

## CSS 205: Spring 2021 Schedule

Wk	Weekly Reading	Focus	Due Monday (11:59 pm)	Due before Zoom class Thursday (12:59 pm)*
1	Ch 1, 2	Class Orientation Introduction to Soils  <i>Lab 1: Soil Formation</i>		<u>April 1</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 1</li> <li>Orientation Assignment</li> <li>Week 1 Lecture Activity</li> </ul>
2	Ch. 3	Soil Formation  <i>Lab 2: Soil Survey</i>	<u>April 5</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Week 2 Reading Quiz</li> <li>Lab 1</li> </ul>	<u>April 8</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 2</li> <li>Week 2 Lecture Activity</li> <li>Soil Your Undies: Part 1</li> </ul>
3	Ch. 4	Soil Physical Properties  <i>Lab 3: Soil Physical Properties</i>	<u>April 12</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Week 3 Reading Quiz</li> <li>Lab 2</li> </ul>	<u>April 15</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 3</li> <li>Week 3 Lecture Activity</li> </ul>
4	Ch. 5	Soil Water  <i>Lab 4: Soil Water</i>	<u>April 19</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Week 4 Reading Quiz</li> <li>Lab 3</li> </ul>	<u>April 22</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 4</li> <li>Week 4 Lecture Activity</li> </ul>
5	Ch. 6	Soil Water (continued)  <i>Lab 5: Soil Horizons</i> <i>Exam Review on Moodle</i>	<u>April 26</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Week 5 Reading Quiz</li> <li>Lab 4</li> </ul>	<u>April 29</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 5</li> <li>Week 5 Lecture Activity</li> </ul>
6	Ch. 8, 9	Soil Chemistry and Salinity  <i>Lab 6: Soil Chemistry</i>	<u>May 4</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>MIDTERM EXAM</b></li> <li>Lab 5</li> </ul>	<u>May 6</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 6</li> <li>Week 6 Lecture Activity</li> </ul>
7	Ch. 10	Soil Organisms and Ecology  <i>Lab 7: Soil Ecology</i>	<u>May 10</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Week 7 Reading Quiz</li> <li>Lab 6</li> </ul>	<u>May 13</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 7</li> <li>Week 7 Lecture Activity</li> </ul>
8	Ch. 11	The Carbon Cycle and Soil Organic Matter  <i>Lab 8: Soil Organic Matter and Soil Nutrients</i>	<u>May 17</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Week 8 Reading Quiz</li> <li>Lab 7</li> </ul>	<u>May 20</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 8</li> <li>Week 8 Lecture Activity</li> </ul>
9	Ch. 12	Nutrient Cycles and Soil Fertility  <i>Lab 9: Soil Nutrients</i>	<u>May 24</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Week 9 Reading Quiz</li> <li>Lab 8</li> </ul>	<u>May 27</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 9</li> <li>Week 9 Lecture Activity</li> </ul>
10	Ch. 14, 15	Soil Erosion, Pollution and Conservation  <i>Lab 10: Soil Environmental Issues</i>	<u>May 31</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Week 10 Reading Quiz</li> <li>Lab 9</li> </ul>	<u>June 3</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Lab 10</li> <li>Week 10 Lecture Activity</li> <li>Soil Your Undies: Part 2</li> </ul>
Finals			<u>June 8 (Tuesday)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>FINAL EXAM</b> (2:30 – 4:20 pm)</li> </ul>	

## Instructor Information

Hathai Sangsupan (She/her)

sangsuh@linnbenton.edu

Zoom Office Hour: Thursday 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (or by appointment)

## Course Information

Most Lectures: Recorded and posted on Moodle

Required Virtual Class (via Zoom): 1:00 pm – 2:50 pm Thursdays

## Course Description

Soils are the foundation of terrestrial ecosystems and a strong understanding of soil science is important to the success of any undertaking humans do on land. This course covers the ecological role soil plays as a medium for plant and crop growth, the recycling of nutrients, the supply and purification of water, and as a habitat for a diverse population of soil organisms. This course also discusses how human activities affect the sustainability of soil ecosystems.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the functions of soils in natural and managed ecosystems
2. Discuss the physical, chemical and biological properties of the soil
3. Evaluate the impact of human activities on soil and environmental quality
4. Apply soil science concepts to everyday experiences as well as specific fields of study such as agronomy and forest engineering.

## Required Course Materials

- **Elements of Nature and Properties of Soil**, (4<sup>th</sup> Edition), Prentice-Hall, 2018.  
Purchase at the bookstore.

- **Lab Packet**

Mailed to each student

- **Other Lab Materials**

Student responsible for acquiring the following:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Garden trowel or shovel (1)              | • Quart sized mason jar with lid (1)             |
| • Kitchen scale that measures in grams (1) | • Pint sized mason jar or jelly jar with lid (1) |
| • Drinking straw (1)                       | • Ruler that measures in cm (1)                  |
| • Clear 10-oz plastic cups (4)             | • Timer (cellphone works!)                       |
| • White vinegar (160 mL, ~2/3 cup)         | • Scotch tape (just a small piece)               |
| • Camera (cellphone works!)                |  |

**Note: If you have difficulty obtaining these materials, please contact me as soon as possible.**

## Assignments, Exams, and Grading

Grading is based on mastery of the course subject matter. Points towards your final grade will be awarded as follows. Assignments and point totals may change.

Graded Assignments	No. of Possible Points	% of Final Grade	Grading Scheme	
Pre-Labs: 9 labs @ 2 pts each	18	5%	A	90 – 100%
Labs: 9 labs @ 10 pts each (drop lowest)	80	21%	B	80 – 89%
Lecture Activities, Reflections, and Homework (varying pts)	30	8%	C	70 – 79%
8 Reading Quizzes @ 10 pts each (drop lowest)	70	18.5%	D	60 – 69%
1 Midterm	80	21%	F	0 – 59.9%
1 Final Comprehensive Exam	100	27%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>100%</b>		

### Reading Guides and Reading Quizzes

Students are expected to do the reading before the start of each week. This is so that you will have some background knowledge of the material before we cover it in lecture. Reading guides will help you focus on key terms and concepts. They will be posted each week on Moodle. As you do the reading, fill out the guide. You may use the completed reading guide during each reading quiz. You may also use lecture notes for the review questions.

There will be 8 reading quizzes which will have 8 questions based on the information in the text and 2 review questions. Each quiz will be open for you to take on Moodle between 7 am and 11:59 pm each Monday. Once you open the quiz, you will have 15 minutes to complete it.

### In-Class Learning and Activities

CSS205 will be a combination of lecture and active learning. There will be questions and activities in which you will be expected to actively participate. It is important that you watch lectures and attend Zoom classes so you do not miss out on these!

### Exams

The Midterm Exam covers Weeks 1-4. The Final Exam covers Weeks 5-10 and is **comprehensive**. Exams include multiple choice and short answer questions based on lectures, reading, and labs.

### Lab Assignments

This is a lab class. Labs are a critical component of the learning process in all science classes. They provide you with invaluable hands-on learning experiences and challenge you to use critical thinking to make decisions that can affect the outcomes of your labs. The labs in this class are designed to reinforce the learning from the

lectures and reading. Please make sure you watch the lectures and finish the readings before you do the lab so that you understand the lab objectives and maximize your learning!

We will be working on the hands-on component of each lab assignment in lab groups during the virtual Zoom class/lab. For that reason, attendance of the Zoom classes is mandatory. You may **not** submit lab assignments if you did not attend the corresponding Zoom class/lab. Also, you **must attend Zoom class/lab sessions and complete and submit lab assignments for at least 7 of the 10 labs to pass this class**. Given the current challenging online learning environment, there is some room to be flexible for rare emergencies or technical problems when it comes to labs, but *only* if you make sure to communicate your situation to me before the lab or as soon as issues occur.

Pre-lab assignments are worth 2 pts and are to be turned in before Zoom class at 12:59 pm on Thursday. Lab worksheets are worth 10 points each and are to be turned in by 11:59 pm each Monday (see schedule on 1<sup>st</sup> page of syllabus). The lab questions will gauge how well you understood the lab. I will be looking for answers that are well thought out and demonstrate you understand the lab objectives.

### **Make-ups**

All assignments will be available online well ahead of the due date and can be submitted electronically, consequently no late work will be accepted.

Your lowest lab and lowest quiz will be dropped. This is designed to give you some flexibility in case there is a time when you are not able to complete a lab or a quiz.

If you are unable to take the midterm exam on the scheduled day, it is your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible to schedule a make-up time. No make-ups will be given after the exam is returned to the class. There will be no make-up for the final exam.

### **Incomplete Grades**

An Incomplete grade (IN) will only be considered if a student has spoken with me in advance and completed a signed agreement between the student and myself. An IN grade is assigned only if the student has a good reason for making the request, has only a minority of coursework to complete, and has scored a C or better on work that has been submitted.

### **Behavior and Expectations**

Students are most successful when they watch the lectures, complete assignments, ask questions, and participate in class. The more effort that you as the student put in the more that you will get out of this class. My role as an instructor is to support your learning process, so if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or see me during zoom office hours.

### **Attendance**

The class is online with recorded lectures and one weekly virtual class (via Zoom). Students are expected to watch all lectures and the videos linked to the lectures, preferably before the Zoom class/lab on Thursday. Attendance is required for the zoom class as we will be using that time to expand and enrich the material you learn in the lecture with group and lab activities. Students are expected to watch all lectures and complete all lab assignments. It is your responsibility to keep track of upcoming assignments, quizzes, exams, and due dates.

## **Guidelines for Communication**

My primary communication method with you is through your **Linn-Benton email address** and our **Moodle class page**. Check your LBCC email regularly! If you don't, you will miss emails from me regarding assignments, due dates, and exams.

## **Academic Integrity**

This class expects that students conduct individual work. Any cheating, plagiarism, etc., may result in a zero and possible recommendation to the administration for further consequences. You are held accountable to the [Student Code of Conduct](#), which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

Please complete, sign, and submit the student Statement of Academic Integrity (link coming soon!) to confirm that you are aware of and agree to the expectations of the course.

## **Expectations for Respect**

Your instructor will make every attempt to create an environment conducive to learning and one open to free discourse. The college environment is one of exploring ideas, but also in a context of mutual respect for your peers and instructors. If a pattern of disrespect develops the instructor reserves the right to discuss appropriate behavioral expectations with individuals who may not fully understand this responsibility. At no time will a hostile or condescending environment or discussion be permitted.

## **College Policies**

### **LBCC Email and Course Communications**

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email.

### **Disability and Access Statement**

You should meet with your instructor during the first week of class if:

1. You have a documented disability and need accommodations.
2. Your instructor needs to know medical information about you.
3. You need special arrangements in the event of an emergency.

### **Request for Special Needs or Accommodations**

Direct questions about or requests for special needs or accommodations to the LBCC Disability Coordinator, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4789 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Make sign language interpreting or real-time transcribing requests 2-4 weeks in advance. Make all other requests at least 72 hours prior to the event. LBCC will make every effort to honor requests. LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

### **LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination**

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, disability, veteran status, age,

or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws. For further information see Board Policy P1015 in our Board Policies and Administrative Rules. Title II, IX, & Section 504: Scott Rolen, CC-108, 541-917-4425; Lynne Cox, T-107B, 541-917-4806, LBCC, Albany, Oregon. To report: [linnbentonadvocate.symplcity.com/public\\_report](http://linnbentonadvocate.symplcity.com/public_report)

### **Statement of Inclusion**

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

### **Title IX Reporting Policy**

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](#) a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

### **Campus Police/Emergency Resources**

You may review emergency services and resources at the LBCC [Public Safety website](https://www.linnbenton.edu/faculty-and-staff/college-services/public-safety-emergency-planning-ehs/index.php) (<https://www.linnbenton.edu/faculty-and-staff/college-services/public-safety-emergency-planning-ehs/index.php>). Campus Safety can be reached using the 'Code 2' button on any campus phone or by dialing x411 on campus or (541) 917-4440 off campus. Dial 911 for off campus emergencies.

### **Changes to the Syllabus**

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement or through LBCC e-mail.

## **Support Services Available**

### **Learning Center, Writing Center, and English Language Learners Center**

The learning center provides academic support and a comfortable place to study. It is located on the second floor above the library. It also provides free tutoring services for all classes.

### **Library**

The LBCC Library is the main library on campus and offers many helpful resources, including computers and printing.