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# Environmental Soil Physics (Soils 503)

## Syllabus Fall 2011

Markus Flury

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- **Course:**

Soils 503 Environmental Soil Physics

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10.10–11.00 am, Johnson 204

- **Course Website:**

<http://akasha.wsu.edu> (click on teaching link)

- **Instructor:**

Dr. Markus Flury

e-mail: [flury@wsu.edu](mailto:flury@wsu.edu); phone: 253-445-4522

www: <http://akasha.wsu.edu>

- **Teaching Assistant:**

Surachet Aramrak

e-mail: [surachet.aramrak@email.wsu.edu](mailto:surachet.aramrak@email.wsu.edu)

Office: Johnson Hall 243

- **Office Hours:**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10.10–11.00 am or by appointment

- **Course Format and Delivery:**

Course is offered in a lecture format (3 lectures) and delivered via AMS/WECN Videoconferencing to off-campus locations (Puyallup, Prosser, Tricities, Mt. Vernon). Dial-up Number: 5706406

- **Course Objectives:**

1. To provide an understanding of the fundamental physical properties of soils.
2. To provide a quantitative discussion of static and dynamic physical processes in soils.
3. To apply soil physical concepts to contemporary problems in soil and water resources management.

- **Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Identify key physical components and processes occurring in soils.
2. Quantify physical processes in soils.
3. Demonstrate proficiency with accuracy and precision of soil physical calculations.
4. Integrate scientific knowledge with the ability to communicate that knowledge effectively to others.
5. Understand the relevance of soil physical processes for agriculture, the environment, and humans.

- **Textbook and Reading Assignments:**

Required textbook: Jury, W.A. and R. Horton, 2004. *Soil Physics*, Sixth edition, John Wiley and Sons, Hoboken, New Jersey.

You are responsible for the reading assignments in the text, which are listed on the class schedule.

- **Exams:**

There will be three exams. Exams will cover lectures and exercises. Exams are open books (lecture notes and course textbook allowed to use), and just cover the material from the last exam, but general knowledge of the previously covered material is expected in the second exam. Calculator or Laptop Computer is allowed and necessary. You will need to bring your own paper to write on.

- **Homework:**

Homework will be assigned in class and is due one week after assignment. Late homework will have 10% penalty for each day after homework is due.

- **Grading:**

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Final Exam	30%
Homework	30%

- **Grading Scale:**

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A- to A	86-100	B- to B+	76-86
C- to C+	66-76	D to D+	59-66
F	< 59		

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- **Students with Disabilities:**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit the Disability Resource Center (DRC). All accommodations MUST be approved through the DRC (Washington Building, Room 217). Please stop by or call 509-335-3417 to make an appointment with a disability specialist.

- **Plagiarism:**

There are two circumstances that could give rise to a charge of plagiarism:  
(taken from <http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/plagiarism>, visit this site for more details)

1. **Intentional Plagiarism (Cheating):** Intentional plagiarism is where one knowingly appropriates the work of others and passes it off as their own. This can include:
  - copying entire documents and presenting them as your own;
  - cutting and pasting from the work of others without properly citing the authors;
  - stringing together the quotes and ideas of others without connecting their work to your own original work;
  - asserting ideas without acknowledging their sources, reproducing sentences written verbatim by others without properly quoting and attributing the work to them.
2. **Unintentional Plagiarism (Misuse of Sources):** Unintentional plagiarism, or the misuse of sources, is the accidental appropriation of the ideas and materials of others due to a lack of understanding of the conventions of citation and documentation. Misuse of sources might include a lack of understanding of paraphrasing, not being clear about the parameters of common knowledge, and/or the statute of limitations on the attribution of ideas. Since rules of attribution are culturally determined, much of unintentional plagiarism could also be the result of writers not understanding the sanctity with which American academics endow the concept of idea ownership.

Students enrolled in all Washington State University courses are expected to uphold standards of academic integrity and are subject to WSU's rules governing plagiarism. Academic integrity will be

strongly enforced in this course. If you commit the first type of plagiarism on any assignment, you will be given an *F* for the course, and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. If you commit the second type of plagiarism, you may receive a zero grade for this particular assignment, or your instructor may ask you to rewrite the assignment.

I encourage you to work with classmates on assignments. However, each student must turn in original work. No copying will be accepted. Students who violate WSU's Policy on Academic Integrity will receive an *F* as a final grade in this course.

- **WSU Safety Statements:**

WSU safety and emergency information is available at:

- <http://safetyplan.wsu.edu>
- <http://alert.wsu.edu>
- <http://oem.wsu.edu/emergencies>

The instructor will discuss safety related issues in the first class, including escape routes and procedures. In case of reporting an emergency, here a list of important phone numbers:

- POLICE/FIRE SERVICES/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES—DIAL 911
- WSU POLICE NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER—335-8548
- CITY OF PULLMAN FIRE/EMS NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER—332-8172
- CRISIS LINE FOR CRISIS INTERVENTION COUNSELING—334-1133
- STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS/URGENT CARE—335-3575 (Available 9 AM-5 PM M-F and 10 AM-2 PM Sat. Urgent and Emergency Care available after hours)
- FACILITY EMERGENCIES—335-9000

Bring this syllabus to class each time, so you have the phone numbers at hand.