

School of Arts & Science SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT GEOG 100-003

Ecosystems and Human Activity

Fall, 2011

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/geog.html

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records. You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Hilary Sandford		
(b)	Office Hours:	M and W:1:30-2:30; Th:10:30-noon		
(c)	Location:	Paul 233		
(d)	Phone:	370-3372	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	sandford@camosun	ca	
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to these Intended Learning Outcomes as approved by the Education Council of Camosun College.)

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

- 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: <u>Our Environment: A Canadian Perspective</u> by Diane Draper is available in the bookstore but is an optional purchase for this section.
- (b) Other: A compilation of readings and a lab manual are both available in the bookstore for purchase or online through the course D2L site.

4. Course Content and Schedule

<u>Lectures</u>: There will be two hours of lecture per week, usually on Tuesdays. The whiteboard will be heavily utilized and digital images will augment the traditional lecture style.

<u>Labs</u>: There are eleven labs in the course. Each lab contains exercises to familiarize students with environmental issues, government and non-profit web sites, and the tools of geographic analysis. Most lab exercises, due to their use of Internet information, will be taken home for completion. Labs will have assigned due dates and late submissions will not be accepted once marked labs have been handed back.

<u>Discussions</u>: There will be six opportunities during the term to discuss interesting and controversial ideas in both small groups and in the class as a whole. Associated readings are **on reserve** in the library for you to photocopy or pre-read before the discussion class. Your participation in these discussions will contribute to your final mark but, since not everyone enjoys conversation or debate, only 1% of your final mark will rest on each of these occasions.

<u>Product Pitch</u>: You will be asked to write a product pitch on an eco-friendly innovation of your choice. You will be marked on the appropriateness of your selection, the catchiness of your pitch, and the quality of the research you put in to your promotion.

<u>Midterm Exam</u>: The midterm exam will be held on **Thursday**, **October 20**th and will be a selection of short-answer, multiple-choice, and short essay-type questions. Attendance is mandatory and illness must be

declared <u>before</u> the exam begins and confirmed with a doctor's note. A practice exam is provided for preparation purposes.

<u>Final Exam</u>: There will be a final exam during the College exam week. This exam will focus on the material from the second half of the course. Attendance is mandatory and alternate arrangements can only be made for documented illness.

2011 COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week of:	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>
Sept 6	Course Introduction	Environmental History
Sept 12	Environmental History	Lab 1 – Millennium Goals
Sept 19	Ethics & Philosophy Reading: R. M. Pyle D. Jensen, M. Wente	Lab 2 – Bhopal Discussion: Ethics
Sept 26	Population Readings: S. Astyk	Lab 3 – Demographics Discussion: Family Size
Oct 3	Biomes Reading: E.O. Wilson	Lab 4 – Global Forests
Oct 10	Biomes Readings: Species Brochure and E.P. Pister	Lab 5 – Species at Risk Discussion: Species Profile
Oct 17	Review Class	MIDTERM
Oct 24	Non-Renewable Fuels Reading: B. Obama and B. McKibbon	Lab 6 – H2Oil Discussion: Activism
Oct 24 Oct 31	Reading: B. Obama and	
	Reading: B. Obama and B. McKibbon New Energy Technologies	Discussion: Activism Lab 7 – Energy Audit Product Pitch Assignment
Oct 31	Reading: B. Obama and B. McKibbon New Energy Technologies Reading: A. Gore Agriculture	Discussion: Activism Lab 7 – Energy Audit Product Pitch Assignment Reading: A Gore Lab 8 – Food Policy
Oct 31 Nov 7	Reading: B. Obama and B. McKibbon New Energy Technologies Reading: A. Gore Agriculture Urls TBA	Discussion: Activism Lab 7 – Energy Audit Product Pitch Assignment Reading: A Gore Lab 8 – Food Policy Discussion: Food Issues Lab 9 – Tapped
Oct 31 Nov 7 Nov 14	Reading: B. Obama and B. McKibbon New Energy Technologies Reading: A. Gore Agriculture Urls TBA Water Climate Change	Discussion: Activism Lab 7 – Energy Audit Product Pitch Assignment Reading: A Gore Lab 8 – Food Policy Discussion: Food Issues Lab 9 – Tapped Discussion: The Future

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

The final mark for the course will be determined by student performance in each of these components.

Midterm Exam	20%
Lab Exercises	40%
Discussions	6%
Product Pitch	10%
Final Exam	24%
	100

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College 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
I	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 rd 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 camosun.ca.

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 the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED