

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## PSY 324: Environmental Psychology

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 10 - People/Environment

The scientific study of the relationship between humans and their social and physical environment from a psychological perspective and other related fields. Topics include: environmental perception and cognition, crowding, noise, privacy, urban environments, the psychology of sustainability and designing more habitable environments. MnTC Goal 10.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 06/01/1995 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. History and focus of environmental psychology
2. Scientific method, research and theory
3. Environmental perception and cognition
4. Environmental attitudes and appraisal
5. Personal space and territoriality
6. Crowding and overpopulation
7. Privacy
8. Home/residential Environments
9. Urban Environments
10. Work Environments
11. Noise
12. Weather and climate issues
13. Natural and technological disasters
14. Environmental risk perception
15. Sustainability issues
16. Environmental problems and solutions
17. Designing more habitable environments

#### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. To develop a sensitivity and understanding of environmental issues and problems as they relate to human behavior in a variety of settings and from a variety of related disciplines,
2. To make students aware of the major topics in environmental psychology and related fields.
3. To develop a personal understanding of how the environment has affected and continues to affect them as individuals,
4. To develop an understanding of how they personally impact the environment and possible ways to make their environment more sustainable and habitable,
5. Help students understand how the knowledge gained from this course can be used in improving their current and future environments,

#### **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

##### Goal 10 - People/Environment

1. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
5. Propose and assess alternative solutions to environmental problems.
6. Articulate and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues.

#### **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

#### **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted