

*Camosun College*  
*ENVR 203: Streams Module 2*

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
Spring 2004

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**A. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an opportunity to learn some theory and practical field techniques related to streams. A 3-hour class will introduce basic concepts of fluvial geomorphology and physical assessment of streams for fish habitat quality. One field day will be divided between two sites. At Millstream, students will conduct a RISC (Resource Inventory Committee) approved stream assessment, including completion of the standard RISC data card. At Colquitz Creek, students will participate in a group demonstration of 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 wish to make independent travel arrangements, you must 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.
sandals, boots or sneakers and shorts *	basic first aid supplies
OR	<b>BAG LUNCH</b>
hip waders*	water
adequate warm clothing*	sunscreen, hat*
notebook and plastic bag to cover it	<i><b>THIS MANUAL!!</b></i>

\*dress and pack according to the weather. You will be expected to wade in the streams.

**C. ATTENDANCE**

Students must attend the entire lecture and the field day. Failure to do so will result in an incomplete grade for the course. There will be no opportunity to redo any of the components until the Spring 2005 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 overall grade for the course.

In-class quiz	15%
RISC stream card	30%
Field notes	20%
Field skills	20%
Participation	15%

- In-class quiz: The last twenty minutes of the soils lecture on Monday, May 10, 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.
- RISC stream card: After an in-class introduction and field demonstration, you will be asked to conduct a field assessment using the RISC 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 must submit photocopies of their field notes at the end of the course. Take good notes! They will be marked for thoroughness and legibility.
- Field skills: You will be asked to perform one or two stream assessment techniques near the end of the Millstream assessment, and you will be marked on your ability to complete these tasks confidently and accurately. Get involved in all portions of the assessment so you are ready for this!
- 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 unpleasant behaviour (e.g. lateness, unpreparedness, not paying attention, ignoring instructions, unnecessarily disrupting the stream bed, pushing unwilling individuals into the stream, water fights, equipment neglect, disregarding individual and group safety, harassing wildlife, etc.). Naturally, I doubt any of this will happen.

## F. SCHEDULE

### **May 10, 9:00 – 12:00**

- Classroom lecture and quiz.

### **May 11, 12 (only one of these days applies to you, check your timetable)**

- Field day at Millstream and Colquitz Creeks.
  - RISC assessment procedures be demonstrated;
  - Each group will independently assess one assigned stream reach;
  - Techniques will be tested individually.
  - Streamkeeper forms will be discussed and completed as a group exercise.
  - **RISC cards and photocopied field notes must be handed in at the end of the day.**