

SCI C101 Our Earth: The Environment
University of Bridgeport
IDEAL Instructor L.W. Thilow
Fall Semester, 2013

Dear Student,

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course dates, times and location. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in our classes build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student's preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount of time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend a minimum of ten-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:

1. Attend every class session. Be on time.
2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the first class session.
3. Complete the first assignment prior to the first class session and all subsequent assignments to the best of your ability.
4. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.

If you cannot perform these four expectations, **it is recommended that you drop the course.**

Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if the student earned a grade of "B" in the course, the final grade would be a "C"). If a student misses two or more classes a grade of F will be entered as their final grade.

Cheating and Plagiarism

It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with and adhere to the standards set forth in the policies on cheating and plagiarism as defined in Chapters 2 and 5 of the Key to UB <http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2623.asp> or the appropriate graduate program handbook

E-mail correspondence

It is imperative that you check your UB e-mail on a regular basis. All written correspondence, to include IDEAL and the University will be sent to you through his e-mail. **The University can no longer correspond to your personal e-mail account(s).**

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Ethics Statement of Confidentiality

An integral component of an IDEAL course is student and faculty expression of personal experiences for the purpose of facilitating coursework. Students enrolled in the program are expected to honor confidentiality as it pertains to student disclosure. Shared information, comments, or opinions expressed by another student or the faculty member during the course of classroom discussion should never be used in a manner which is intended to humiliate, embarrass, harass, damage, or otherwise injure other students in their personal, public, or business lives. In addition, confidentiality must be upheld by not disclosing any information that would identify any particular individual.

The IDEAL Program

SCI C101 OUR ENVIRONMENT: THE EARTH

Instructor: Leslie W. Thilow
Email: lthilow@bridgeport.edu
Thursdays
August 29 – October 17, 2013
6pm -9pm

Course Goals

The course will help you develop a sophisticated understanding of earth's origin, structure, composition, its interacting systems and dynamic processes. You will research a specific course-related topic of interest, prepare an original written summary of your findings, and prepare and deliver an original multi-media presentation of your topic in to your peers.

Instructional Environment

Interactive class-discussions, Canvas-based discussions and quizzes, cooperative activities, readings, and a research assignment and presentation make up the instructional environment. Obtain the text and a rock and mineral kit as soon as possible.

Required Text

1. Text: "Understanding Earth," 6th Edition, Grotzinger and Jordan
ISBN 978-1429219518

To order textbooks, go to the bookstore website at
<http://bridgeport.textbooktech.com/>

Select IDEAL Campus and login to the bookstore. Select the course and follow instructions.

***It is very important that you obtain a standard rock and mineral hand-sample kit that is representative of earth's major rocks and minerals. Contact the campus bookstore for details. Kits are also available online. Obtain a kit now so that you have it by the second class.

Here is your pre-course reading and written assignment. Bring your completed work to the first meeting

- ✓ Read chapters 1 and 2.
- ✓ Word responses to the chapter 1 exercise questions 1 through 8, and the chapter 2 exercise questions 4 and 5.
- ✓ Type your full name, your UB email address, and “SCI C101 Pre-Course Assignment” in a header across the top of your completed work.
- ✓ Submit the assignment via Canvas prior to the start of the first class.

1. Week 1 topics will include

- development of the plate tectonic theory
- interactions among the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere and cryosphere
- After class you will participate in the topic discussion using Canvas
- You will also complete the topic quiz using Canvas

2. Week 2 topics include

- occurrence of minerals on planet earth. You will use your rock and mineral kit during this and all subsequent meetings during the semester.
- After class you will participate in the topic discussion using Canvas
- You will also complete the topic quiz using Canvas

3. Week 3 topics include

- crustal rocks on planet earth
- After class you will participate in the topic discussion using Canvas

- You will also complete the topic quiz using Canvas

4. Week 4 topics include

- earth's surface in a state of flux
- weathering processes
- mass movements
- soil formation
- volcanic activity on earth
- After class you will also participate in the topic discussion using Canvas
- You will also complete the topic quiz using Canvas

5. Week 5 topics include

- earthquakes
- Learn to triangulate earthquake epicenters
- After class you will participate in the topic discussion using Canvas
- You will also complete the topic quiz using Canvas

6. Week 6 topics include

- earth's climate
- Consider the evidence for and against climate change
- After class you will also participate in the topic discussion using Canvas
- You will also complete the topic quiz using Canvas

7. Week 7

- Natural disaster and human response presentations
- This week you will submit your written summary as part of the weekly discussion forum
- You will also present your multi-media slide during class

8. Week 8

- final exam

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- This is the culminating class activity

Grading:

- ✓ weekly quizzes 20%
- ✓ online discussions 20%
- ✓ written assignments 20%
- ✓ research presentation 20%
- ✓ final exam 20%
- ✓ **An assignment submitted after its due date receives a 20% grade deduction per day late. This applies to all coursework during the semester.**

Letter Grading Scale:

% of Points Earned	Letter Grade	% of Points Earned	Letter Grade
100-94	A	76-74	C
93-90	A-	73-70	C-
89-87	B+	69-67	D+
86-84	B	66-64	D
83-80	B-	63-60	D-
79-77	C+	Below 60	F

Attendance

Classroom attendance is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, you are expected to attend all class sessions. If an absence is unavoidable, the student, prior to class, should advise the instructor. Arrangements should be made at that time for additional assignments if appropriate. It is also expected that students arrive on time and not leave

until the class is dismissed. Tardiness will result in a reduced grade for the course. If you cannot attend every class session you should consider dropping the course.

IMPORTANT:

- **Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if the student earned a grade of “B” in the course, the final grade would be a “C”).**
- **Missing two or more class sessions will be cause for a failing grade.**

Drop Procedures

To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the following web page:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/include/pdf/AddDropForm.pdf>.

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the Academic Calendar to see the fees for a drop and the impact on tuition. The Academic Calendar can be found at:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp>

Cell Phones

Cell phones must be turned off while in the classroom. A cell phone call is disruptive and disrespectful to the other students in the class.

Academic Dishonesty

We are committed to intellectual integrity in our academic pursuits; therefore, the IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

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Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory computer-programming course. He has co-workers who program in the same language as his final project. As the end of the term approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the project finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a disk with a complete program similar to the kind required for the course project. The student makes minor modifications to the program, and submits it under his own name.

Case #2: A student enrolled in a religious studies course has never taken a humanities or history course, and is unsure about how to structure a research paper. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across a paper written by a student from another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and pastes the document into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called “research papers” without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one’s own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet as well as in the library. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.

Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn’t have to use quotations or citations.

Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in

person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own classes; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site:
http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at:

<http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2209.asp> The Center is located in Dana Hall, Room 246. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290. **Online Tutoring** is available at: www.etutoring.org. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

Obtaining a UBNet Account

Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access your grades, access library services, access online tutoring, access the computers in computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet> - Click on “New UBNet Account” and follow the instructions.

The @bridgeport.edu email address is the official email the University uses to send information to you. You can have your Bridgeport.edu email forwarded to any other email account you use. Following the activation of your UBNet account (takes 24 hours), login at:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/email> and click on “forwards” at the top of the page. Follow the directions to forward email messages to your other account.

Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online

The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the

end of a course. Information on WebAdvisor is password protected and requires you to use your UBNNet username and password. To access WebAdvisor, go to: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/webadvisor>

1. Login in with your UBNNet username and password.
2. Click on “Student Menu.”
3. Click on “My Grades.”

If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

Using the Library

You can access the library through the library’s website:

<http://www.bridgeport.edu/library>.

Research tools available:

- Search for books held at the library.
- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

To access the online journals for research purposes, you will need a UBNNet account (see above).

Using Computers

Open access computer labs are available at three campuses:

- Bridgeport – 1st floor of the Wahlstrom library. Check library hours of operation at:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/library>.
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- Stamford – Room D; Check open hours at:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford>
- Waterbury – Computer Lab; Check open hours at:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury>

Course Cancellations

Any emergency necessitating the canceling of courses will be announced by the University through the Emergency Notification Telephone Line, (203) 576-4159. Please call this number for information on course cancellations. Also, information will be posted under “Latest News” on the UB home page, (www.bridgeport.edu). Canceled classes will be made up either the week

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following the end of the course or in consultation between the instructor and the students as to day and time availability. Course cancellations are also announced on television and radio stations.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Contact	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport Campus Security		(203) 576- 4911	ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu
Bursar	Dixie Eaton	(203) 576- 4472	bursar@bridgeport.edu
Cashier	Janet Michlewski	(203) 576- 4682	cashier@bridgeport.edu
Financial Aid	Allessandra Castagnetto	(203) 576- 4568	finaid@bridgeport.edu
Grade & Fee Report	Ernie Krajcik	203) 576-4692	grade_fee@bridgeport.edu
Registrar		(203) 576- 4635	registrar@bridgeport.edu
Emergency Notification Phone		(203) 576- 4159	
IDEAL Office		(203) 576- 4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus	Address	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport	126 Park Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604	(203) 576- 4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
Stamford	5 Riverbend Drive Stamford, CT	(203) 358- 0700	ubstamford@bridgeport.edu

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	06750		
Waterbury	84 Progress Lane Waterbury, CT 06705	(203) 573-8501	ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu
Woodbridge	6 Lunar Drive Woodbridge, CT 06525	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

Directions to IDEAL Campus locations	http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2260.asp
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To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The school code for the University of Bridgeport is 001416.

Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243