

ENVS 131 Introduction to ENVS Field Studies Fall 2023

Instructor: Dr. Carolyn (Carrie) Keogh (she/her/hers)

ENVS 131 Intro to Environmental Science Field Studies applies and integrates theories and concepts of environmental science through field study. This course will provide an introduction to Piedmont geology & weathering processes, soil development, native trees and forest ecosystems, watersheds, urban landscapes and environmental justice and policy. Students will also be introduced to ENVS research and academic staff. ENVS 131 is required for all ENVS majors. ENVS 131 **does not** fulfill the SNTL General Education Requirement.

Course Goals:

- Practice making close observations and asking questions
- Explore methods of research relevant to multiple subdisciplines within environmental sciences (and the ENVS department in particular), focusing on earth and atmospheric sciences, ecology, environmental health, and social science and policy
- Develop a sense of place in the Piedmont ecoregion where Emory is located and in the campus landscape
- Build community across your cohort and in the ENVS department

Required materials: There is no required textbook for this class. You will need a field notebook and supplies to make sketches in the field - more information about this can be found in the "field notebooks" section of Canvas.

Weekly meetings: Labs meet weekly for approximately 3 hours. In addition to the weekly lab meeting, you will be asked to engage with asynchronous content and assignments before lab each week. Please check the weekly Canvas modules for information about the pre-lab work, lab activity, and post-lab work each week. Weekly labs will normally meet in **MSC W501**. Field meeting locations will be sent via Canvas Announcements as needed.

Accessibility and Accommodations: It is important that ENVS 131 is accessible to all students, and that all students have adequate support to succeed in this course. All interested students are encouraged to take this course and we will work with Student Disability Services (DAS) to ensure that all enrolled students have the proper accommodations to promote learning. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must register with the DAS at <http://accessibility.emory.edu/students/>. Accommodations cannot be retroactively applied so please contact DAS as early as possible and contact us as early as possible in the semester to discuss the plan for implementation of your accommodations. For additional information about accessibility and accommodations, please contact the Department of Accessibility Services at (404) 727-9877 or accessibility@emory.edu

E-mail/communication: ckeogh@emory.edu Please email me rather than using Canvas messaging. I usually respond to emails within 24 hours during the work week. If you haven't received a reply within 24-48 hours, please feel encouraged to email me again. I usually do not check email during evenings or weekends.

Office Hours: Thurs 1-2pm, MSC E538. Office hours are times I have set aside each week to answer questions, hear from you about how you're doing, or chat about the course. You should always feel

free to drop in to say hello during these times, and I hope that you will take the time to drop in at least once during the semester! If my regular open office hours time does not fit your schedule or you need to discuss a concern privately, please email me to make an appointment.

Grading overview: 10% - Field Notebook
30% - Pre-lab assignments (via Canvas)
40% - Lab assignments (in-class or as homework)
10% - Practical(s)
10% - Attendance and Participation

Academic Integrity: The Honor Code applies to all work submitted for courses in Emory College. Students who violate the Honor Code may be subject to a written mark on their record, failure of the course, suspension, permanent dismissal, or a combination of these and other sanctions. The Honor Code may be reviewed online at: <http://catalog.college.emory.edu/academic/policies-regulations/honor-code.html>

Attendance & participation: Attendance at all weekly lab meetings is required; missing a lab will result in a loss of attendance and participation points, as well as points associated the that week's pre- and post-lab assignments. Students missing more than three labs will not be able to earn a passing grade in the class. We know that situations might come up this semester that prevent students from attending as planned, and we will work with you on a case-by-case basis. Please email me as far in advance as possible if you become ill or need accommodation for a change in situation - we might be able to arrange attendance in a different lab the same week, for example.

Other components of participation include contributing actively to discussions, timeliness, preparedness, and professionalism in your interactions with your peers and instructors. It is our expectation that during class meeting time, all attention is on the lab and that students are prepared to actively participate. Please do your best to create a positive learning environment for each other.

Lab and Field Safety: When you are working outdoors on field notebooks or other assignments, please be sure to check weather conditions before going out and be prepared. Be aware of your surroundings when you are outside. Take proper precautions if you have any health issues that might impact your participation in field activities, i.e. allergic reaction to insect stings. I'm happy to discuss any concerns or questions you might have.

Late Assignments: Full credit will not be earned for assignments that are turned in late. Late assignment will lose 10% on day 1, 30% on day 2, and 50% on day 3. After more than three days, late assignments will not be accepted and a zero will be recorded.

Grading Scale:

A	94-100%	C+	77-79.9%
A-	90-93.9%	C	74-76.9%
B+	87-89.9%	C-	70-73.9%
B	84-86.9%	D	60 – 69.9%
B-	80-83.9%	F	less than 60%