

Teaching Plan for ES 462 (Sampling and Analysis of Environmental Contaminants)

Instructor: F. Omar Holguin

Semester: Fall 2020

ES 462 3 Credits (1+6P) (Sampling and Analysis of Environmental Contaminants): Theory, application, methodology, and instrumentation used in the sampling and analysis of environmental contaminants. Same as ENVE 462.

ES 462 is a three credit course that meets twice per week for lecture (T/TH 1200noon-1:15 pm), and as needed in analytical facilities. The lectures are scheduled to meet in Skeen Hall W122 and the instrumentation instructions are scheduled to meet in Skeen Hall W121. We typically have 10 to 15 students in the class. I intend to teach the course with a similar content as in prior semesters where it was face to face. The following exceptions will be made for the implementation of safety practices to help prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19 in the instructional environment.

1. Lectures. Lecture activities and lecture exams will be planned for online dissemination using Zoom. That is, we will not meet in person in Skeen W122. This practice will eliminate student presence in the building and its vicinity during our lecture times. Following is my consideration for proposed changes to the online lectures in the event of change in the severity of health threats. **Scenario 1: There are no longer any significant health threats.** My lectures will be held online for the duration of the semester. If the health threats lessen, I do not propose changing from an online format to a physical presence format. **Scenario 2: Significant health threats have emerged during the semester and face-to-face instruction is no longer tenable.** Since I will be teaching the lectures online from the outset, no changes will be necessary to accommodate an increased health threat. **Scenario 3: My class has more than 50 students and health guidelines state that such large gatherings are prohibited.** As of May 11, a total of 6 students have registered for Fall 2020 ES 462 and capped at a maximum of 15, thus this scenario is not applicable.
2. Labs. Discrete instructions will be provided in the syllabus and practiced during the semester, as per CDC guidelines, to prevent COVID-19 transmission during lab meetings. These instructions will include 1) self-monitoring using guidelines from the aggie wellness center; 2) 'remaining at home if ill' policy; 3) wearing an approved facemask when on campus if such a directive remains in effect; 4) maintaining six feet social distancing as work duties permit; 5) cleaning and disinfecting countertops, common areas, and shared equipment during and after use; and 6) and practicing frequent hand washing.

To reduce the density of student lab gatherings, enhance social distancing, and minimize face-to-face contact, I will stagger 2-h instructional instrumentation sessions at the Skeen analytical laboratory located in W121. With this measure, I expect no more than 3 students per session at the Skeen analytical lab or other area where maintaining a minimum of six feet social distancing will be feasible.

Following is my consideration for proposed changes to the physical presence labs in the event of change in the severity of health threats. **Scenario 1: There are no longer any significant health threats.** In this scenario, there are no proposed changes to the physical presence labs. **Scenario 2: Significant health threats have emerged during the semester and face-to-face instruction is no longer tenable.** These labs will be converted to online Zoom meetings using a combination

of powerpoint presentations, videos, and live-streamed demonstrations by the instructor.

Scenario 3: My class has more than 50 students and health guidelines state that such large gatherings are prohibited. See part 1.

3. Contact tracing: For contact tracing, student will immediately notify me if they suspect they are ill (fever in excess of 100.4 degrees F, cough, or shortness of breath), or if they are notified that they may have potentially been exposed to COVID-19. Once I learn that a student may have a virus or has been tested as presumptively positive, I will work with the student promptly to isolate them so that they do not transmit it further. I will then work with that student directly to understand who they have come in contact with. Any student who has been infected will be asked about their contacts, and then those contacts are approached. The affected students will call their physician, the NM Department of Health COVID Hotline, or the student health center and, if not already done so, will arrange for a test. In extreme cases, they will call 911. Affected student will return to class only if they have been tested and only after a negative test, or will self-quarantine for 14 days if the test is positive. I will maintain email and telephone of students and their contacts, and keep daily attendance. I will subsequently notify Dr. Rolston St. Hilaire (Department Head) if a student is ill, if positive test results are obtained, and all of the persons with whom the student has had in-person contact.