

Camosun College
ENVR 218: Field Camp, Spring 2016

Course Outline

This field course focuses on hands-on application of methods for collecting data related to streams, lakes, ecosystems, wildlife and forests. The camp is held at Fairy Lake, near Port Renfrew. Students will be divided into small groups to provide more access to equipment and instructors.

Instructors:

Steve Gormican (370-3423, gormicans@camosun.bc.ca)
Chris Ayles (370-3393, cayles@camosun.bc.ca)
David Blundon (370-3984, blundond@camosun.bc.ca)
Kristiina Ovaska (kovaska@shaw.ca)
Tony Dorling, Program Assistant (370-3423, dorling@camosun.bc.ca)

Intended Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to plan, execute, record data and undertake preliminary data analysis for a variety of field-oriented activities (see below). The overall premise will be to conduct an overview environmental assessment near the campsite.
2. Students will also be able to conduct scientific investigations while camping in a semi-wilderness setting utilizing skills such as planning meals, safety in the field, selecting appropriate personal clothing and equipment, preparing for medical emergencies, and the operation and maintenance of small vessels and power generators. Components of the field camp may include:
 - Lake water quality surveys.
 - Lake bathymetry.
 - Stream surveys.
 - Vascular plant surveys and plant collections.
 - Timber cruising (fixed plot and variable prism).
 - Bird surveys.
 - Intertidal surveys (rocky shores; soft sediments).
 - Meteorological measurements.
 - Insect collections.

Evaluation:

Exercises:	
Stream surveys	10
Terrain stability	10
Timber cruising	10
Amphibians	20
Power boating	10
Insect collection	10
Field notes	15
<u>Participation</u>	<u>15</u>
TOTAL	100%

Notes:

1. Each exercise will require the proper and complete filling out of data sheets and/or other assignment. Missing or inaccurate answers will result in deduction of marks. Assignments not handed in by the end of camp will result in a mark of zero for that exercise. **All camp assignments are due upon our return to Victoria.**
2. Field books are to be used as a daily journal, and for supplemental notes and calculations during the exercises. Marks will be based on completeness (i.e. at least some mention of each activity, preferably in detail), legibility and organization. Expected contents include: weather, time, location, nature of activity, some information on the activity, notes from lectures, names of participants, etc. See detailed field note instructions.
3. Participation: Each instructor will evaluate the degree and quality of participation each student exhibits throughout the week. Attention, safety and courtesy are primary examples of good participation.