



Syllabus for AG17 Introduction to Soil Science

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2023

Course ID and Section #: AG17-E55538

Instructor: Robert Landry

Day/Time of required meetings: Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:05 – 3:35pm in room AT-108

Number of proctored exams: 4

Course units: 3.00

Instructor Contact Information

Office location: HU-121

Office hours: M/W 11:30am-1pm in person and online by appointment

Office phone: 707.476.4573

Email address: robert-landry@redwoods.edu (the best way to contact me)

Catalog Description

The study of soil physical, chemical and biological properties. Soil classification, derivation, use, function and management including erosion, moisture retention, structure, cultivation, organic matter and microbiology. Laboratory topics include soil type, classification, soil reaction, soil fertility and physical properties of soil. Laboratory required.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Evaluate parent rocks and other soil forming processes influences on local and global soils.
2. Discuss and understand the importance of essential plant nutrients.
3. Demonstrate and determine soil physical properties.
4. Analyze a soil's water holding capacity, water available to the plant, properties, and movement of water in soil.

Recommended preparation: ENGL1A - College Composition advised

Educational Accessibility & Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, bipolar disorder, and ADHD
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- A learning disability (e.g., dyslexia, reading comprehension), intellectual disability, autism, or acquired brain injury
- Vision, hearing, or mobility challenges

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, tutoring, counseling and advising, alternate formats of materials (e.g., audio books, E-texts), assistive technology, on-campus transportation, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Disability Services and Programs for Students \(DSPS\)](#). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact DSPS for a consultation: dsps@redwoods.edu, 707-476-4280, Student Services Building, 1st floor.

Student Commitment: Students should expect to spend roughly nine hours per week on the course. This will consist of attending lectures, completing assigned readings, participating in lab activities, and submitting assignments on time.

Computer Skills:

This course requires basic computer skills. Before beginning, make sure you can:

- navigate the course Learning Management System (Canvas) and websites as needed,
- receive and respond to your CR email,
- upload and download files using Canvas, and
- use a word processor (such as Microsoft Word or Pages).

Technology Requirements: You need to have reliable access to the internet for the duration of the course. Anticipate problems with your computer and internet access (including power outages) by not waiting until the last minute to submit assignments. It is your responsibility to meet the class deadlines.

Using Portable Devices to access the Canvas course: If you do decide to use your portable device for some of your class work, use the free Canvas app (called “Canvas Students”) available in iTunes (for iOS) and the Google Play Store (for Android). Do not try to connect to Canvas using a web browser on a portable device. Your experience with Canvas will be a lot better using the app.

Canvas Support Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/>

Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course \(instructure.com\)](https://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/)

Exams: Exams will take place in person during the regular scheduled class time unless otherwise specified by your instructor.

Recommended Textbook: *Elements of the Nature and Properties of Soil*, 4th edition by Brady and Weil. ISBN: 9780133254594. Older editions are fine. All other course materials will be provided by your instructor.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Final course grade will be calculated as follows:

Assignment	Points
Quizzes: 25 points each	150
Exams: 50 points each	200
Lab Question Sets: 20 points each	120
Lab Participation: 20 points each	160
Research Write-Ups: 25 points each	50
Soil Research Symposiums: 35 points each	70
Total:	750

AG17 Introduction to Soil Science Course Schedule

*SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Week	Dates	Lecture/Lab topic	Reading	Quizzes/Exams
1	8/21 8/23	<i>Soils and their significance</i>		
2	8/28 8/30	<i>Soil Formation and Classification</i>	Ch. 2,3	
3	9/4 9/6	Labor Day Holiday – No class Mon <i>Soil Physical Properties</i>		Quiz 1
4	9/11 9/13	<i>Soil Physical Properties, cont.</i>	Ch. 4	Quiz 2
5	9/18 9/20	<i>Field Trip to Shively Farm</i> Review for unit exam		
6	9/25 9/27	Exam 1 Soil Research Symposium #1		Exam 1
7	10/2 10/4	<i>Soil Colloids</i>	Ch. 8	
8	10/9 10/11	<i>Soil Chemistry</i>	Ch. 9	Quiz 3
9	10/16 10/18	<i>Soil and Water</i>	Ch. 5	Quiz 4
10	10/23 10/25	Review for unit exam Exam 2		Exam 2
11	10/30 11/1	<i>Soil Organic Matter</i>	Ch. 10	Quiz 5
12	11/6 11/8	<i>Soil Ecology</i>	Ch. 11	Quiz 6
13	11/13 11/15	Review for unit exam Exam 3		Exam 3
	11/20 11/22	Fall Holiday Week – No Classes		
14	11/27 11/29	<i>Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition</i>	Ch. 12	
15	12/4 12/6	Soil Research Symposium #2 Review for final exam		Quiz 7
16		Final Exam – date/time tba		Final Exam

Student Support

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2023 Dates

- August 18th: Last day to register for classes (day before the first class meeting)
- August 19th: Classes begin
- August 25th: Last day to add a class
- September 1st: Last day to drop without a “W” and receive a refund
- September 4th: Labor Day Holiday (All Campuses Closed)
- September 5th: Census Date (20% of class)
- October 26th: Last day to petition to graduate
- October 27th: Last day for student initiated withdrawal (62.5% of class)
- October 27th: Last day for faculty initiated withdrawal (62.5% of class)
- November 11th: Veterans Day (All Campuses Closed)
- November 20th-25th: Thanksgiving break (no classes)
- November 22nd-24th: No Classes, all campuses closed
- December 9th-15th: Final Examinations
- December 15th: Last day to file for P/NP option
- December 15th: Semester Ends
- December 22nd: Grades due
- January 5th: Grades available

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student’s status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor’s directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Canvas Information

Canvas Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

Log into Canvas at [My CR Portal](#)

For help logging in to Canvas, visit [My CR Portal](#).

For help with Canvas once you're logged in, click on the Help icon on the left menu. For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course \(instructure.com\)](#)

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Emergency procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones.

Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor <https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu> and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [CR Police Department- Public Safety](#). It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergencies within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.
5. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)
- [Online Tutoring Resources](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)
- [Academic Support Center](#) – offers tutoring and test proctoring for CR students.
- [Student Tech Help](#) – provides students with assistance around a variety of tech problems.

Special programs are also available for eligible students include:

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- [CalWORKS](#) – assists student parents with children under the age of 18, who are receiving cash assistance (TANF), to become self-sufficient.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821.