ENVH 446 - Hazardous Waste and Public Health

Winter Quarter, 2020

Instructor: John C. Kissel, Ph.D.
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Office hours: To be arranged

Class Period: MW 3:30-4:50

Location: HSB T474

Description: Characterization of hazardous wastes and introduction to pertinent federal and state regulations. Discussion of significance of hazardous wastes and related facilities with respect to human and environmental health. Description of management options at post- and pre-generation stages. Supplemented with case studies.

Objectives: At conclusion of the course students should be able to: define hazardous waste; describe the primary provisions of RCRA and CERCLA; demonstrate familiarity with current hazardous waste management issues and jargon; recognize and interpret terminology used to quantitatively describe chemical exposure and risk; interpret the physical-chemical properties of individual chemicals with respect to their impact on fate, transport and human exposure; describe key epidemiological investigations of hazardous waste sites; state conditions under which exposure pathways are likely to be completed; describe technological approaches to waste destruction and containment; and contrast pre-generation, pre-release, and post-release management options.
Grading:

- Midterm: 30%
- Final: 30%
- Problem sets #1-6: 30%
- Participation: 10%

Text: No text. Notes, supplemental readings and other materials will be provided via Canvas.

Academic Integrity (http://sph.washington.edu/students/academicintegrity/)

Students at the University of Washington (UW) are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic conduct, professional honesty, and personal integrity.

The UW School of Public Health (SPH) is committed to upholding standards of academic integrity consistent with the academic and professional communities of which it is a part. Plagiarism, cheating, and other misconduct are serious violations of the University of Washington Student Conduct Code (WAC 478-120). We expect you to know and follow the university’s policies on cheating and plagiarism, and the SPH Academic Integrity Policy. Any suspected cases of academic misconduct will be handled according to University of Washington regulations. For more information, see the University of Washington Community Standards and Student Conduct website.

Access and Accommodation (http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs/faculty-resources/syllabus-statement):

Your experience in this class is important to me. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please communicate your approved accommodations to me at your earliest convenience so we can discuss your needs in this course.

If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are welcome to contact DRS at 206-543-8924 or uwdrs@uw.edu or disability.uw.edu. DRS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and DRS. It is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law.

Religious Accommodations

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW’s policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy (https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodation…). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the
Religious Accommodations Request
form (https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-requirement/).

Safety
Call SafeCampus at 206-685-7233 anytime – no matter where you work or study – to anonymously discuss safety and well-being concerns for yourself or others. SafeCampus’s team of caring professionals will provide individualized support, while discussing short- and long-term solutions and connecting you with additional resources when requested.

SPH Land Acknowledgment
The University of Washington acknowledges the Coast Salish people of this land, the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Duwamish, Suquamish, Tulalip and Muckleshoot nations.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
Diverse backgrounds, embodiments and experiences are essential to the critical thinking endeavor at the heart of University education. In SPH, students are expected:
1. To respect individual differences, which may include, but are not limited to, age, cultural background, disability, ethnicity, family status, gender, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status and veteran status.
2. To engage respectfully in the discussion of diverse worldviews and ideologies embedded in course readings, presentations and artifacts, including those course materials that are at odds with personal beliefs and values.
3. To encourage students with concerns about classroom climate to talk to their instructor, adviser, a member of the departmental or SPH EDI Committee, the Assistant Dean for EDI, or the program’s director.

Bias Concerns
The Office of the Dean has a student concern policy, a faculty concern policy and standard HR procedures for staff concerns. Our 2018 climate survey states that most people in SPH do not report bias incidents because they do not know where to go. Students are encouraged to report any incidents of bias to someone they feel comfortable with, including instructors, advisers or department staff. They can email dcinfo@uw.edu for immediate follow up. Bias concerns can be anonymously and confidentially reported at this link https://sph.washington.edu/about/diversity/bias-concerns. Data is collected by the Assistant Dean for EDI and the Director of Program Operations for Student and Academic Services and tracked for resolution and areas are identified for further training.