

**HAROLD WASHINGTON COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS – COLLEGE CREDIT COURSE**

1. **TITLE, NUMBER, AND CLASSIFICATION:** Name of Course Current Public Issues in Physical Science
Department Name Physical Science
Number Code 076
Course Number: 0107

2. **COURSE TERM:** 16 Week Semester

3. **CREDIT AND CONTACT HOURS:**

(i) credit hours: 3 (ii) contact hours per week: 3 (iii) types of activities
x Lecture/Discussion
Lab
Clinical/Work Experience
Other

4. **PREREQUISITES** - if none check here ; otherwise describe below:

Eligibility for English 101

5. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION** - write below, as in current college catalog
Interdisciplinary approach to physical sciences; current public issues serve as framework for course that covers earth sciences (conservation, pollution, space exploration) as well as other branches of science and social and humanistic aspects; integrates significant aspects of physical science with students other studies as well as daily living. Writing assignments, as appropriate to the discipline, are part of the course.

6. **STUDENTS FOR WHOM THE COURSE IS INTENDED**

- a) Students who need a non-laboratory physical science course for degree or transfer.
- b) Students interested in environmental and other scientific issues.

7. **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Description and use of the scientific method
- Distinguishing factual information from opinion
- Application of scientific issues into daily lives
- Research into complex issues with both scientific and sociological components
- Content objectives will vary by instructor due to the “Current Issues” emphasis of the course

8. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify the use of the scientific method in contemporary situations
- Identify misapplications of the scientific method
- Recognize how to distinguish factual information from opinion
- Describe how scientific issues affect daily life
- Use available resources to do research into complex issues with both scientific and sociological components
- Content outcomes will vary by instructor due to the “Current Issues” emphasis of the course

9. TOPICAL COURSE OUTLINE

- The scientific method
- Making scientific measurements
- Understanding graphical information
- Content varies by instructor

10. TEXTS AND MATERIALS USED

Varies by instructor due to the “Current Issues” emphasis of the course

11. AMOUNT OF WRITING REQUIRED (suggested)

Essay questions on in-class assignments, exams, quizzes, and journals

12. METHODS OF EVALUATION: (Direct and indirect)

Exams, quizzes, and writing assignments

13. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE AND FILE DATE:

DEPARTMENT AND CAMPUS

**Physical Science Department
Harold Washington College**