COURSE DESCRIPTION

ENV 590 THESIS. Credit(s): 1-9
Research and writing of the thesis. Grade will be Pass or Fail.
Note: After the approval of the thesis/dissertation proposal, a student must register for 590 each semester or summer session university resources are utilized.

Program Learning Outcomes (This is not a General education Course): Environmental Science 590 is one of the courses required of all Environmental Science Master of Science students in the thesis track. A minimum grade of a “P” must be attained or the course will have to be repeated. The course is designed to address the following Program Learning Outcomes, as given in the MS Environmental Science Program Matrix:
1. Demonstrate competency in environmental regulation and compliance;
2. Demonstrate understanding in environmental risk assessment;
3. Demonstrate understanding in occupational and environmental health;
4. Demonstrate competency in statistical methods and data management;
5. Demonstrate competency in oral and written communication skills;

M.S. Environmental Science Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>PLO 1 Environmental Regulation and Compliance</th>
<th>PLO2 Environmental Risk Assessment</th>
<th>PLO3 Occupational and Environmental Health</th>
<th>PLO4 Statistical Methods and Data Management</th>
<th>PLO5 Oral and Written Communication</th>
<th>PL06 M.S. Thesis Research</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENV 503</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>M</td>
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N/A – Not Applicable  B-Basic  I-Intermediate  A-Advanced  M-Mastery

**Definition of Rating Categories:**

1. **N/A** – Not Applicable – course does not support the Program Learning Outcome.

2. **B** – Basic – course supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with fundamental information, definitions, concepts, and lab activities relative to the expected outcomes.

3. **I** – Intermediate – course supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with topic-specific information, concepts, applications, and lab activities that increase the students’ skills in making tactical implementation decisions relative to the expected outcomes.

4. **A** – Advanced – course supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with transitional, high level topic-specific information, activities, and opportunities that enable the students to apply their critical thinking and tactical skills to resolved increasingly challenging strategic situations.

5. **M** – Mastery – course supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with opportunities to independently apply tactical and strategic planning skills to successfully accomplish real-world, non-academic management objectives. Completes students’ preparedness for entry-level professional activity accomplishment.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will successfully write and defend a master’s level thesis.

**Course Grades:** Final course grades will be assigned as follows:
Upon successful completion and oral defense of the master’s thesis a grade of P will be assigned. Until then, a course grade of WH will be assigned for each semester this course is taken. If the student fails to meet the minimum established standards a grade of F will be assigned.

**Mail:** Please check your SFA email account regularly. Email will be an official tool for communicating the important reminders, announcements, and further assignment directions. You can forward your SFA account to your preferred email address.

**Student Academic Dishonesty Policy (4.1)**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism. **Definition of Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or
another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy (6.1)**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

**Acceptable Student Behavior**
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. Please read the complete policy at: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct-10.4.pdf