diverse set of chemical minerals derived from evaporite deposits that run the gamut from use in batteries and related devices (lithium) to cleaning aids (borax) to elements vital to human health (fluorine, iodine). We discuss the issue US import reliance but fortunately compared to lithium, which is controlled by China and Bolivia, we are far less dependent on imports for B, F, and I.

Lecture 27: Salt plus nitrates and phosphates

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

This lecture centers on three very important earth materials that most are very familiar with. Salt (NaCl) is clearly used in everyday life, and so to are nitrates and phosphates, indirectly via their application as fertilizers for plant and crop growth. We address the downside for the use of fertilizers that promote algal growth in streams, rivers and lakes that pose a risk to humans as certain types of algae are toxic. N and P carried by river systems into oceans can cause algal blooms that lead to oxygen dead zones adversely impacting various ecosystems such as fish breeding grounds.

Lecture 28: Asbestos; other industrial minerals

(Lecture topic template outlined above is used)

This lecture describes a group of fibrous silicate minerals that are widely used for industrial purposes because they are incombustible, nonconducting and chemical resistant. We explore the advantages and disadvantages of using asbestos-class materials with special focus on the health effects such as Mesothelioma. We also discuss alternative synthetic materials that have taken the place of asbestos.

Lecture 29: Mineral resources and energy for the future

This lecture uses a broad array of statistics and their time dependent trends to chart what the future might hold for both energy and mineral resources. For energy we consider two approaches in how data are modeled to give us this futuristic perspective – (a) Stated Policies Scenario that

reflects the impact of existing policy frameworks and today's announced policy intentions and (b) Sustainable Development Scenario (SDS) outlines a major transformation of the global energy system, showing how the world can change course to deliver on the three main energy-related UN Sustainable Development Goals simultaneously: (a) to achieve universal access to energy, (b) to reduce the severe health impacts of air pollution and (c) tackle climate change. For mineral resources we evaluate the role of population growth on supply and demand, the life expectancy of mineral deposits, changing landscape of costs as new technologies come online and automation becomes more pervasive, expansion of the types of metals that can be recycled, and new synthetic substitutes. Finally, we make some predictions on how government control and regulation may evolve in the future.

Lecture 30: Diversity, equity and inclusion across the energy and mineral resource sectors

The effects of climate change on sustainable energy and resource infrastructure and people are covered in this final lecture. We focus on Energy Justice which refers to the goal of achieving equity in both the social and economic participation in the energy system. It recognizes disadvantaged communities and regions historically marginalized and overburdened by pollution, underinvestment in clean energy infrastructure, and lack of access to energy-efficient housing and transportation. We integrate this with Environmental Justice to highlight the requirements of remediation of the disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on communities of color and low-income communities. Of particular interest in this context is the issue of access to safe water and other natural resources needed to sustain any population group.

Quiz 6 – Lectures 26-30 (last week of classes or finals week depending on the calendar dates)

GE Theme course submission worksheet: Sustainability

Overview

Courses in the GE Themes aim to provide students with opportunities to explore big picture ideas and problems within the specific practice and expertise of a discipline or department. Although many Theme courses serve within disciplinary majors or minors, by requesting inclusion in the General Education, programs are committing to the incorporation of the goals of the focal theme and the success and participation of students from outside of their program.

Each category of the GE has specific learning goals and Expected Learning Outcomes (ELOs) that connect to the big picture goals of the program. ELOs describe the knowledge or skills students should have by the end of the course. Courses in the GE Themes must meet the ELOs common for **all** GE Themes and those specific to the Theme, in addition to any ELOs the instructor has developed specific to that course. All courses in the GE must indicate that they are part of the GE and include the Goals and ELOs of their GE category on their syllabus.

The prompts in this form elicit information about how this course meets the expectations of the GE Themes. The form will be reviewed by a group of content experts (the Theme Advisory) and by a group of curriculum experts (the Theme Panel), with the latter having responsibility for the ELOs and Goals common to all themes (those things that make a course appropriate for the GE Themes) and the former having responsibility for the ELOs and Goals specific to the topic of **this** Theme.

Briefly describe how this course connects to or exemplifies the concept of this Theme (Sustainability)

In a sentence or two, explain how this class “fits’ within the focal Theme. This will help reviewers understand the intended frame of reference for the course-specific activities described below.

(enter text here)

Connect this course to the Goals and ELOs shared by *all* Themes

Below are the Goals and ELOs common to all Themes. In the accompanying table, for each ELO, describe the activities (discussions, readings, lectures, assignments) that provide opportunities for students to achieve those outcomes. The answer should be concise and use language accessible to colleagues outside of the submitting department or discipline. The specifics of the activities matter—listing “readings” without a reference to the topic of those readings will not allow the reviewers to understand how the ELO will be met. However, the panel evaluating the fit of the course to the Theme will review this form in conjunction with the syllabus, so if readings, lecture/discussion topics, or other specifics are provided on the syllabus, it is not necessary to reiterate them within this form. The ELOs are expected to vary in their “coverage” in terms of number of activities or emphasis within the course. Examples from successful courses are shared on the next page.

Goal 1: Successful students will analyze an important topic or idea at a more advanced and in-depth level than the foundations. In this context, “advanced” refers to courses that are e.g., synthetic, rely on research or cutting-edge findings, or deeply engage with the subject matter, among other possibilities.

Goal 2: Successful students will integrate approaches to the theme by making connections to out-of-classroom experiences with academic knowledge or across disciplines and/or to work they have done in previous classes and that they anticipate doing in future.

	Course activities and assignments to meet these ELOs
ELO 1.1 Engage in critical and logical thinking.	
ELO 1.2 Engage in an advanced, in-depth, scholarly exploration of the topic or ideas within this theme.	
ELO 2.1 Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences.	
ELO 2.2 Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.	

Example responses for proposals within “Citizenship” (from Sociology 3200, Comm 2850, French 2803):

ELO 1.1 Engage in critical and logical thinking.	<i>This course will build skills needed to engage in critical and logical thinking about immigration and immigration related policy through: Weekly reading response papers which require the students to synthesize and critically evaluate cutting-edge scholarship on immigration; Engagement in class-based discussion and debates on immigration-related topics using evidence-based logical reasoning to evaluate policy positions; Completion of an assignment which build skills in analyzing empirical data on immigration (Assignment #1)</i>
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	<p>Completion 3 assignments which build skills in connecting individual experiences with broader population-based patterns (Assignments #1, #2, #3)</p> <p>Completion of 3 quizzes in which students demonstrate comprehension of the course readings and materials.</p>
<p>ELO 2.1 Identify, describe, and synthesize approaches or experiences.</p>	<p>Students engage in advanced exploration of each module topic through a combination of lectures, readings, and discussions.</p> <p><u>Lecture</u> Course materials come from a variety of sources to help students engage in the relationship between media and citizenship at an advanced level. Each of the 12 modules has 3-4 lectures that contain information from both peer-reviewed and popular sources. Additionally, each module has at least one guest lecture from an expert in that topic to increase students' access to people with expertise in a variety of areas.</p> <p><u>Reading</u> The textbook for this course provides background information on each topic and corresponds to the lectures. Students also take some control over their own learning by choosing at least one peer-reviewed article and at least one newspaper article from outside the class materials to read and include in their weekly discussion posts.</p> <p><u>Discussions</u> Students do weekly discussions and are given flexibility in their topic choices in order to allow them to take some control over their education. They are also asked to provide information from sources they've found outside the lecture materials. In this way, they are able to explore areas of particular interest to them and practice the skills they will need to gather information about current events, analyze this information, and communicate it with others.</p> <p>Activity Example: Civility impacts citizenship behaviors in many ways. Students are asked to choose a TED talk from a provided list (or choose another speech of their interest) and summarize and evaluate what it says about the relationship between civility and citizenship. Examples of Ted Talks on the list include Steven Petrow on the difference between being polite and being civil, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's talk on how a single story can perpetuate stereotypes, and Claire Wardle's talk on how diversity can enhance citizenship.</p>
<p>ELO 2.2 Demonstrate a developing sense of self as a learner through reflection, self-assessment, and creative work, building on prior experiences to respond to new and challenging contexts.</p>	<p>Students will conduct research on a specific event or site in Paris not already discussed in depth in class. Students will submit a 300-word abstract of their topic and a bibliography of at least five reputable academic and mainstream sources. At the end of the semester they will submit a 5-page research paper and present their findings in a 10-minute oral and visual presentation in a small-group setting in Zoom.</p> <p>Some examples of events and sites: The Paris Commune, an 1871 socialist uprising violently squelched by conservative forces</p>

	<p><i>Jazz-Age Montmartre, where a small community of African-Americans—including actress and singer Josephine Baker, who was just inducted into the French Pantheon—settled and worked after World War I.</i></p> <p><i>The Vélodrome d’hiver Roundup, 16-17 July 1942, when 13,000 Jews were rounded up by Paris police before being sent to concentration camps</i></p> <p><i>The Marais, a vibrant Paris neighborhood inhabited over the centuries by aristocrats, then Jews, then the LGBTQ+ community, among other groups.</i></p>
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Goals and ELOs unique to Sustainability

Below are the Goals and ELOs specific to this Theme. As above, in the accompanying Table, for each ELO, describe the activities (discussions, readings, lectures, assignments) that provide opportunities for students to achieve those outcomes. The answer should be concise and use language accessible to colleagues outside of the submitting department or discipline. The ELOs are expected to vary in their “coverage” in terms of number of activities or emphasis within the course. Examples from successful courses are shared on the next page.

GOAL 3: Students analyze and explain how social and natural systems function, interact, and evolve over time; how human wellbeing depends on these interactions; how actions have impacts on subsequent generations and societies globally; and how human values, behaviors, and institutions impact multi-faceted, potential solutions across time.

	Course activities and assignments to meet these ELOs
ELO 3.1 Describe elements of the fundamental dependence of humans on Earth and environmental systems and on the resilience of these systems.	
ELO 3.2 Describe, analyze and critique the roles and impacts of human activity and technology on both human society and the natural world, in the past, currently, and in the future.	
ELO 3.3 Devise informed and meaningful responses to problems and arguments in the area of sustainability based on the interpretation of appropriate evidence and an explicit statement of values.	