



ENVS 103 01E Natural Disasters

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring, 2026

Instructor: Dr. Emmanuella Anang	Office: STC 241
Email: emmanuella.anang@etamu.edu	Hours: Mon, Wed 12pm – 1pm

Class Meets	Mon, Wed and Fri 9 am - 9.50 am
Class Location	Campus: STC Room: 135
Required Text	Abbott, P.A. Natural Disasters 10th ed. or newer 2017 ISBN 9780078022982 McGraw-Hill Companies Inc., New York, NY, USA
Catalog Description	Science of Natural Disasters Causes, impacts and mitigation strategies Why natural disasters occur Environmental, Economic and Societal implications of natural disasters.
Instructional Method	Face-to-face Conducting lectures, using visual presentations, solving math problems and facilitating discussions.
Expectations	Attend <u>all</u> sessions. More than three unexcused absences may result in a drop of one letter grade. Five or more absences may result in being dropped from the course. Actively participate in and complete all assignments and quizzes by the due date. No due date extensions. Successfully pass two mid-term exams and a comprehensive final.
Evaluation	Weekly assignments – 20% Due by Sunday each week.

	Attendance – 10% Attendance will be taken by roll sheet – your signature signifies your attendance 2 Mid-term quizzes – 20% (10% each) 2 Mid-term exams – 20% (10% each) Final Comprehensive Exam – 30%
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COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR

Topical Syllabus

Weeks – Subject to change dependent on class progress

Date	Week	Chapter	Topic	Assessment
01/12	1	1	Introduction to Natural Disasters	Assignment 1
01/19	2	2	Internal Energy Caused Natural Disasters – Plate Tectonics	Assignment 2
01/26	3	3	Earthquakes	Assignment 3
02/02	4	4	Volcanic Eruption	Assignment 4
02/09	5	5	Tsunami	Assignment 5
02/16	6	Quiz 1 and Exam 1	Quiz 1 and Exam 1	Quiz 1 and Exam 1
02/23	7	9	External Energy Caused Natural Disasters – Thunderstorm and Lightning	Assignment 6
03/02	8	9	Tornado	Assignment 7
03/09	9 – Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
03/16	10	11	Hurricanes	Assignment 8
03/23	11	14	Floods	Assignment 9
03/30	12	15	Mass Movement	Assignment 10
04/06	13	Quiz 2 and Exam 2	Quiz 2 and Exam 2	Quiz 2 and Exam 2
04/13	14		Natural Disasters and Human Population	Assignment 12
04/20	15		Risk Assessment	Assignment 12
04/27	16	Class Activity	Class Activity	Class Activity

05/04	17	Final Exam	Final Exam	Final Exam
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Course Requirements and Evaluation Methods:

1. Attendance and punctuality are required and non-negotiable.
2. Homework, quizzes, exams, and project (presentation) are required. Late submissions are not acceptable. Missed homework, quizzes, exam and project are not acceptable. **This course moves very fast and there is not enough time to catch up.**
3. Activities that distract surrounding people are inconsiderate and disrespectful. Activities such as texting, emailing, browsing or using cellular phones are prohibited during Lecture.
4. We encourage student contribution to the overall progress of the group. We encourage interactive participation. It is necessary that students have a professional and ethical behavior through the entire course. Lectures are a group activity, and so it requires social consideration and respect amongst members of the group, teachers and professors.
5. Students are expected to be of their best behavior in class. No walking out of class, putting legs on table, OR chit-chatting while class is ongoing.
6. Penalty enforcement (I reserve the right to adjust your grade for violation of the minimum expectations).
7. Punctuality is important for this class. **Lateness after 5 min will not be tolerated.**
8. Make-up exams will only be given if arrangements are made with the instructor before missing the scheduled exam. A documented excuse will be required. **Otherwise, missing academic work will be counted as zeroes (0) in the overall grade computation.**
9. Research Written Report and Oral Presentation: The guidelines for the Written Report and Oral Presentation are on “D2L”

NOTE: Please email your presentation to the Professor, before your Presentation Day.

Caveats Box

Disabilities — Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Behavior — All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. Students who are disruptive to class activities will be dropped from the class and may face further disciplinary action.

Plagiarism — Plagiarism is a criminal activity. You must cite all sources of information. Unreferenced copying of material, whether parts of sentences, whole sentences, paragraphs, or entire articles can result in a score of zero for your assignment and may result in further disciplinary action.

Early Intervention for First Year Students — Early intervention for freshmen is designed to communicate the University's interest in their success and a willingness to participate fully to help students accomplish their academic objectives. The university through faculty advisors and mentors will assist students who may be experiencing difficulty to focus on improvement and course completion. This process will allow students to be knowledgeable about their academic progress early in the semester and will provide faculty and staff with useful data for assisting students and enhancing retention. Grade reports will be mailed by the end of the sixth week of the semester.