

# School of Arts & Science SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

## GEOG 100-1 Ecosystems and Human Activity 2011F

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

#### The Approved Course Description is available on the web @

 $\Omega$  Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

#### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Catherine Griffiths		
(b)	Office Hours:	TBA		
(c)	Location:	Fisher 314D		
(d)	Phone:	370-3318	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	cjgrif@telus.net Or Griffiths@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:	http://online.camosun.ca/		

#### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

- 1. Demonstrate a knowledge of ecological systems and the impact of human activity on those systems.
- 2. Demonstrate an understanding of key environmental issues.
- 3. Demonstrate a knowledge of courses of action which address environmental concerns.

#### 3. Required Materials

(a) Texts Environmental Change and Challenge: A Canadian Perspective, 3 by Philip Dearden and Bruce Mitchell, Oxford University Press, 200			
	(b)	Other	Lab Manual

I realize that the textbook is an expensive hardcover edition, but I have read many textbooks and feel this is worth the price just because it draws so well on Canadian and BC experiences. I have requested that a copy of the textbook be placed on reserve in the library for your use.

Your Lab manual will be available in the bookstore.

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

(Can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

#### **LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:**

<u>Lectures</u>: There will be lectures every week. The use of PowerPoint presentations and video will augment the traditional lecture style. Due to the wealth of information to be covered and the holiday in term, there may be more lecture material than can be covered, be sure to read your textbook ahead of class. All assigned chapters are included in the exam, even if they are not covered in lecture.

<u>Labs</u>: There are eight labs in this course; they are worth **36%** of your final mark. 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 <u>mandatory</u>. There will be 2 labs with a field component to emphasize the importance of fieldwork in geographic studies. Be sure to read your labs before the lab period to ensure you have all the materials needed. In the case of illness, the instructor must be contacted <u>prior</u> to the class time and an alternate arrangement must be made; otherwise, a mark of zero will be assigned. Lab exercises due dates are listed on the course schedule. Late labs will be deducted at 3% per day, labs will not be accepted after 1 week beyond the due date – a mark of zero will apply. Six of the labs are worth 4% each towards your final mark; the other 2 are worth 6%.

<u>Video Notes</u>: There are five videos during the course. Attendance is <u>mandatory</u>. Each video has a set of questions to be answered and handed in. These will be returned with no numeric mark, but they each are worth 1% of your final mark for a total of **5%**. Remember to hand these in!

<u>Presentation</u>: The material in this course is highly topical with the current environmental issues and debates within BC and around the world. To emphasize this, **14%** of your mark is placed on a presentation of a current environmental issue. You or your group will explore one of issues listed in your lab manual in depth. Material is to be current (within the last 5 years). You are to present all sides of an issue.

You will be given **5 minutes of class time** to make your presentation, and **5 minutes** to answer questions about your chosen environmental issue. **See the lab materials for more on the presentation.** 

<u>Participation:</u> To enhance and promote discussion and questions, I have included a small percentage (3%) of your mark for participation.

<u>Examinations:</u> There are two exams over the term. The mid-term exam will be worth 17 % of your final mark. The final exam will be worth 25% of your final grade. The mid-term exam will be focused on the chapters indicated in the course schedule and will draw from your labs, discussions and lectures. The final exam will be in the last class period or the exam period and is cumulative.

#### **Lab Materials**

Your lab exercises will be made available in the Camosun bookstore. Please read your lab exercise over before beginning the exercise. If you have any questions bring them to the class discussion period or email your instructor.

Your labs are due on the dates indicated on the course schedule. You will need graph paper, pencil, eraser, ruler and a calculator for lab periods.

#### **Winter Session Notes**

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.

#### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(Should be linked directly to learning outcomes.)

Lab Exercises 36%

Total	100%	_
Exams	42%	
Participation	3%	
Presentation	14%	
Video Questions	5%	

### 6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

## **Standard Grading System (GPA)**

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

## **Temporary Grades**

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
1	Incomplete: A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	In progress: A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 <sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
cw	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

# 7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

#### 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, at Student Services or the College web site at <a href="mailto:camosun.ca">camosun.ca</a>.

#### STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

## Geography 100 Fall 2011: COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Week	Monday	Wednesday	Reading	Video / Discussion
Sept. 5, 7	1	Holiday	Course Introduction		Tragedy of the Commons
Sept. 12, 14	2	Introduction to the Environment	Lab 1(2): Ecological Footprint (due Sept. 19)	Chapter 1	Home Place (Mon)
Sept. 19, 21	3	Ecosystems, Energy and Change (to p. 87)	Lab 2 (6): Rithet's Bog Field ( <i>Note:</i> <i>due Oct.3</i> )	Chapter 2 & 3	
Sept. 26, 28	4	Ecosystems, Change (p. 87 to end) and Matter	Lab 3: Demographic Models (due Oct. 5)	Chapter 3 & 4	
Oct. 3, 5	5	Climate Change	Climate Change Continued /Review	Chapter 7	Who's Responsible?
Oct. 10, 12	6	Holiday	Midterm		
Oct. 17, 19	7	Lab 4: Climate Change (due Oct 24)	Fresh Water	Chapter 11	
Oct. 24, 26	8	Forests	Urban Challenge (Video Waste=Food)	Chapter 8, 13	Sustainable Forestry (Mon)
Oct. 31, Nov. 2	9	Lab 5 (1): Hartland Landfill (due Nov. 7)	Oceans	Chapter 9	Can the Ocean's keep up to the Hunt? (Wed)

Nov. 7, 9	10	Lab 6 (5): Oceans and El Nino (due Nov. 9)	Agriculture	Chapter 10	Deconstructing Supper (Wed) Presentation Sign-up
Nov. 14, 16	11	Lab 7: How far has food traveled? (due Nov. 16)	Endangered Species	Chapter 14	SARA
Nov. 21, 23	12	Lab 8: Biodiversity in BC (due Nov. 23)	Energy	Chapter 12	
Nov. 28, 30	13	Presentations	Presentations		
Dec. 5, 7	14	Presentations	Making It Happen / Review	Chapter 15	

Final exam is in the scheduled exam period.