

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: GEOG-100: Environment and Sustainability

CLASS SECTION: B02

TERM: Fall, 2023

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Blended

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Stephanie Kirkland-Kuisma

EMAIL: kirklandkuismas@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Fisher 342B

HOURS: Tuesdays 1 - 2 p.m. and Zoom (online) by appointment

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the impact of human activity on ecological systems. Topics include: ecosystem structure and function, human population change, resource management, and pollution.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ecological systems and the impact of human activity on those systems.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of key environmental issues.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of courses of action which address environmental concerns.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

There is no textbook assigned for this course but there will be extensive course notes provided on the course D2L site.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

IMPORTANT:

- *ITALICIZED* will be remote (completed at home)
- **BOLD** will be in-class on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-7:30.

WEEK OF:	TOPIC	ACTIVITY
Sept 5	Course Introduction	<i>Historic Environmental Event</i>
Sept 11	<i>Environmental History</i>	Lab 1: Coordinates
Sept 18	<i>BC Bioregions</i>	Lab 2: Tree ID
Sept 25	<i>BC Bioregions</i>	Lab 3: Forests - GIS
October 2	Sustainable Development Goals	<i>Lab 4: Global Hunger</i>
October 9	Test #1	
October 16	Fossil Fuels	<i>Lab 5: Ecological Footprints</i>
October 23	Renewable Fuels	<i>Lab 6: Renewable Fuels</i>
October 30	Freshwater	<i>Lab 7: Blueberry First Nation</i>
November 6	Test #2	
November 13	<i>Forestry</i>	Lab 8: Old Growth Deferrals
November 20	<i>Fisheries</i>	Lab 9: Pacific Salmon
November 27	Climate Change	<i>Lab 10: Climate Change Initiatives</i>
December 4	<i>Checklists & Quizzes</i>	Plot Study Due

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Lab Assignments	20%
Historic Environmental Event	5%
Test #1	20%
Test #2	20%
Test #3	20%
Plot Study	15%
	TOTAL
	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

There are a number of components to this course and, as a blended night-class, it will be important to pay attention to the class schedule.

Class Time: There will be two hours of class per week, on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-7:30pm. That time will be used for in-class lecture when the weekly topic requires close instruction and, alternately, will be used for in-class lab instruction when the activity requires supplies and supervision.

Lectures: Each weekly lecture will be provided in written format online for you to read and use for studying purposes. These lectures will be supplemented with pictures and graphs so that concepts are easy to grasp. For some lecture content, it is beneficial to be together and, on those in-class lecture days, the white-board will be used for diagrams and explanations.

Labs: There are ten labs in the course. Each lab contains exercises to familiarize students with environmental issues, government and non-profit web sites, and the tools of geographic analysis. Most lab exercises, due to their use of Internet information, can be done remotely but for those labs that require supplies and supervision, we will meet in class. Labs will have assigned due dates and it is expected that each student submits their own work – either online or in person.

Plot Study: You will choose a place that is representative of the Greater Victoria region and will visit it frequently throughout the term to make observations, collect images, and learn about its ecosystem components. You'll also research the human history of your plot and the development protections or plans for it. At the end of term, you will create a multi-sensory presentation of your plot that will introduce its unique characteristics.

Tests: There will be three theory tests this term, the first one on Tuesday, **October 10th** and the second on Tuesday, **November 7th**, and the final one during the **College Exam Week**. Each test will have a selection of

short-answer, multiple-choice, and short essay-type questions. Attendance is mandatory. I will be requesting the exam to be during our regular class-time (Tuesday, 5:30-7:30) but do not make Christmas travel plans until the exam schedule is released (no accommodations for travel will be made). If you fall sick or find yourself unable to attend the exam due to calamity, you must notify the instructor in advance of the exam commencing.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures"

(<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.