



COURSE OUTLINE

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

□ Please note: This outline will *not* be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor	Emrys Prussin
(b) Office hours	Mondays 8:30 – 12:30 and Wednesdays 8:30 – 12:30
(c) Location	Online Delivery
(d) Phone	250-370-3288
	Alternative: _____
(e) E-mail	prussine@camosun.bc.ca
(f) Website	Camosun D2L

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Analyze the natural environmental systems that underlie natural hazards.
2. Explain how human development and planning influence natural hazard risk.
3. Apply some basic geographic analysis techniques related to natural hazards.

3. Required Materials

D2L: It is essential that you have access to a computer, tablet or data-enabled phone so that you are able to access the lecture and lab material for the course. D2L is Camosun's learning support software and it 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.

4. Course Content and Schedule

This is an asynchronous online course. This means that there are no set meeting times, but I will be available online during the office hours listed above.

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.

Lectures: As this course is being offered in an online format, you will be reading your weekly lectures as .pdf files. I have written the lectures in my own 'voice' and have interspersed photos of the things I'm discussing so that you have visual distraction as you're reading.

Labs: Nine lab exercises will be assigned during the term. These activities are designed to practically apply some of the tools of hazards assessment. Due dates will be one week from the date the lab is assigned, unless otherwise specified, and your completed assignment can be uploaded to the 'Assignments' section of D2L by midnight on the due date.

Event Timeline: On May 20th, I will ask you to provide an event summary for a natural disaster or catastrophe that has happened in the last century. The list of events you can choose from will be available in the 'Groups' section of D2L and when you 'join' a group (a group of one) you have selected your event. You will then prepare a well-written, tightly edited summary document of no more than two pages including an appropriate photo(s) that will be uploaded electronically to a digital timeline.

Exams: There will be three tests throughout the term. These will be electronic tests available through the 'Quizzes' section of D2L. A series of short answer, true or false, multiple choice and long answer questions will cover the lecture and lab content of the course. The first will be on Monday, May 11th the second will be on Monday, June 1st, and the third will be on during the exam period.

Textbook: Keller, E.A., R.H. Blodgett and J.J. Clague, 2015. Natural Hazards, 3rd Canadian Edition. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada, 488 pp. This textbook is entirely **optional** for this course and will not be referenced in any of the lecture or exam content.

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>
04-May	Course Introduction Hazard Systems Lab 1 - Topographic Maps	Earthquakes Lab 2 - Earthquakes
11-May	Test 1	Tsunamis Lab 3 - Tsunamis
18-May	Victoria Day - No class	Event Timeline
25-May	Volcanoes Lab 4 - Volcanoes	Landslides Lab 5 - Landslides
01-Jun	Test 2	Floods Lab 6 - Floods
08-Jun	Extreme Weather Lab 7 - Hurricanes	Avalanches Lab 8 - Avalanches
15-Jun	Fire & Drought Lab 9 - Wildfires	Review

Note: Schedule is subject to change at instructor's discretion.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

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

Lab Exercises	30%
Test #1	20%
Test #2	20%
Test #3	20%
Event Timeline Component	10%
Total	100%

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

See 4. above (Course Content and Schedule).

8. College Supports, Services and Policies



Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. 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

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

B. 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 <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> 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 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	<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.