



**School of Arts & Science  
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT  
GEOG 100-B04  
Ecosystems and Human Activity  
2012W**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

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The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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### **1. Instructor Information**

(a)	Instructor:	Trisha Jarrett
(b)	Office Hours:	TBA
(c)	Location:	Fisher 340A
(d)	Phone:	370-3378
(e)	Email:	jarrett@camosun.bc.ca
(f)	Website:	<a href="http://online.camosun.ca/">http://online.camosun.ca/</a>

### **2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

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**

#### **Textbook:**

Environmental Change and Challenge: A Canadian Perspective, 3rd edition by Philip Dearden and Bruce Mitchell, Oxford University Press, 2009.

A copy of the textbook has been placed on reserve in the library for your use.

#### **Course Materials:**

Lab assignments and other course materials will be provided on the course website (<http://online.camosun.ca/>)

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

	<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Other Activities</b>	<b>Reading</b>
1	Jan 9		Introduction - Orientation	
2	Jan 16	Environment, Resources, and Society	<i>Lab 1: Ecological Footprints</i>	Chapter 1
3	Jan 23	Ecosphere: Energy Flows	<i>Discussion 1</i>	Chapter 2
4	Jan 30	Ecosphere: Dynamic Ecosystems	<i>Lab 2: Ecosystems</i>	Chapter 3
5	Feb 6	Ecosphere: Matter Cycling	<i>Discussion 2</i>	Chapter 4
6	Feb 13	Climate Change	<i>Lab 3: Climate Change</i>	Chapter 7
7	Feb 20	<b>Midterm</b>	<b>No Lab</b>	
8	Feb 27	Urban Environmental Management	<i>Discussion 3</i>	Chapter 13
9	Mar 5	Oceans and Fisheries	<i>Lab 4: Forests</i>	Chapter 8
10	Mar 12	Forests	<i>Discussion 4</i>	Chapter 9
11	Mar 19	Endangered Species and Habitats	<i>Lab 5: Species at Risk</i>	Chapter 14
12	Mar 26	Agriculture	<i>Discussion 5</i>	Chapter 10
13	Apr 2	Water	<i>Presentations due</i>	Chapter 11
14	Apr 9	Energy	<i>Final Review</i>	Chapter 12

#### Learning Opportunities:

**Lectures:** There will be online lectures posted each week; these cover a wide range of material. The lectures draw from your textbook, online websites, videos and additional readings. Due to the wealth of information to be covered be sure to read your textbook.

**Assignments:** There are 5 labs in the course; each lab is worth 5% of your final mark. Each lab contains exercises to familiarize students with the tools of geography and many of the issues faced by geographers. In the case of illness, the instructor must be contacted prior to the lab due date and an alternate arrangement must be made; otherwise, a mark of zero will be assigned. Lab exercises are due one week from the day of the lab. Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 10% a day.

Teamwork is encouraged throughout the course. However, do not copy from each other when handing in assignments. While you may brainstorm and work together, all assignments must be written in your own words. Any students involved in copying will be given a mark of zero for that assignment.

Discussions: There are 5 discussion periods in the course that will each be worth 3% of your final mark. Guidelines for discussions will be presented at the orientation session.

Presentation: You will be required to submit a presentation on an assigned environmental topic. This presentation is to expand your knowledge of different issues surrounding human activities and the environment. You are to prepare a 7 minute presentation. You will supply a 4 page summary of your presentation and a PowerPoint presentation to be handed in online. The presentation is worth 10% of your final mark. To promote discussion and comments, a component of your presentation mark will be devoted to feedback on the presentation of at least one of your classmates.

Examinations: There are two exams over the term. The 1st in-term exam will be worth 20% of your final grade. The final exam will be worth 30% 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 scheduled exam period and is cumulative.

Instructor Availability: The best way to reach me is to contact me via office hours, either in person or on the phone. Emails will only be answered from Monday to Friday. Do not expect immediate email replies, so please plan ahead.

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Lab Exercises	25%
Online Discussions	15%
Presentation	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 6. Grading System

### Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		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](http://camosun.ca) for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> 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	<i>In progress:</i> 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. <i>(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.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> 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](http://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 on the College web site in the Policy Section.