Camosun College
ENVR 203: Streams Module 2

COURSE OUTLINE

Spring 2003

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A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an opportunity to learn some theory and practical field techniques related to streams. Classroom instruction will introduce basic concepts of fluvial geomorphology and assessment of streams for fish habitat quality. One field day will be divided between two sites. At Millstream Creek, students will conduct a RIC (Resource Inventory Committee) approved stream assessment, including completion of the standard RIC data card. At Colquitz Creek, students will participate in a group introduction to Modules 1 and 2 of the Pacific Streamkeepers assessment procedure – the first step in becoming a certified Streamkeeper.

B. LOGISTICS

There will be one lecture for everyone, and one field day in smaller groups. On field days, transportation and field equipment will be provided by the Environmental Technology program. On these days, we will meet at the ET van at **8:30 AM sharp! Don't be late!** If you prefer to make independent travel arrangements, please contact me ahead of time so that we don't wait around for you.

Students are responsible for bringing:

rain gear, gloves*	ruler, pens, pencils, etc.
tevas or old sneakers and shorts *	basic first aid supplies
OR	BAG LUNCH
hip waders*	water
adequate warm clothing*	sunscreen, hat*
notebook and plastic bag to cover it	*THIS MANUAL!!*

*dress and pack according to the weather forecast.

C. ATTENDANCE

Students must attend the entire lecture and the field day. Failure to do so will result in an incomplete for the course. There will be no opportunity to redo any of the components until the Spring, 2004 semester.

D. SAFETY

Outdoor field work can be fun and satisfying, but it is also serious and unpredictable – people get injured in unlikely (usually embarrassing) situations. Please work carefully and don't take silly risks.

E. EVALUATION

Streams 2 is just one of several modules that make up Environmental Technology 203. As a result, the following percent breakdown just applies to this component, and final marks in this module will be merged with the others to determine your grade for the course.

In-class quiz	15%
RIC Stream form	25%
Field notes	20%
Field skills	20%
Participation	20%

- In-class quiz: The last twenty minutes of the soils lecture on Monday, May 12, will be used for a brief quiz. The questions will be based directly on the lecture. A small amount of cramming time will be provided.

- Stream form: After an in-class introduction and field demonstration, you will be asked to conduct a field assessment using the RIC stream card. Your completed card will be marked for accuracy, proper notation and completeness.

- Field notes: Thorough, neat note-taking is a vital field skill. To reinforce this, students will submit their waterproof field notebook to the instructor at the end of the course. Notes will be marked for thoroughness and legibility. Take good notes!

- Field skills: A wide range of measurements and observations are required for a stream assessment. You will be asked to perform a randomly chosen measurement from the stream card at some point during the field day, and you will be marked on your ability to complete the task confidently and accurately.

- Participation: This should be a gimme. All students will start with full marks in this category. Deductions will only occur in cases of rude, reckless or otherwise distinctly unpleasant behaviour (e.g. lateness, not paying attention, ignoring instructions, unnecessarily disrupting the stream bed, smoking upwind, pushing unwilling individuals into the stream, inappropriate gear, water fights, equipment neglect, disregarding individual and group safety, bone-chilling lack of enthusiasm, harassing wildlife, etc.). Naturally, I doubt any of this will happen.

F. SCHEDULE

May 12, 9:00 – 12:00
- Classroom lecture and quiz.

June 10, 11 (only one of these days applies to you, check your timetable)
- Field day at Millstream and Colquitz Creeks.
    - RIC assessment procedures be demonstrated;
    - Each group will independently assess one assigned stream reach;
    - Stream measurements will be tested individually.
    - Streamkeeper forms will be discussed and completed as a group exercise.
    - **RIC cards must be handed in at the end of the day.**