Stanford | Continuing Studies

Course Code: SCI 51
Title: Climate Change: Our Global Ecology and What You Can Do
Instructor: Marina Oster

Course Summary:

The course will provide an overview of current drivers of climate change, their far-reaching impacts, and powerful examples of ecological conservation and positive change. Topics will include: global ice melt and ocean acidification, and how they affect delicate ecosystems; the impact of overconsumption versus a minimal-waste lifestyle; the food systems that offer a sustainable alternative to factory farming; the eco-village movement; and the dawn of experiential education. By the end of the course, students will come away understanding our impact on global climate systems and empowered to make changes in their daily lives.

Please see course page for full description and additional details.

Grade Options and Requirements:

- No Grade Requested (NGR)
  - This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
  - Score will be determined by student attendance and participation.
- Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)
  - Written work, as assigned by the instructor, will determine a student's grade.

***Please Note**: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.*

Tentative Outline:

Example

Week 1: April 6th

Before class - Reading (selected chapters from *Earth in Mind* by David Orr)

In class - Partner/group discussion of key ideas from assigned reading *OR* Guest Speaker
New Material Presented (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change AR5 Special Report; selected video content from around the world)
10-min. break
New Material Discussion

For next class - New reading assigned (selected chapters from *Earth in Mind* by David Orr)

Note: All remaining classes will have an identical structure.