

CAMOSUN COLLEGE GEOGRAPHY 100
ECOSYSTEMS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Course Outline, Winter, 2005

Instructor: Hilary Sandford Office: Ewing 304 Phone: 370-3372
Email: sandford@camosun.bc.ca; angusdog@island.net

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. The emphasis of lecture coverage will range from a global scale to local issues and concerns.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

Lectures: There will be two hours of lecture a week. The blackboard will be heavily utilized and overheads and slides will augment the traditional lecture style.

Labs: There are seven 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.

Presentations: The course material can, at times, become moderately depressing. To counteract any feelings of bleakness that might occur, 10% of your mark is placed on a more optimistic project. You are responsible for researching and designing a 7-8 minute presentation on a person/group/company that has or is making a positive contribution to the environmental health of this city/province/globe OR that has created an innovative solution to a problem. The use of Powerpoint is allowed but discouraged.

Midterm Exam: Two midterm exams will be given during the term. They will be held on and **October 18** and **November 15** and will be a selection of short-answer, multiple-choice, and short essay-type questions.

Final Exam: There will be a three-hour final exam during Exam Week. This exam will be comprehensive but the emphasis will be placed on material from the second half of the course.

EVALUATION:

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Midterm Exam 1 | 15% |
| Midterm Exam 2 | 22% |
| Lab Exercises | 24% |
| Presentation | 10% |
| Participation | 3% |
| Final Exam | <u>26%</u> |
| | 100% |

TEXTBOOK:

Our Environment: A Canadian Perspective by Diane Draper, ITP Nelson Publishing, 1998/2002.

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% |

COURSE SCHEDULE

| <u>Week of:</u> | <u>Monday Night</u> | <u>Wednesday Night</u> | <u>Readings</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Jan 10 | Introduction | | Chap 1 |
| Jan 17 | Ecosystems | Lab 1 – Ecosystems | Chap 3 |
| Jan 24 | Biomes | Lab 2 – Climate Change | Chap 3 |
| Jan 31 | Human Population | Lab 3 – Demographics | Chap 4 |
| Feb 7 | Environmental History | Lab 4 – Human Health | Chap 2 |
| Feb 14 | Review Class | MIDTERM #1 | |
| Feb 21 | Non-renewable Energy | Lab 5 – Energy Usage | Chap 11 |
| Feb 28 | Renewable Energy | PRESENTATIONS | Chap 11 |
| Mar 7 | Agriculture | PRESENTATIONS | Chap 6 |
| Mar 14 | Forestry | PRESENTATIONS | Chap 9 |
| Mar 21 | MIDTERM #2 | Lab 6 – Fisheries | Chap 8 |
| Mar 28 | <i>Easter</i> | Water | Chap 7 |
| Apr 4 | Wildlife | Lab 7 – Bio-Indicators | Chap 12 |
| Apr 11 | Atmosphere | Review Class | Chap 5 |
| Exam Week | FINAL EXAM | | |