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Environmental Science: Toward A Sustainable Future (11th Edition)



Synopsis

By emphasizing the memorable themes of science, sustainability and stewardship, the Eleventh Edition of this popular textbook helps you understand the science behind environmental issues and what you can do to build a more sustainable future. This thorough revision features updated content, graphics, and photos, plus the addition of new co-author Dorothy Boorse.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is one of the most readable environmental texts I've seen. It is very comprehensive and the coverage of the newest scientific results in the science of resource conservation is simply excellent. The content is oriented around a group of themes and applied to the concept of ecosystems and their management. It is almost as if the author has taken the first halting steps toward a unified environmental theory. Two negative points though. Coverage of forest resources is a little thin, and like most textbooks, the price is way too high.

Dr. Wright's text has really become a classic of the environmental science field for good reason: it elucidates the basic principles of environmental science with depth and readability. This tome is not in its 10th edition because it lacks merit. On the contrary, this text presents the relevant topics in a more organized and rigorous manner than any other on the shelf. Students gain a fundamental grounding in the topics and issues of this emerging field, no mean task considering their great breadth. The reviewers who have rated this book poorly have done so largely based on personal

political doctrine. These people have missed the point. If Dr. Wright (or any other scientist) expresses distaste for the current administration's stance on environmental issues, it is precisely because this administration has ignored and censored valid science in furthering their political agenda. Dr. Wright is merely advocating that the existing science be examined fairly and openly so that we can deal with pressing environmental issues like global climate change in the best possible manner. Bottom line: a great introduction to environmental science, but not pleasant reading for members of the flat earth society.

This is certainly one of the most well-written upper level environmental science books I've come across. The written narrative is loaded with important information, concepts, and vocabulary, but is written in a way that is still accessible to the honors/AP level environmental science student. A great deal of data is presented in the book to reinforce the ideas presented. Even better, many of the graphs and other diagrams used offer a different angle than you see in most other environmental science texts. The authors even have a few chapters covering issues generally not given much space in other texts. For example, an entire chapter covering pest management. This textbook is very much deserving to be looked at in the same light as the much-adopted Miller text.

This book is very short on substance and backing up statements with actual facts or references to studies. There are also glaring errors and it is very obvious that the authors do not have a strong background in physical science (geology, chemistry, physics, etc.). I also find it very biased, politically, which is a subject that has no place in a true science text book. Even though I may agree with many of the book's views, a science text book is not the forum for politics, unless the book is sold for a non-science environmental policy class. I don't care if Bush or Obama did something-present the facts in a scientific way, not a political way. The author should try to use dates of laws and factual data on the effectiveness of such policies instead of glowing criticism or praise for a particular politician. After all, a true scientific text book is supposed to present the data and facts and let the educated reader develop their own opinion based on data! The book also lacks expected chapter summary reviews of major points, important terms, and concepts and instead includes strange "Sound Science" review sections that are more opinion than concept or fact and severely lack in a review of the important chapter concepts and terms. For example, have any of you seen a science textbook chapter summary use the words: "outstanding science", "masterful assessment", "excellent analysis"? Really? This is how the authors summarized Chapter 18 in their Sound Science section. Once again, science is supposed to be objective not colorfully subjective.

This book is a poor excuse for a science textbook, but may be better for an environmental policy class. If using this book for your classes, please remind your science students to keep an open mind and to use their training as science students to evaluate what they are told. Remind them to be as unbiased as possible and keep in mind, that in science, discussion and differences in opinion are the cornerstone to advancing the true science (use the principles of the Scientific Method). If this is not a required textbook for a class, stay away, if you are stuck with it, keep an open mind and try not to laugh or sleep when reading its too wordy rants. There are better Environmental Science Books out there that do a much better job of presenting the true science in a factual way.

I have been using this book for an online environmental science class for six years and for in-person classes before that. The students find it to be very readable and engaging. I've reviewed many other books and found that they never measure up to this textbook. As another evaluator noted, it's a great resource. I also teach science to environmental lawyers, who can use this book for a quick review of a topic.

It was not what we thought was ordered. My son needed Environmental Science Book for a class here in the United States. On the Outside of the book it said not to go out of India. the pages are not the same size paper, as well as not color pictures and the chapters are not in any order. I want this taken care of as soon as possible. Please

Not particularly well-written. Gets the job done but I didn't enjoy reading it like I normally enjoy textbooks. It should be more pleasant to read given that the information is not really advanced or technical.

Arrived in very good condition and faster than expected. Book is a good introduction to environmental studies and gives a good over-view of the ecology and the study of environmental issues. It outlines the concerns of the present with our over-usage of resources, our throw-away society, and the growing problems with pollution. It also covers some of the work being done to find other ways of managing our needs and balancing our demands with the needs of the planet.

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