

ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (PSYCH 390) SYLLABUS SPRING 2008

MWF 1:00 – 1:50 MAC 107

Professor:	Dr. Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges
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Office Hours:	Mondays, Tuesdays, & Fridays 10 – 12 or by appt.

Objectives of the Course: This course will introduce you to the young and exciting field of Environmental Psychology with an emphasis on real world issues. This course serves those interested in psychology, environmental design, planning and health, and is intended to encourage critical thinking, problem solving, environmental awareness and active participation in learning.

Though we do not always recognize it, we are profoundly affected by the built and natural environments around us. The places where we live, work and play deeply influence our physical, social, emotional and spiritual lives. To understand human behavior, we must consider its relationship to the environment. Likewise, comprehension of the physical environment requires that we examine how it is shaped and experienced by individuals and groups. Environmental Psychology is the study of these mutual relationships between people and their physical environments.

Note: There is no textbook for this class. You will be assigned articles to read which you must access and print out from our D2L class site and bring to class with you when specified.

Grading:

Grades will be based on the following:

Five (5) homework assignments worth 20 points each	100
One (1) visual group project worth 100 points	100
5 Pop Quizzes worth 10 points each	50
Three (3) exams worth 100 points each	<u>300</u>
Total points=	550

Letter grades will not be more stringent than the following:

≥ 506	A
484-505	AB
451-483	B
429-450	BC
385-428	C
330-384	D
< 330	F

Class Expectations:

1. Class attendance is imperative to your learning. I will not take attendance but I expect you will attend class – especially since in this class you will work in a group where others depend on you to participate during class time. I expect that during class you will use common courtesy by not text messaging or accessing online sites not pertinent to the current class work, etc.

There will be 5 quizzes worth 10 points each. You will be given 5 points for your attendance alone on that day and then you will be graded on your answer to the question for the remaining 5 points. There will be no make-up quizzes

2. I expect that you will hand in homework **on time** that shows **pride** in the product and I will take off points if homework is late (2 points per day. If you are ill and cannot hand in your homework you must call or email before class-time to avoid losing points. **All homework must be typed with Honor Code Statement (see below).**

3. Statement on Plagiarism:

Using someone else's ideas or phrasing and representing those ideas or phrasing as our own, either on purpose or through carelessness, is a serious offense known as plagiarism. "Ideas or phrasing" includes written or spoken material, of course — from whole papers and paragraphs to sentences, and, indeed, phrases — but it also includes statistics, lab results, art work, etc. "Someone else" can mean a professional source, such as a published writer or critic in a book, magazine, encyclopedia, or journal; an electronic resource such as material we discover on the World Wide Web; another student at our school or anywhere else; a paper-writing "service" (online or otherwise) which offers to sell written papers for a fee.

More info for students at: <http://webster.commnet.edu/mla/plagiarism.shtml>

Honor Code Policy: All work for this course is based upon the assumption that students are applying the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. In order to affirm this practice, I am requiring that **all written work** include the following statement: **“I affirm that this paper reflects my own work and writing.”** This statement must be signed and dated. Papers without this affirmation will not be graded

4. There will be no make-up exams unless there is some dire and well-documented circumstance. If you have a conflict with a scheduled exam please see me well before that time.

****Note:** Consistent with the federal law and the policies of the University of Wisconsin, it is the policy of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay to provide appropriate and necessary accommodations to students with documented physical and learning disabilities. If you anticipate requiring any auxiliary aids or services, you should contact me or the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at 465-2849 as soon as possible to discuss your needs and arrange for the provision of services.

Class Schedule

Week 1: Jan 23, 25

Introduction to Environmental Psychology

Theories in Environmental Psychology

Read article: *The History and Promise of Environmental Psychology*

Week 2: Jan 28

Perception and Cognition

Get in Groups on Monday!!

HOMEWORK 1 due Friday Feb 1st

Print articles:

To Walk or Not to Walk for HW1

Age and Gender-Related Differences in Strategy Use for Route Information

Week 3: Feb 4

IN-CLASS GROUP WORK DAY Monday Feb 4th

Film: *Life at Speed* - Complete worksheet on film

Week 4: Feb 11

****NO CLASS FRIDAY FEB 15th****

Environmental Attitudes, Appraisals and Assessments

Managing Limited Resources

Print article:

Standing for Where You Sit

The Role of Mystery in Perceived Danger and Environmental Preference

Week 5: Feb 18

Nature

HOMEWORK 2 due Friday, Feb 22nd

Print articles:

Preference for Nature in Urbanized Societies

Power of Place Chapters 1-3

Week 6: Feb 25

REVIEW MONDAY

EXAM 1 on Wednesday, Feb 27th

IN-CLASS GROUP WORK DAY FRIDAY Feb 29th

Week 7: March 3

Personal Space and Territoriality

FIELD TRIP on Friday, March 7th from 1:00 – 2:00

Options for Independent Living-located on the NWTC campus, 555 Country Club Rd

Print articles:

Personal Space in Physically Abused Children

Territorial Behavior in Residence Halls

Week 8: March 10

Crowding and Privacy

HOMEWORK 3 due Monday, March 10th

Print article: *Defensible Space: The Clason Point Experiment*

*******SPRING BREAK*******

Week 9: March 24

Feng Shui
Residential Environmental Psychology

Print articles:

Is My Home My Castle?
House Counseling in Inquiry by Design

Week 10: March 31

Community Environmental Psychology
William Whyte video Friday

HOMEWORK 4 due Friday April 4th

Print article:

Politeness in the Urban Environment

Week 11: April 7

Review Monday

EXAM 2 on Wednesday, April 9th

IN-CLASS GROUP WORK DAY FRIDAY April 11th

Week 12: April 14

Educational Environmental Psychology

Print articles:

Designing the Classroom of the Future
Environmental Comfort in School Buildings
Ambient Noise and Cognitive Processes among Primary School Children
Curing Nature Deficit Disorder

Week 13: April 21

Workplace Environmental Psychology

HOMEWORK 5 due Friday April 25th

Print articles:

Traditional versus Open Office Space Design (Coworker Noise)
Trapped in Cubicles

Week 14: April 28

Healthcare Environmental Psychology

CLASS PROJECT PRESENTATIONS Friday, May 2nd 1965 Room in Union

Print article:

Therapeutic Design of Environments for People with Dementia

Week 15: May 5

Designing More Fitting Environments
REVIEW

Week 16: May 12

Exam 3 Monday May 12th