

CAMOSUN COLLEGE GEOGRAPHY 100 ECOSYSTEMS AND HUMAN ACTIVITY

Course Outline, Fall 2004

Sections 4 and 5

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is intended to acquaint students with the characteristics of our physical environment and the influence our human activity has on these surroundings. At the conclusion of the course, the student will be expected to know the properties of earth's major ecosystems and biomes; human population dynamics; and resource availability and conservation. Lectures will be based upon, but not limited to, the assigned textbook. The emphasis of lecture coverage will range from a global scale to local issues and concerns. In addition, I hope that you will be able to think critically about environmental issues and about the human relationship with the Earth's ecosystems.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

Lectures: There will be two hours of lecture per day. The use of overheads, slides and video will augment the traditional lecture style.

Labs: There are six labs in the course. Each lab contains exercises to familiarize students with the tools of geography and many of the issues faced by geographers. Attendance during lab periods is mandatory. In the case of illness, the instructor must be contacted prior to the class time and an alternate arrangement must be made; otherwise, a mark of zero will be assigned. All labs are due at the end of the lab period, except where noted. Each lab is worth 3% except lab 5 which is worth 5%.

Assignments: There are two independent research assignments during the course. Each assignment will be in the form of a research paper. The paper is to be 4-6 pages typed. The first assignment is due on November 2nd and the second assignment is due on December 9th. Each assignment is worth 10% of your final mark.

Examinations: There are four tests over the term. Each test will be worth 15 % of your final mark. Each test will be focused on the chapters indicated in the course schedule but long answer questions will reflect the accumulation of knowledge over the entire course.

EVALUATION:

Lab Exercises	20%
Assignments	20%
Exams (four@ 15%)	60%
Total	<hr/> 100%

TEXTBOOK:

Our Environment: A Canadian Perspective by Diane Draper, ITP Nelson Publishing, 1998.

There are two versions of the textbook available; the newest edition is sold by the bookstore but, since it is an expensive hard-cover, you are welcome to use second-hand copies of the old edition. I have also requested that two copies of the textbook be placed on reserve in the library for your use.

GRADING:

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

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

Lab Materials

You are required to purchase the lab manual that is available in the bookstore. This manual contains your lab exercises and assignment requirements.

Please read your lab exercise over before coming to class. There will be a short introduction to the lab but you will benefit more by having read the material prior to doing the lab.

Your labs are due the same day unless otherwise noted on the lab. You will need to bring graph paper, pencil, eraser, ruler and a calculator for lab periods. The labs and assignments **must** be typed if it is indicated on the lab introduction. Both assignments must be typed. That said your handwriting must be legible for me to mark your other labs.

Fall Session Notes

You are requested to attend each day as a lot of material is covered each day. Outline notes for each lecture will be made available on the class website: <http://griffiths.disted.camosun.bc.ca/>. No lecture notes will be made available, if you are not able to make a class you must make arrangements ahead of time for what will be covered.

You are responsible for reading your text. I will draw from the text but will also present other material in the lecture. Your text should be used as a base on which you build other knowledge. Examinations will look to the text for basic concepts. Lecture, assignments, videos and labs will provide more specific information and examples that will be on the exams.

COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Date:</u>	Tuesday	Tuesday Supplemental	Reading	Thursday	Thursday Supplemental	Readings
Sept 7, 9	Intro to Course			Our Environment Intro		Chap 1
Sept 14, 16	Science and World Views		Chap 2	<u>Lab 1</u> – Ecological Footprint	In class, calculator	
Sept 21, 23	Earth Systems		Chap 3	Ecosystems		Chap 3
Sept 28, 30	<u>Lab 2</u> - Rithet's Bog	In field at bog		Human Population		Chap 4
Oct 5, 7	Quiz 1	Lab 2 due	Chap 1-4	Atmosphere		Chap 5
Oct 12, 14	<u>Lab 3</u> – Air Pollution - GVRD	Pencil, calculator		Soil and Land Resources		Chap 6
Oct 19, 21	Assignment 1: Research Day	In class		Fresh Water (outline due)		Chap 7
Oct 26, 28	<u>Lab 4</u> – CRD Water Resources	Graph paper, calculator		Quiz 2	<u>Begin Lab 5</u> - readings	Chap 5-7
Nov 2, 4	Oceans and Fisheries	<u>Assignment 1 due</u>	Chap 8	Forestry		Chap 9
Nov 9, 11	Land Resources and Mining		Chap 10	HOLIDAY		
Nov 16, 18	<u>Lab 5</u> : Stakeholder Debate			Quiz 3	Report write-up time	Chap 8-10
Nov 23, 25	Energy	Lab 5 due	Chap 11	Species and Spaces	Outline due assign. 2	Chap 12
Nov 30, Dec 2	Assignment 2: Research Day			Lifestyle Choices & Challenges		Chap 13-14
Dec 7, 9	<u>Lab 6</u> - Video Review	Ah the money, library		Quiz 4	<u>All labs & assignments due</u>	Chap 11-14