

**XIDS 2002: There is No Planet B**

Meeting Time: T/R 9:30-10:45

Meeting Location: Nursing 112

Dr. Douglas Stuart

Chemistry

dstuart at westga.edu; 678-839-6022

TLC 2-125

Office Hours: M,W,F 10:00 am-noon, and by appointment

**Course Description:**

XIDS 2002 is a course designed to help students get excited about learning at West Georgia. In addition, it is our hope that this course helps you succeed academically as well as personally and socially during this semester and beyond. The fundamental focus of the class is to provide an understanding of the basic structure of critical thinking and of academic disciplines in order to increase learning in the university classroom. Students are required to attend class and to interact with their instructors and classmates. While students must take responsibility for their own learning, the course attempts to support and enhance that responsibility by making the class a learning community within the University.

**Course Learning Objectives:**

After completing this course, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Explain the concept of sustainability, and demonstrate the importance of sustainable practices for human society
2. Apply scientific methods of thinking and problem-solving to real-world issues
3. Demonstrate familiarity with the resources supporting their learning at UWG
4. Support their peers effectively as a community of learners.
5. Adapt written and oral communication to specific rhetorical purposes and audiences.
6. Recognize and begin to implement the skills necessary to become life-long, active learners through the exploration of an academic topic that focuses on a contemporary and/or enduring topic, question, or problem.
7. Identify, evaluate, and use information, language, or technology appropriate to a specific purpose.

**Required Texts:**

Wolf Essentials: [https://issuu.com/thenavigatoruwg/docs/the\\_wolf\\_essentials\\_2019](https://issuu.com/thenavigatoruwg/docs/the_wolf_essentials_2019)

## Grading:

Your grade in this course will be based on the following components, each of which will count for one-quarter of your total score:

1. **Attendance/Participation** - It is important that you attend meetings punctually and prepared to engage in the day's materials. You may miss one class meeting without penalty. In the absence of extreme, documented circumstances additional absences will result in a grade penalty. Additionally, there will be regular small-group meetings with one of your instructors; you must sign up and attend the meeting of your choice.
2. **Homework** - Most assignments will be posted and submitted *via* the CourseDen page for the course; it is your responsibility to log in regularly and complete all assignments. Any work that to be turned in at class meetings is due at the beginning of class, late assignments will not be accepted for credit.
3. **Final Project** - As part of this course, you will be learning how to think like a scientist, and you will be asked to *do* some science as well! Details of the project will be released as the semester progresses.
4. **XIDS Lab** – These are a series of activities designed for FYS (first year seminar) and LC (learning community) students to help get you acclimated to college and the community. The First-Year Seminar Lab will be posted in CourseDen within a course called “XIDS 2002 Lab”. Be sure to complete the three assignments in the Lab to get your full 15% credit. There are four things you need to do:
  1. Library (October 22<sup>nd</sup>)
  2. Writing Center
  3. Career Services
  4. Center for Academic Success

## Course Policies:

Please visit <https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/> for University resources and general policies relevant to this course.

## What to Expect:

The purpose of this course is to help you build confidence as a community of learners as you explore and develop a stronger understanding of both scientific thinking and the importance of sustainable practices for society. Class meetings will be a blend of small-group exercises, class discussions, and guest lectures. Many homework assignments will be either pre-work or post-work based on your in-class activities. It will be important to stay on top of guidelines and deadlines announced in class and posted on CourseDen. Both professors are here to help support your success in this course and, more broadly, at UWG; please contact either one of us when you have questions or concerns related to the course or to your college experience.

### Tentative Time Table:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	Introduction
2	Systems Thinking
3	Scientific Literacy
4	Data Visualization
5	Time and Rates of Natural Processes
6	Sustainability and Energy
7	Mining, Pollution, and Society
8	Green Chemistry
9	Guest Speaker: Ethics of Eating, Part I
10	Guest Speaker: Ethics of Eating, Part II
11	Mid-Semester Summary / Project Introduction
12	Sustainability and Climate
13	Discussion Day
14	Guest Speaker: Ethics of Eating, Part III
15	THANKSGIVING BREAK
16	Course Summary / Projects

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact Accessibility Services. Center for Academic Success: The Center for Academic Success provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or [cas@westga.edu](mailto:cas@westga.edu) University Writing Center: The University Writing Center assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or [writing@westga.edu](mailto:writing@westga.edu)

### HONOR CODE

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing. The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course.

Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG. Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the Student Handbook.

#### UWG EMAIL POLICY

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to check his or her email.

#### CREDIT HOUR POLICY

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

#### HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance:  
[http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional\\_information](http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information)

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: <https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php>