

**BIS 491**  
**Recycling: Ethics, Opportunities and Realities**

**When:** Winter 5 Credits  
**Location:** UW1 010  
**Instructor:** Chuck Henry email: [clh@u.washington.edu](mailto:clh@u.washington.edu)  
**Web site:** <http://faculty.washington.edu/clh/recycle.html>

**Description:** This course is an introduction to recycling as a current and future way of life in terms of waste management. It is designed to give an understanding of how we got to where we are today in our management of wastes, attitudes and perceptions of waste management and recycling, what the current and future opportunities may be, and the true costs of recycling. You will be required to write and submit field trip reports indicating your observations and interpretations of them with regard to recycling ethics, opportunities and realities. You will also be required to prepare a webpage on any of a number of aspects of recycling or product life cycle analysis. Students will present their website during the last 2 weeks of classes. A field trip fee (\$35) is required of all persons registered for the course.

**Assignments:** Students will be required to do weekly reading and written assignments. All communication and assignments will be through the internet. Each student will be required to prepare a website about recycling, and make a 15 minute presentation to class.

**Text:** *None!* Reading assignments will be given by an assortment of weblinks and on-line electronic reserved articles.

**Student Eligibility:** This class is open to all students, and does not require any prerequisites – not even a “recycling ethic”!

**Grade calculation**

10% Weekly assignments  
30% Field trip write-ups  
30% Website presentation  
30% Final

**Schedule:**

Week	Friday lecture	Friday field trip	Readings
Wk 1 Jan 7	<a href="#">Intro to the course and waste management</a>	UWB recycling and walk	<a href="#">Solid Waste in Washington State, 12th Annual Status Report</a> (Exec summary & Ch 1) or the <a href="#">11th Annual</a>
Wk 2 Jan 14	<a href="#">Characterization of wastes; Legislation: Opportunities for recycling</a>	<a href="#">UW Seattle recycling field trip</a>	<a href="#">RCRA Subtitle D</a> , read page and download "RCRA Orientation Manual" from this page and read; RCW 70.95 <a href="#">ESHB 1671 (Waste Not WA Act)</a>
Wk 3 Jan 21	Current approaches; Programs and attitudes; Social/political/economic issues	<a href="#">Rabanco Recycling Center field trip</a>	<a href="#">Facing America's Wastes; Mining Urban Wastes: The Potential for Recycling</a> (excerpt)
Wk 4 Jan 28	Society and environmental/recycling ethics; Environmental sustainability	Total Reclaim field trip	<a href="#">Trashformations: Recycled Materials in Contemporary American Art &amp; Design</a> . (Excerpt)
Wk 5 Feb 4	Recycling for treatment!	Jefferson-Smurfit paper recycling field trip	<a href="#">New York Time Magazine June 30, 1996</a> , and Seattle PI Focus August 4 1996; Discarding the Throwaway Society (excerpt)
Wk 6 Feb 11	Recycling in sustainable building	ReStore Field trip	Beyond Recycling; a Re-User's Guide: 336 Practical Tips Save Money and Protect the Environment (excerpt)
Wk 7 Feb 18	Organic residuals and water recycling	GroCo Field trip	<a href="#">Technical Information of Compost</a> (excerpt); <a href="#">Biosolids Position Paper</a> (excerpt)
Wk 8 Feb 25	Recycling and Life Cycle Assessment	<a href="#">Biosolids recycling</a>	<a href="#">"The Life Cycle of a Hamburger"</a>
Wk 9 Mar 4	Student presentations	Student presentations	Review of presentations
Wk10 Mar 11	Discussion of field trips	Class review and discussion	Review of presentations

**Academic Honesty**

As UW Bothell students, you are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic conduct. In this class, you should be particularly aware that instances of cheating on exams or plagiarism in writing will be dealt with very seriously. A separate, more detailed handout on academic honesty will be provided to you on the first day of class. You are responsible for reading it thoroughly and understanding its contents.

All work on the exams and papers should be strictly your own and without the aid of any materials not specifically allowed. Plagiarism is defined in the UW Bothell catalog as follows (I have placed a section in bold and underlined it for emphasis):

“Plagiarism is the use of the creations, ideas or words of someone else without formally acknowledging the author or source through appropriate use of quotation marks, references, and the like. Plagiarizing is stealing someone’s work and presenting it as one’s own original work or thought. Student work in which plagiarism occurs will not ordinarily be accepted as satisfactory by the instructor, and may lead to disciplinary action against the student submitting it. **Any student who is uncertain whether his or her use of the work of others constitutes plagiarism should consult the course instructor for guidance before formally submitting the course work involved.**”