

Un-Common Read: ***When The Rivers Run Dry***
IDH 2930 (1 Credit; Section 0206; Class No. 23469) – Fall 2021
VERSION 2

Syllabus

Instructor: Joseph J. Delfino, PhD, BCES
Professor Emeritus, Environmental Engineering Sciences
Adjunct Lecturer, Honors Program

Important Note: Covid Issues –

(1) You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing.

(2) If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email covid@shcc.ufl.edu) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](#) for more information.

Note there is no on-line section for this course. Only one in-class session will be held each week.

Contact Information:

- Contact the Instructor in class or via E-mail to delfino@ufl.edu
- By appointment as needed – arrange in advance via email or in class

Class Time and Location:

- Wednesday, 11:45 AM – 12:35 PM (5th Period) in Room 117 Little Hall. First class will be on Aug. 25.

Course Narrative:

- Over 70 percent of the Earth's surface is water-covered, and the oceans hold about 96.5 percent of all Earth's water, leaving relatively little fresh and potentially potable water available for over 7 billion people and the entire terrestrial plant and animal community. Yet, with all of the water on the planet, there are millions of people who have inadequate fresh water for their daily lives and improper or non-existent sanitation facilities to adequately treat their wastes. Added to the usual list of problems is the growing influence of global climate change on water resources and water availability. Climate change as well as various human activities have affected and continue to influence fresh water availability.

Course Details:

- This is a one credit discussion seminar course and will formally meet for one class period on Wednesday each week at 11:45 AM [5th Period] in **Little Hall Room 117**. Alternative time/place may be scheduled in advance.
- Each registrant will be responsible for leading discussions covering their assigned topic(s) related to the (un)common reading book [***When The Rivers Run Dry***]. Class presentations will summarize information included in the reading assignment and include questions directed to class members to initiate discussion. Get the book before class begins. Order on-line if possible but make sure you will get it delivered to you quickly.
- PowerPoint slides can be used to support student presentations.
- Written assignments will be discussed after class begins. Discussion on these assignments will occur in class on September 1.

Course Objectives: To:

- Learn the concepts underlying water resources and the ways in which human development of landscapes and use/abuse of water has created water supply issues in many areas of the planet. Fred Pearce's book is the starting point for the information to be discussed.
- Predict the ways in which changing climate can affect the hydrologic cycle.
- Learn about methods for water and wastewater treatment technology and other topics in environmental engineering and science that are directed toward the water cycle and preserving/improving water quality.

Course Grading:

- Grades will be issued based on: (a) preparation, delivery and discussion quality of the student's classroom presentation; (b) the student's attendance and participation in class discussions when others are making

their presentations; (c) written assignments based on text readings; and (d) a final oral discussion with the instructor to be scheduled prior to the end of classes.

- Letter grades will be based on the following distribution of effort:
 - a) Individual classroom oral presentation (25 pts);
 - b) Attendance each week - required (15 pts);
 - c) Active participation in classroom discussion (15 pts);
 - d) Written [short and/or longer] assignment(s) (35 pts);
 - e) Final oral discussion with Instructor (10 pts).

Letter grade assignments will be according to the number of points earned, using 100 points as the maximum earnable points and the ranges given below:

- A and A- (100 – 90 pts) C-, D+, D (69 – 60 Pts)
 - B+, B (89 – 80 pts) E (< 60 pts).
 - B-, C+, C (79 – 70 pts)
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- **Attendance and Absences.** Attendance in every scheduled weekly class is required since there are limited class meetings during the semester. Unexcused absences will be reflected in the attendance portion of the course grade with each such absence resulting in a 5-pt. grading penalty. After three unexcused absences, no points will be allowed for class attendance. If necessary, with advance notice, an additional written assignment may substitute for a class meeting.
 - Everyone in the class is responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the Instructor in the Syllabus. Absences will count beginning with the second class meeting.
 - In general, acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to participate in class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements for other courses (e.g., field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) can be excused in advance. Other reasons also may be approved but must be requested prior to the scheduled class.
 - Students should discuss with the instructor any optional assignment required to make up the material or activities covered in any class that was missed.

- Students cannot participate in classes unless they are officially registered. The Office of the University Registrar provides the official class rolls to instructors.
- If a student does not attend at least one of the first two class meetings of the course in which they are registered, **and** he or she has not contacted the Honors Program or Instructor to indicate his or her intent to remain in the course, the student may automatically be dropped from the course. If a student has any questions about this, contact the Honors Program office or the Instructor.
- The university recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. After unexcused absences and due warning, professors can prohibit further attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade for unexcused absences.

Course Reading Book:

When The Rivers Run Dry, by Fred Pearce. Beacon Press, 2018. ISBN: 978-0-8070-5489-5. The book should be available from the UF Bookstore or from on-line sources. Plan ahead and order Pearce's book early.

Academic Honesty:

Students at UF commit themselves to uphold the Honor Code, and have accepted the pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code."*

All homework, reports, and papers must represent a student's own individual work unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Plagiarism in writing assignments is not acceptable and violates the Honor Code. Such violations will receive severe grading penalties and will be reported to the Dean of Students as well as the student's College Dean and the Honors Program Director. Students have the responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Full details are available on the Honor Code website: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/resources/shca>

Weekly Assignment:

Students who are **leading discussions** during a given week's class should prepare a reasonable number of presentation slides [MS PowerPoint format]. The presenter should capture the important points in each of the assigned chapters. There isn't enough time in a class session to cover too many details in each chapter and then to have a class discussion. Emphasize key points and concepts. Offer at least one or two discussion questions from each chapter. Include a location map if you can find a simple one from an internet source. One presenter = 40 minutes; two presenters = 20 minutes each.

Do not use fancy background scenes on the slides. These take up too many bytes. Presenters must have their slides completed by Tuesday evening NLT 6 PM before your presentation and then sent to the Instructor as an attached PowerPoint file. **Be sure your system is virus and malware free!** The slide set will then be distributed to the class on Tuesday evening. The slide set should not exceed 3-4 Mb to allow easy movement through the UF E-mail system

Class Schedule:

<u>Week</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>When The Rivers Run Dry Topic</u>	<u>Leader(s)*</u>
1	Aug 25	Introduction	Dr. D.
2	Sep 1	Overview of Book, Intr.	Dr. D.
3	Sep 8	Chs. 1, 2, 3, 4	Battis, Chhu
4	Sep 15	Chs. 5, 6, 7	Edelstein
5	Sep 22	Chs. 8, 9, 10	Hernandez-Gomez
6	Sep 29	Chs. 11, 12, 13, 14	Kavouras, Koschmerl
7	Oct 6	Chs. 15, 16, 17, 18	Li, Morantz
8	Oct 13	Chs. 19, 20, 21, 22	Nenon, Ramesh
9	Oct 20	Chs. 23, 24, 25	Russ
10	Oct 27	Chs. 26, 27, 28	Skena
11	Nov 3	Chs. 29, 30, 31	Sobczak
12	Nov 10 [^]	Chs. 32, 33, 34, 35	White
13	Nov 17 [^]	Chs. 36, 37, 38, 39	Williams
	Nov 24	No Class - Thanksgiving Holiday	Drive Safely
14	Dec 1 [^]	Ch. 40 Water Ethics	Dr. D.
15	Dec 8 [^]	General Course Discussion	Classmates

[^] Individual oral close-out discussions with the instructor will take place between Nov 10 and December 8.

Software Use:

- All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Campus Help Resources:

- Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Recourses are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance:
 - *University Counseling and Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1601, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/ Counseling Services, Groups and Workshops, Outreach and Consultation, Self-Help Library, Training Programs, Community Provider Database.*
- *Career Resource Center, 1st Floor, J. Wayne Reitz Union, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu*

Students with Disabilities Act:

- Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resources Center (352-392-8565) or www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/ by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluations:

- Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Religious Observations:

- Request for excused absences from class to allow participation in religious observations should be made to the instructor as a courtesy in advance of the absence. If a student requesting this absence is scheduled to be leading a discussion on that day, it is the student's responsibility to arrange with another student in the class to switch the dates and topics of their previously established requirements. Please inform the instructor of this "trade" in advance of the day in which it is to occur.

Cell Phone Management:

- Cell phones use is not permitted during the class period. Please silence your phone and keep it in a backpack or purse during the full class period. After the first violation, any subsequent violation will result in you not getting credit for attendance in class for that day.

Version 2: August 23, 2021