CAMOSUN COLLEGE	***School of Arts & Science*** ***SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT*** **GEOG 111-002** **Natural Hazards** **Fall 2014**

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Course Description

This course will provide students with a first exposure to physical geography through the lens of natural hazards; that is, natural environmental processes that threaten human health and property. Topics will include natural and human systems that create hazards, earthquakes and related hazards, volcanoes, landslides and avalanches, coastal and river hazards, and weather- and climate-related hazards. Several lab exercises will introduce technical skills related to hazard assessment and mitigation. An emphasis on current events will be maintained. This course is intended for both science and non-science majors.

Note: The official Approved Course Description is available on the web at http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/geog.html

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

2. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Jessica Craig
(b)	Office Hours:	TBA or by appointment
(c)	Location:	F338a
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3455
(e)	Email:	CraigJ@camosun.bc.ca
(f)	Website:	http://online.camosun.ca (D2L)

3. Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Describe the natural environmental processes that underlie natural hazards.
2. Explain how human development and planning influence natural hazard risk.
3. Acquire some basic risk assessment and mitigation tools related to natural hazards.

4. Course Materials

(a)	Text	Required: Keller, E.A., R.H. Blodgett and J.J. Clague, 2011. *Natural Hazards, 2nd Canadian Edition*. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada, 464 pp. • This is available in the book store, as an e-book or hardcopy, • There also will be a reserve copy in the library.

5. Course Content and Schedule

- **Lectures:** Attendance is essential. I will post basic lecture outlines on D2L: online.camosun.ca. These outlines are no substitute for coming to class! This class has two two-hour blocks on Tuesday and Thursday. Consult the course schedule for further details.

- **Readings** are an essential part of this course – they provide depth and context that are indispensable to your understanding of the course material, and they will be tested. Specific reading assignments will be announced in class (and on D2L) and subsequently discussed in the next lecture.

- **Assignments:** A variety of assignments must be completed for this class.

    - **Labs:** Due dates will one week from the date the lab is assigned, unless otherwise specified. I reserve the right to impose a 10% per day penalty on late assignments. Late assignments will not be accepted after I have returned them marked. Anyone cheating or copying work will receive a mark of zero on the assignment.

    - **Case-study**: Each student will be responsible for researching and assembling a hazard-related poster assignment, to be presented in class during one of two poster sessions. Your grade will be based in part on your participation in the peer-review exercise. Failure to present a completed poster on the appointed day will result in a mark of zero for the assignment.

    - **Videos/Discussion**: Some class time may be devoted to video and discussions. To evaluate participation, you may be asked to hand in notes on the video at the end of class.

    - **Quizzes:** There will be a short quiz at the beginning of each lecture period based on material covered in the previous lecture. This is to encourage students to arrive on time and prepared for class, and to promote active learning in the classroom.

- **Exams:** There will be two exams. The format for these will likely be a combination of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. They mainly will emphasize the lecture material, though lab material will also be drawn upon.

- **Illness, etc.:** If you miss a lab or exam due to illness or some other serious reason, I must ask you to provide a doctor's note or other documentation to support your story. Otherwise, a mark of zero for the missed assignment will be given. Exams and assignments are hard to reschedule, so try not to miss them unless you are too sick to perform at a normal level.

  Students who miss an exam for a valid reason must contact me within 24 hours with an explanation. In such cases, one makeup exam time will be scheduled, and all students needing it will be expected to attend.

- **Course Schedule:**
  (see attached at end of document, posted on D2L)

6. Basis of Student Assessment

Evaluation will be based on accuracy, thoroughness, and neatness. As a general rule, always show your work and keep track of units of measure! When I grade your work, I am looking for proof of your understanding, so do everything clearly and carefully – that way you may get partial credit, even for wrong answers. I endeavor to mark your work fairly and consistently, but if you have a question about my assessment, feel free to come to my office and ask about it.

(a)	Labs	30%
(b)	Case Study	10%
(c)	Quizzes	10%
(d)	Midterm exam	25%
(e)	Final exam	25%

7. 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		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 at **camosun.ca** or 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 are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
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.

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.

8. 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 on the College web site in the Policy Section.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Updated September 1, 2014. Subject to change at instructor's discretion)

Week of	**Tuesday**	**Thursday**
Sep. 1	Course Intro	Hazard Systems Reading: Ch 1
Sep. 8	Lab 1: Topographic Maps	Earthquakes Reading: Ch 2
Sep. 15	Lab 2: Earthquakes	Tsunamis Reading: Ch 3
Sep. 22	Lab 3: Tsunamis	Coastal Hazards Reading: Ch 10
Sep. 29	Lab 4: Coastal Hazards *(computer lab location to be determined)*	Volcanoes Reading: Ch 4
Oct. 6	*Case study Overview / Review*	**Midterm Exam**
Oct. 13	TBA	Landslides (BC shakeout day) Reading: Ch 5
Oct. 20	Lab 5: Landslides	Floods Reading: Ch 8
Oct. 27	Lab 6: Floods	Hurricanes and tornadoes Reading: Ch 9
Nov. 3	Lab 7: Extreme Weather *(computer lab location to be determined)*	*Work session for case study*
Nov. 10	**No Class** (**Remembrance Day)**	Drought and Fire Reading: Ch 11
Nov. 17	Lab 8: Fire *(computer lab location to be determined)*	Climate Change Reading: Ch 12
Nov. 24	Lab 9: Climate Change	Avalanches
Dec. 1	Poster Presentations	Review