



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS  
AND  
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**ENVR 1101 – Environmental Science I (lab)  
ENVR 1101.06**

**(16 Week Course – Face-to-Face)**

**Bradley T. Turner, M.S., M.E.S., M.A.**

**COVID 19 Notice:**

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

## ENVR 1101 –Environmental Science I (lab)

### **Course Description:**

This laboratory based course accompanies ENVR 1301, Environmental Science (lecture). Activities will cover methods used to collect and analyze environmental data. Semester Hours 1 (3 lab)

### **Instructor Contact Information:**

Instructor Name: Bradley T. Turner, M.S., M.E.S., M.A.

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1-3p, or by appointment

Office Location: Science Building, Room 122

Zoom ID: 254 299 8408

Email: [brturner@mclennan.edu](mailto:brturner@mclennan.edu)

Phone: 254-307-3372 (cell) – I receive and return phone calls during most weekdays, but you can leave me a voicemail or text 24/7. Who knows... I might even respond to you during one of those weird times.

254-299-8408 (office) - My official MCC number that forwards to the number above

Favorite Treat: Soft, homemade gingersnap/gingerbread cookies

**\*\*\*Please refrain from using the Brightspace Instant Messaging system, because it is unreliable and sometimes difficult for me access when I'm not on my laptop\*\***

### **Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

Credit for/concurrent enrollment in ENVR 1301.

### **Required Text & Materials:**

Fagner, Elaine K., Michaela McCown, and Bradley T. Turner. *Practical Environmental Science*, Part One: ENVR 1101.

Toronto, Ontario: Tophatmonocle Corp, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-77494-272-7

Obligatory Bookstore/Product Placement Shout-out: [MCC Bookstore Website](#)

### **Course Notes, Additional Requirements, and Instructor Recommendations:**

This course meets in a wide variety of locations and each student in this course needs to regularly check Brightspace for new assignments, announcements, and/or messages. Every student needs to be able to access YouTube videos, DOCX, and PDF files in order to access updated materials or makeup work, when applicable. Links to Adobe Reader are available in the Syllabus/Schedule tab, on the main menu. A student must have access to reliable transportation, with proper insurance, tags, etc... when applicable, to participate in field trips—this is essential to success in the face-to-face lab course. All students must complete the McLennan Community College waivers online before being cleared to participate in any off-campus lab activities. Failure to complete the liability form online, provided via a link on Brightspace, may result in a student being withdrawn from the course during the third week.

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### **Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

In-person tours, virtual tours, lab exercises, lectures, guest speakers, quizzes, essays, and/or other alternative means.

### **Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

1. Apply the scientific method to environmental investigation.
2. Measure and observe aspects of the environment (e.g., air, water, soil) through sampling and sample analysis.
3. Develop an assessment plan for an environmental case study.
4. Demonstrate the collection, analysis, and reporting of data.

### **Other specific Student Learning Outcomes and Core Objectives include:**

- A. Critical thinking assignments that focus on scientific knowledge related to problems involving energy and the environment;
- B. Assessing communication skills through quizzes and assignments that are largely written, while lectures gravitate toward visual components, and class discussions guarantee students' oral interactions when introducing the physical sciences at a collegiate level;
- C. Empirical/quantitative assessments through lectures that allow students to see examples of specific case studies, research, and current events that pertain to data collection, analysis, and the scientific method as they pertain to energy problems and solutions; among other environmental topics like sustainability and resource management.

### **Course Outline or Schedule:**

The primary class schedule is posted and updated on Brightspace as adjustments are needed. The syllabus provides an overview as to what is expected during the semester. Each student must check Brightspace during the morning of/before each lab to verify that the day's lab exercises/field trips are still going as planned. Remember, most of our labs require help from volunteers who may have other obligations unexpectedly arise before class. It is your responsibility to know when and where you need to be present for class meetings. As proof that you read this syllabus, if you email or text me a picture of your favorite food before the first quiz is given, I will give you an automatic grade of 100 for the first quiz—this is not a joke—this exercise proves to me that you are responsible and follow directions. You do not have to take the syllabus quiz if you send me the picture before the syllabus quiz is due, as requested. Other content details are provided below:

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Week	Tasks Due	Objectives
1	Syllabus Quiz, Liability/Waiver Completion	N/A
2	Natural History of Central Texas @ The Mayborn Museum	1, 4
3	iNaturalist Bingo	1, 2, 4
4	Environmental Crimes	1, 2, 4
5	Texas Stream Team	1, 2, 4
6	Waco Wetlands	3
7	Dissolved Air Flotation Plant Field Experience	1, 2, 3
8	Public Drinking Water Treatment Plant Field Experience	2, 3, 4
9	Wastewater Treatment Plant Field Experience	2, 3, 4
10	Waco Landfill	3, 4
11	Cobbs	1, 2, 3, 4
12	Sunbright	1, 2, 4
13	Invasive Species of Cameron Park	1, 2, 3, 4
14	Electrofishing	1, 2, 3, 4
15	A behind the scenes Zoo field Experience	N/A

### Course Grading Information:

The grade scale used in this course is: A = 90–100; B = 80-89.9; C = 70-79.9; D = 60-69.9; and F = 59.9 or below. Grades are recorded and kept on Brightspace. Students may inquire about their status in the class via email, office hours, or before/after classes—but not during allotted course times.

Daily Lab Assignments: There are no exams for this course. Daily Lab Assignments represent a total of 50% of the final grade for ENVR 1102. There will be a multitude of assignments that qualify as a Daily Lab Assignment, ranging from quizzes to answering questions from tours, located in *Practical Environmental Science*. Other times, students might be required to submit information pertaining to his/her course project as a Daily Lab Assignment.

Attendance: Attendance at scheduled meeting places and times represents the remaining 50% of the final grade for this course. Each week, students will be required to submit assignments on featured labs. The common lab assignments typically consist of worksheets, essays, and/or surveys. Each student should bring a clipboard, his/her lab manual, and writing utensil for offsite labs. During some instances, students will be required to follow dress code and bring proper hydration elements. Tour assignments are generally due at the end of class and all other assignments are due at the beginning of class. A student can only attend class and complete assignments for credit once he/she has completed the mandatory online waiver on the first day of class.

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### **Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:**

The attendance grade portion of lab cannot be made up. Attendance is crucial to succeeding in this course. During specific assignments, the instructor may provide the option for students to conduct an alternative lab assignment that will provide as sufficient grounds for both attendance and lab assignment grades, but this option will not be used on a weekly basis unless specified by the instructor or under ADA.

All makeup work assignments must be submitted either online via the Makeup Work Portal on Brightspace or submitted in person before the allocated deadlines, as posted on Brightspace. Any lab submitted after its due date will be penalized thirty points for being late. No late work will be accepted for credit after the Makeup Lab deadline, posted on Brightspace. Primary lab due dates will also be posted on Brightspace under the Course Schedule for each corresponding lab.

### **Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum, regardless of location, that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity. All tobacco-use is prohibited. You cannot record my labs/class meetings without my consent, in order to protect the integrity of my courses.

Students are not allowed to bring children to class. Students are not allowed to bring guests to lab. Any student caught sleeping during class will be marked absent and dismissed from class for that day.

Electronic devices are permitted during the course, with the exception of during presentations/quizzes. The instructor does not mind if a student sends an occasional message or needs to step outside to answer an intermittent phone call; however, this must be done within the bounds of moderation (as defined by the instructor). Students should not be using their electronic devices for any purposes other than those pertaining to the course, as deemed fit by the instructor (not the student). The first violation of this policy will result in a warning and the second violation will result in dismissal from class/lab for that day, an absence, and the prohibition of future use of technology in both classes. A third violation of the policy may result in being dropped from the course (when the violation occurred) for disruptive behavior and/or the grade of an F for the semester.

In the event of the school closing because of inclement weather, check Brightspace Announcements for instructions and/or any potential schedule adjustments.

With regards to disruptive behavior (as decided by the instructor), the instructor will provide offenders with a warning during their first incident. There is only one warning given per semester and warnings are valid for both concurrent lecture/lab enrollments. Second violations may result in an absence from the course, an F for the final semester grade, a call to campus police, or expulsion from the course. All disciplinary actions are determined by the instructor as a response to the instructor's perceived severity of the offense.

This course commonly meets in a different weekly location for each lab; many of these meeting spots are not in the classroom. It is your responsibility to know where and when you need to report for lab. Last minute changes will be posted under Announcements on Brightspace during the morning before class. Be sure

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to check Brightspace the morning before a scheduled meeting to verify that there have been no last minute changes. If you cannot attend at a scheduled time, contact the instructor via the guidelines outlined in the Instructor Information of this document.

**This is non-negotiable!** For outdoor labs, each student must bring a full, at least a sixteen ounce, bottle of water or sports drink (Gatorade, Powerade, etc...), and, on specified occasions, wear closed-toe shoes and pants while being prepared to participate in activities involving the outdoors or industrial settings. In short, do not report to lab in a business suit or a skirt and high-heels. Dress appropriately. Failure to comply with the dress code will result in a zero for that lab's attendance. If you have previous knowledge of an event (job interview, across-campus presentation, etc...) where you must wear inappropriate clothing for lab, speak to/email the instructor about the issue BEFORE the day of lab so we can make alternative arrangements; otherwise it, too, will result in a zero.

Each student is expected to actively participate in each classroom/laboratory exercise. Minimal physical activity is required. If you have any physical issues that prevent your participation, you must notify the instructor as soon as possible, in writing and in person, so an alternative strategy can be determined. If you do not notify the instructor about your physical issues within a timely fashion, you will be held responsible for missing the lab. If you suffer from seizures, etc... notify the instructor as soon as possible so he can know how to access your I.C.E. contact. You may be expected to pay an entry/tour cost to some of the labs (Cameron Park Zoo, Mammoth Site, etc...) for this class. If you are unable to afford the admission fee, speak with the instructor away from class and an alternative assignment will be calculated for you to complete and not receive penalization.

### **MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

\* [Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)  
([www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity))

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, or collusion on any problem on an assignment, quiz, test, (etc.) will receive an F for his/her semester grade, be reported to the Disciplinary Council, and could even be recommended for suspension from the McLennan Community College District. The weight of the compromised assignment is irrelevant—the punishment of failing semester grade will be the same.

# I POSSESS ZERO TOLERANCE FOR CHEATING, COLLUSION, AND/OR PLAGIARISM.

**MCC Attendance Policy:**

\* [Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](http://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies)  
([www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies](http://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies))

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have guidelines specific to this course.

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students, and each instructor will maintain a complete record of attendance for the entire length of each course. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades.

Absence from 25 percent of scheduled lecture and/or laboratory meetings will be taken as evidence that a student does not intend to complete the course, and the student will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. The instructor may reinstate the student if satisfied that the student will resume regular attendance and will complete the course.

If the student's 25 percent absences are reached after the official drop date, the instructor may assign a W, if the student is passing and requests to be withdrawn. However, if a student who is not passing reaches the 25 percent point after the official drop date, the student will receive an F. In extenuating circumstances, the instructor may assign a W to a student who is not passing.

Each absence will count toward attendance requirements in each course.

Students will be permitted to make up class work and assignments missed due to absences caused by (1) authorized participation in official College functions, (2) personal illness, (3) an illness or a death in the immediate family or (4) the observance of a religious holy day. Also, the instructor has the prerogative of determining

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whether a student may make up work missed due to absences for other reasons. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of the reason for an absence and to do so in a timely fashion.

McLennan Community College shall excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities including examinations for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students are required to file a written request with each instructor for an excused absence. A student whose absence is excused for this observance may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. Religious holy day means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under the Texas Tax Code. McLennan Community College may not excuse absences for religious holy days which may interfere with patient care.

Any student who does not drop him/herself before March 25, and exceeds four absences, will stay enrolled in the course and receive the grade he/she earns.

### **Other random important information:**

1. The videos are uploaded and streamed in high definition from YouTube. Any students using mobile hotspot connections may experience issues with available data. If you live in a remote area or have trouble streaming the videos because of your bandwidth access, message me and we can arrange a way for you to transfer all of the lecture videos onto a DVD or flash-drive so that you can access them without worrying about your monthly data limits of bandwidth.
2. If you are having trouble accessing the lectures or with Brightspace in general, call the MCC Help Desk at 254-299-8077 or email them at [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu)
3. The technological requirements for this course and program links are posted toward the bottom of the Syllabus/Schedule tab.
4. The instructor has the power to provide additional credit for assessing a student's knowledge, skills, and abilities, as pertaining to the course and course material, on a case-by-case basis (both individually or collectively).
5. At any time, the instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus for the benefit of the class to counter unforeseen issues.
6. Times are enforced in Central Standard Time
7. A student's name must appear on the college's approved liability form list, or she/he may be removed from the class during Week Three.



# McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

# COLLEGE

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## ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

### **Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability).

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu)

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

### **Title IX:**

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/). It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

**Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu](mailto:SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu). Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

**MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at [https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf).

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Go to [www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity) for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

**Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

**Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

**Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails.

**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.