

CAMOSUN COLLEGE GEOGRAPHY 100-003
ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY
Course Outline, Fall 2017

Instructor: Emrys Prussin **Office: Fisher 344D Phone: 250-370-3506**
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is intended to acquaint students with the characteristics of our physical environment and the influence our human activity has on these surroundings. At the conclusion of the course, the student will be expected to know the properties of ecosystems and biomes; human impacts; and resource availability and conservation. The emphasis of lecture coverage will range from a global scale to local issues and concerns.

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

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

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

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

Lectures: There will usually 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.

Labs: There are ten 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. Word for word answers will result in a mark of zero for both parties. Labs will have assigned due dates and late submissions will not be accepted once marked labs have been handed back.

Plot Study: You will choose a place that is representative of the Greater Victoria region and will visit it frequently throughout the term to make observations, collect images, and learn about its ecosystem components. You'll also research the human history of your plot and the development protections or plans for it. At the end of term you will create a multi-sensory presentation of your plot that will introduce your classmates to its unique characteristics.

2050 Podcast: In June of this year, the CBC's Johanna Wagstaff created and released 2050: Degrees of Change, a podcast that examines the specific impacts of anticipated climate change on the province of British Columbia. It is a six-episode broadcast, each episode

running approximately 30 minutes in length. You will be required to listen to each episode and complete an online quiz on the material covered.

Tests: There will be two in-class tests this term, the first one on **Thursday, October 5th** and the second on **Thursday, November 9th**. There will also be a final exam scheduled during the formal **exam period in December**. Each test will have a selection of short-answer, multiple-choice, and short essay-type questions. Attendance is mandatory and illness must be declared before the exam begins and confirmed with a doctor's note for a re-sit to be possible. Do not make travel plans until after the final exam schedule is posted.

COURSE SUPPORT:

Without a formal textbook to support your learning in this course, I try to ensure you are well guided by using the College's learning support software, D2L. It is a fairly user-friendly site that allows you to access lecture notes, electronic lab exercises, hand in your assignments digitally, track your mark, and be alerted to upcoming due dates or changes in assignments.

EVALUATION:

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

Lab Exercises	20%
Test #1	15%
Test #2	20%
Plot Study	15%
2050: Podcast	6%
Final Exam	<u>24%</u>
	100%

GRADING:

The standard grading scale of the Division of Arts and Science will be used for this course.

A+	>90%	B+	77-79%	C+	65-69%	F	<50%
A	85-89%	B	73-76%	C	60-64%		
A-	80-84%	B-	70-72%	D	50-59%		

CHEATING:

Camosun College has a Student Conduct Policy that provides outlines different forms of academic dishonesty and details the different actions that can be taken by Instructors, Departmental Chairs and the Dean of Arts and Science in response to challenges that may arise during the term. You should familiarize yourself with this policy so as not to breach it (<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf>).

2017 COURSE SCHEDULE: Geography 100-003

subject to change with notice

<u>Week of:</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>
Sept 4	Course Introduction	Lab 1 – Environmental Issues Plot Study – Intro
Sept 11	Environmental History	Environmental History
Sept 18	Local Issues	Lab 2 – Biketoria
Sept 25	BC Bioregions	BC Bioregions Lab 3 – Map & GPS Use
Oct 2	Review Class	Test #1
Oct 9	Fracking, LNG & Pipelines	Lab 4 – Footprints
Oct 16	Food Security	Lab 5 – “Just Eat It”
Oct 23	Freshwater	Lab 6 – BC Freshwater
Oct 30	Forestry	Lab 7 – Tree Identification
Nov 6	Review Class	Test #2
Nov 13	Fisheries	Lab 8 – BC Aquaculture
Nov 20	Plot Study Presentations	Lab 9 – BC Park Profile
Nov 27	Plot Study Presentation	Lab 10 – National Parks
Dec 4	Plot Study Presentations	Review Class