Goal: the purpose of this lesson is to engage students in dealing with environmental issues and to develop an awareness of health issues that might negatively or positively impact nursing practice and the population they serve. They will also address issues affecting various populations and their respective roles as community health nurses.

Learning Outcomes/Objectives:
At the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Analyze the specific roles of the community health nurse with respect to environmental health issues such as climate changes at the individual, family, and population levels.
- Identify secondary and tertiary prevention measures for individuals or populations affected by environmental health problems, climate changes and identify the role of the community of the community health nurse in their implementation.
- Discuss elements of the natural, built, and social environments that affect populations.

Activities:
The Learners will choose one of the assignments below and post their answers or 'editorial' in this forum. They will need to comment on at least two of their classmates' postings.

1. Select an article from the mass media (newspaper) that deals with an “environmental/climate change” issue. Analyze and critique the article by answering the following questions:
   - What are the characteristics of the community involved?
   - What appears to be the sources of the problem?
   - What evidence is provided in the article to substantiate the cause?
   - Does the news coverage describe health effects?
   - What population is at risk?
   - Does the coverage provide adequate information for consumers to understand the problem and seek any needed assistance?
   - How would you improve this article for better public awareness?

2. Identify an environmental health problem in your community. Familiarize yourself about this problem by interviewing or talking with experts in the area, reading recent literature and research reports, and searching the Internet for information about the problem.

3. Contact their Senator or Congressperson who has been involved in legislation related to the problem and learn what he or she plans to do about it.

4. Summarize what you have learned and present it in writing as a letter to the editor of your local newspaper. Share the letter in the Discussion Forum.

This course addresses the following MDC learning outcomes:

- Learning Outcome #:3
  Solve problems to locate, evaluate, and apply information.
Learning Outcome #:5
Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures, including global and historical perspectives.

Learning Outcome #:6
Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities.

Course Competencies:
Competency 1:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to describe the historical, theoretical development, current trends and challenges related to community health nursing by:

a. tracing the history of community health nursing.
b. defining the role of the nurse in the community.
c. identifying evidence based practice as it relates to community health nursing.

Competency 2:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to analyze the relationships among theory, evidence-based practice, and education as they relate to community health nursing in a global community by:

a. relating public health concepts to practice and delivery of healthcare in the community.
b. examining epidemiological concepts as they relate to global health.
c. justifying the nurse’s role as an educator, counselor, advocate and change agent in the community.

Competency 3:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to examine the effects of ethnicity and culture on the science and practice of community health nursing.

a. discussing the impact of ethnicity and culture to gain access to healthcare in the community.
b. explaining the concept of health care disparity.
c. utilizing culturally competent documentation techniques in delivering healthcare in the community.

Competency 4:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to explore concepts of community assessment, program planning, community education, and development as they relate to community health promotion and empowerment by:

a. examining concepts of community assessment.
b. identifying resources in the community that are culturally sensitive.
c. developing a proposal or a program designed to promote health of selected groups in the community.
d. negotiating with community leaders to empower selected groups in the community.

Competency 5:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to evaluate health promotion and primary prevention programs for varied cultures, utilizing the nursing process and a holistic approach by:

a. identify existing health promotion programs within a selected community.
b. examining the effectiveness of existing programs in meeting the identified needs of the population.
c. identity the health objectives in Healthy People 2020.
Supportive Reading

1) David Roberts - Why climate change doesn’t spark moral outrage, and how it could

2) Bill McKibben -
Global Warming's Terrifying New Math (this is 9 pages – however if you want only a summary of this, you can read the two page summary in Orion Magazine. Follow the link for Orion)

Three simple numbers that add up to global catastrophe - and that make clear who the real enemy is

OR -

3) David Orr – (pdf – page 20 of pdf - in the print booklet it is page 36)
Lessons from Charley, Frances, Ivan, Jeanne, Katrina, Rita, and Wilma – Environment, Politics, and Global Destabilization
Long Tails and Ethics: Thinking about the Unthinkable
http://www.fgcu.edu/CESE/images/This_Sense_of_Awe_and_Wonder_without_Homero_Aridjis.pdf

4) Erik Bojansky -
Lost in a rising sea
(This is a great overview of South Florida and sea level rise – lots of great quotes, and summarizes how the county is responding, thinking)


David Roberts- (attached as word document) Optional
Discount rates: a boring thing you should know about
http://grist.org/article/discount-rates-a-boring-thing-you-should-know-about-with-otters/