

**Syllabus AWER 3700 Fundamentals of Watershed Science
Spring Semester 2006**

MWF 12:30 am -1:20 pm BNR 314

Learning facilitator: Dr. Tamao Kasahara, Assistant Professor

Office: NR 230 (797-1338)

E-mail: please use webCT for contact
(tamaok@cc.usu.edu)

Office Hours: M 9:30-12:00 am; W 9:30- 12:00 am (or by appointment)

Because these office hours may not fit every student's schedule, or I may be busy with another student when you come by the office, I strongly advise anybody to contact me by E-mail to make alternative arrangements if necessary

Teaching Assistant: Patrick Moore

E-mail: ptmoore44@hotmail.com

Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to introduce you to the concepts that define watershed science as a professional discipline and to familiarize you with the principles of watershed management. We will focus on a variety of topics that define the interdisciplinary nature of watershed science. These include geography, climatology, hydrology, soil science, geomorphology, ecology, biogeochemistry, social sciences, and water law. This is a course designed to accomplish several goals: (1) to help you develop appreciation of current water-related issues facing society; and (2) to provide CNR majors with the necessary background for advanced coursework in watershed science and hydrology.

Text: There is no formal textbook for this class. Instead, readings have been put on WebCT and electronic reserve.

Assignments and grading:

The final grade will be based on the total number of points scored out of a total possible of 100. Points are distributed in the following manner:

Homeworks = **16**; Writing Assignments = **24**; Midterm Exams = **30**; Final Exam = **30**

Homework Assignments: Throughout the semester a number of problem sets will be assigned to familiarize you with some of the basic principles and methods used in watershed science. Some of these exercises may be assigned as group projects.

Midterms: There will be two midterm exams. You will be examined on your knowledge of the assigned readings and the material presented during lecture, prior to and up to the time of the exam, including those readings associated with the writing assignments.

Final Exam: Will be **comprehensive** exam that will cover **all** assigned readings and course materials up to the end of the course. However, the exam may have more questions or more detailed questions on the material covered between the midterm and the end of the course.

Writing Assignments: You will be asked to submit 4 short writing assignments (1 to 2 pages in length) in conjunction with some of the material covered in this course. You will be expected follow a set of guidelines regarding content and format that will be provided to you.

Rhetoric Associates Program: To help students improve their writing skills, this class has been selected to participate in the Rhetoric Associates (RA) Program. For the first 3 writing assignments, (1) you will submit a good first draft that will be evaluated by the RA; (2) you will then meet in a conference with the RA to discuss possible improvements of your paper and suggestions for revision; (3) you will submit the **original** draft (with RA's comments) **and** the **final** version of your paper to the instructor for grading. Final papers will not be accepted without the original draft and RA comments (except for last writing

assignment where only final draft is submitted to the instructor). There are two due dates for each paper: first draft to the RA and final version to the instructor. Please note time and place of your conference: students that fail to show up for their appointments with the RA will be marked down. Both first and final drafts must be submitted in class on the specified due dates.

Rhetoric Associates:

Will Israelsen	E-mail: israelsen@cc.usu.edu
Lindy Bankhead	E-mail: Ldanley5@hotmail.com
Nicolette Forbush	E-mail: nforbush@cc.usu.edu

Important Dates:

Martin Luther King Day:	Monday, 16 January	<i>NO CLASS</i>
Presidents Day:	Monday, 20 February	<i>NO CLASS</i>
Virtual Monday:	Tuesday, 21 February	all Monday classes are taught
Midterm I:	Monday, 13 February	
Midterm II:	Friday, 10 March	
Spring Break:	13-17 March	<i>NO CLASS</i>
Final Exam:	Wednesday, 3 May 2006	@ 11:30 am – 1:20 pm

NOTE: Homeworks are due **in class on the assigned due date**, points will be taken off for late submissions (10% per day); Papers (original and final drafts) must be submitted on time and will not be accepted late; Students unable to attend the midterm exam at the scheduled times **must** contact me **prior to the exam**. Arrangements for make-up exam will only be made as an **emergency** measure for **justifiable** reasons. The final exam must be taken as scheduled.

Honor System: All assignments and exams are to be completed individually, unless otherwise stated by the instructor. The student honor code as specified in the Student Policy Handbook is in effect in this course. To learn more about USU's Honor System, see http://studentlife.tsc.usu.edu/stuserv/pdf/student_code.pdf. A list of academic dishonesty violations starts on p. 9; discipline is discussed starting on p. 15. To learn about the CNR plagiarism policy see <http://www.cnr.usu.edu/academichonesty/PLAGARIS.pdf> Students committing academic dishonesty (i.e., has plagiarized all or part of a paper, or cheated on an exam) will fail the entire course.

Accommodations for Disabilities: This university is required by law to help disabled students participate fully in all programs, activities and services. If you have a disability that requires note-takers, interpreters for the deaf, extended testing time, etc., let instructor know or contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) directly. They are in room 101 of the University Inn (797-2444, discenter@cc.usu.edu). Course material can be provided in alternative formats such as large print, audio, diskette, or Braille in cooperation with the DRC. (Disabilities must be documented by the DRC).

Class Schedule for Spring Semester, 2006 – Subject to changes!!		
Week of		Assignments Dues
January 9	Course Introduction, Water Properties	
January 16	M: No Class (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day) Water Properties, Unit Conversion	
January 23	Climatology	M: Homework 1 W: Writing 1-I
January 30	Soil and Groundwater	
February 6	Watershed Properties	W: Writing 1-II F: Homework 2
February 13	M: Midterm I Watershed Hydrology	
February 20	Watershed Hydrology	W: Writing 2-I
February 27	Watershed Hydrology	F: Homework 3
March 6	Hillslope Processes F: Midterm II	W: Writing 2-II
March 13	Spring Break	
March 20	Hillslope Processes	
March 27	Channel Processes	W: Writing 3-I
April 3	Channel Processes	F: Homework 4
April 10	Stream & Lake Ecosystems	W: Writing 3-II
April 17	Stream & Lake Ecosystems	W: Writing 4
April 24	Water Quality	