

CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Social Sciences Department

GEOGRAPHY 100
ECOSYSTEMS AND HUMAN ACTIVITY
WINTER 2004

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Instructor Information

- (a) Instructor: Anette Thingsted
- (b) Office hours: Tuesday 2:00 – 3:30 pm
Thursday 2:00 – 3:30 pm
- (c) Office Location: Fisher 324
- (d) Phone: 370-3924
- (e) E-mail: thingste@camosun.bc.ca

2. Course 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. The emphasis will be on environmental issues in Canada.

3. Intended Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of ecological systems and the impact of human activity on those systems
- Demonstrate knowledge of key environmental issues in Canada
- Demonstrate an understanding of courses of action to address environmental concerns

4. Required Materials

The required text for the course is:

Draper, Dianne. Our Environment (2nd ed.) Scarborough: Nelson Thomson Learning. 2002.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- (a) **Labs** (35% of course mark)
There are 7 labs in the course. The labs allow students to apply lecture and text material to specific examples. The labs also contain exercises to familiarize students with some of the tools used by geographers. Attendance during lab periods is mandatory. In case of illness please contact me prior to class time in order to make alternative arrangements.

- (b) **Exams** (45% of course mark)
- There is one midterm and a final exam for this course.
 - The midterm will be a selection of short-answer, multiple choice and short essay questions. The midterm will be worth 20%.
 - The final exam will be during exam week. The exam will be comprehensive, requiring students to demonstrate knowledge of important concepts presented throughout the semester, although emphasis will be placed on material in the second half of the course. The final will be worth 25%.
- (c) **Environmental News Item and Participation** (5% of course mark)
 Every day there are events happening around the world that impact the environment. Each day of class there will be 5 minutes for students to report on environmental issues happening in Canada or abroad. The details will be discussed in class. I
- (d) **Group presentations/poster paper** (15% of course mark)
 In groups of 4 you will be responsible for researching and designing a presentation and poster paper on an environmental issue. The work should include an analysis of how human activity contributed to the impact, and should give alternatives for mitigating the impact. Further details will be given in class.

6. Course Schedule

<u>Week of:</u>	<u>Monday or Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday or Thursday</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Jan 5	Course Introduction	Introduction to Map Reading	Chap 1
Jan 12	World Views	<i>Lab 1</i> - Topographic Maps	Chap 2
Jan 19	Human Population	<i>Lab 2</i> – Population	Chap 4
Jan 26	Ecosystems	<i>Lab 3</i> – Rithet’s Bog	Chap 3
Feb 2	Ecosystems cont	Atmosphere	Chap 5
Feb 9	Energy	<i>No Class - Reading Break</i>	Chap 11
Feb 16	<i>Lab 4</i> – Energy Use	MIDTERM	
Feb 23	Freshwater	*Group Presentations	Chap 7
Mar 1	Oceans/Fisheries	*Group Presentations	Chap 8
Mar 8	Agriculture	*Group Presentations	Chap 6
Mar 15	Forestry	<i>Lab 6</i> – Forestry	Chap 9
Mar 22	Biodiversity Concerns	<i>Lab 5</i> – Letter for change	Chapter 12
Mar 29	Sustainable Solutions	<i>Lab 7</i> – Sustainability	Chapter 13
April 5	REVIEW	REVIEW	
Exam Week	FINAL EXAM ----- To be scheduled		

7. Grading System

The standard grading scale of the Division of Arts and Science will be used for this course:

A+ = 95 - 100%	B = 75 - 79%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 90 - 94%	B- = 70 - 74%	F = 0.0 - 49%
A- = 85 - 89%	C+ = 65 - 69%	
B+ = 80 - 84%	C = 60 - 64%	

NOTES ABOUT LABS

- 1.) It is very important that students be aware of the importance of attending all labs. Lab work is worth **35%** of the course grade and each lab is worth **5%**.
- 2.) Lab assignments are due a week after they were assigned, unless otherwise stated. Turn in completed lab assignments to me at the beginning of class. **Remember:** Late assignments will **not** be accepted unless you have made a prior arrangement with the instructor (ie. because of illness or family loss). The instructor reserves the right to not accept late labs that do not have a valid reason as expressed above. If these labs are accepted it will be with a penalty of 10% per day.
- 3.) Students should bring a pencil, eraser, ruler and calculator to lab classes.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at

<http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html