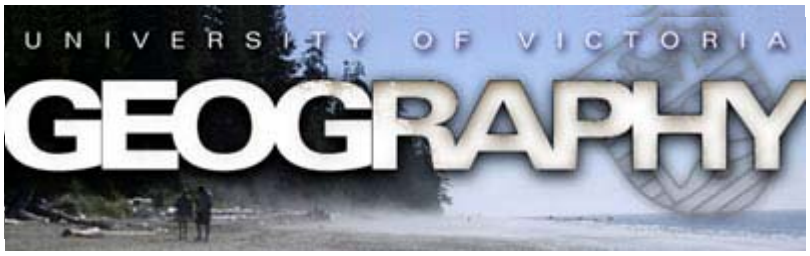

Geography 101A

Environment, society and sustainability

Fall Term 2020

Course Instructors Dr. Phil Dearden (pdearden@uvic.ca), Dr. Lisa Kadonaga (geog101a@outlook.com), Dr. Sophia Carodenuto (technical assistance)

Office hours: On-line Monday, Thursday 3.00-4.30, Wednesday 9-10.
Lectures: Mondays, Thursdays, 1 pm – 2:20 pm

Labs: Instructors

M 14:30-16:20	B01	Kinga Menu	kmenu@uvic.ca
T 08:30-10:20	B02	Matt Fuller	mtfuller@uvic.ca
T 12:30-14:20	B03	Matt Fuller	mtfuller@uvic.ca
T 14:30-16:20	B04	Kinga Menu	kmenu@uvic.ca
W 10:30-12:20	B05	Maleea Acker	maleeaacker@gmail.com
W 14:30-16:20	B06	Maleea Acker	maleeaacker@gmail.com
R 8:30 - 10:20	B07	Shelly Selivanov	shellyseli95@gmail.com

Lab Instructors: Your lab instructor will post office hours shortly after the beginning of term. Senior Lab Instructor, Kinga Menu is also available to discuss general issues surrounding the course email: kmenu@uvic.ca

Website: Lecture and lab materials and notices are found on the Geography 101A Brightspace site. Please check regularly for updates.

Readings: Dearden, P., and Mitchell, B. (2020). *Environmental change and challenge: A Canadian perspective*. 6th Edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press. Only use the 6th edition. The book is available to rent or buy on-line (https://www.redshelf.com/book/1601758/environmental-change-and-challenge-1601758-9780199033836-philip-dearden-bruce-mitchell-erin-oconnell) or as hard

copy from the UVic bookstore. In this course we use most book chapters but not all. However, GEOG 209, the follow-up course uses the additional chapters.

Course The course will be a hybrid of synchronous (real-time) and asynchronous (flexible) activities. We will hold live lectures and labs at the designated times to encourage student interaction with each other and the instructor. These lectures will be recorded and made available on Brightspace for those who cannot attend the live lecture. We highly encourage synchronous participation and the recordings are intended for those with extenuating circumstances (such as different time zone).

Structure: The laboratory sessions will include reporting on your own research, discussions and projects. These laboratory sessions form an integral part of the course since they enable a more detailed discussion of topics relevant to the course and are intended to complement, not repeat the course. Furthermore, they are intended to counter the anonymity often experienced in the large lecture section.

On-line notes:

- You can find useful information on online learning at the UVic Learn Anywhere portal.
- The online format can seem strange and awkward at first, but we will do everything possible to make this a **comfortable and effective learning environment**. Keep in mind that we are all new to this format and we all need to be forgiving, open-minded, and adaptable. We're in it together.
- Ensure you have a **distraction-free** space at home (or elsewhere) for the online classes.
- The synchronous or **"live" portion** of the course will involve lectures, break-out group sharing, class discussion, and time for questions and answers. Please listen carefully to directions given at the beginning of class around the process for engaging. When you are not actively contributing, please ensure you "mute" yourself to reduce ambient noise.
- Please be respectful, constructive, and professional in all your online interactions. No falling into troll-mode.

This course outline provides an introduction to GEOG101A. More detailed information on the course including the labs can be found in the lab manual available on the course site

COURSE CONTENT

The goal of Geography 101A is to introduce students to the way in which the ecosphere functions and the ways in which humans interact with the natural environment. There is a strong emphasis on gaining understanding of key environmental problems and developing more sustainable approaches to societal interactions with the environment.

Two main themes of geographical enquiry are determining and explaining the biophysical processes that underlie areal differentiation of the earth's surface, and understanding the relationship between these processes and human activities. The first focus is physical geography and includes biogeography, climatology, and geomorphology; the second focus is resource management and includes environment, and development, and regional geography. Although there is a long history of geographical enquiry in these foci, they have come to greater prominence over this last decade due to the increasing scale and severity of environmental change in the biosphere and the role of human activity in causing this change.

To understand the dimensions of various environmental problems, such as acid rain, climate change, eutrophication, species extinction, deforestation, and a host of others, students must have some idea of how the biosphere functions. The first part of the course focuses on this aspect, involving understanding the ways in which energy flows and materials cycle through the biosphere, and the structure and organization of ecological communities. From this base, students will more readily appreciate the ways in which these naturally occurring processes are changed by human activities such as forestry, agriculture, fisheries, and water management. These are covered in the second half of the course. Examples from throughout the world are used to illustrate these changes. Due to the high profile of many of these issues in the media, students are expected to pay particular attention to these current issues as the course progresses.

The course is designed to meet the requirements of three groups of students:

1. those who wish to take basic courses in geography to supplement their major in another field;
2. those who wish to do a BA/BSc Major/Minor in geography, 101A being a prerequisite for some higher geography courses; and
3. Environmental Studies students wishing an introduction to the functioning of environmental systems and human interaction with these systems.

Geog 101A as well as 101B, 103 are designed for BSc/BA Major/Minor geography programmes. Students wishing to know more about the Geography Department should review the Geography homepage. Any students interested in joining the Geography Co-op Program should contact the Social Sciences Co-op .

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon course completion students will:

1. Have a basic understanding of fundamental planetary processes such as energy flows and biogeochemical cycling;
2. Appreciate the ways in which humans change these processes, the implications of so doing, and potential solutions to these problems;
3. Understand the historical development of environmental problems and differences in spatial occurrence;
4. Develop critical and analytical thinking techniques and apply these to environmental problems;
5. Be able to critically analyze environmental problems from differing perspectives;
6. Understand the role of values in environmental decision-making;
7. Understand the need for a comprehensive approach to environmental change involving the natural and social sciences;
8. Appreciate the role of Geography as a synthesizing discipline based on analysis of space and place and the links to specific courses in the Department of Geography that will provide more detailed insights into these challenges;
9. Be aware of fundamental academic research and research skills such as library searches, style of presentation, bibliographic citation formats, etc.;
10. Be aware of, and make informed judgments about, current environmental problems;
11. Be empowered to undertake changes in their own lifestyles that will lead to more sustainable futures.

COURSE INSTRUCTORS

Philip Dearden is a conservation field geographer and has undertaken field work throughout the world ranging from China to South America as well as Canada. For the last 35 years he has focused mainly in South East and South Asia and Africa with a specialization on protected areas particularly in marine ecosystems. He has active research programs in the Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar and Tanzania. He is an advisor to the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, UN, IUCN, several national governments and NGOs on environment and development. He is past Chair of the Department of Geography at UVic, a member of the World Commission on Protected Areas and a Trustee of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society. He is the author of over 300 scientific articles and 11 books, including the text book used in this course and similar courses across Canada. In 1997 he was recognized for his excellence in teaching as a recipient of the UVic Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence. In 2014 he was awarded the William C. Wonders Award for Scholarly Distinction in Geography from the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers and in 2016 he was awarded the Canadian Association of Geographers Award for Scholarly Distinction for his career-long research contributions. An avid sailor he enjoys spending time on the water on the magnificent BC coast.

Lisa Kadonaga grew up in Ontario and completed her PhD here at the University of Victoria. Her research interests include global environmental change, natural hazards, agricultural biodiversity, foodways in human culture, and environmental perception in art and literature. She has published research papers in physical and cultural geography, and contributed chapters to the Popular Culture and Philosophy book series. Earlier she worked in wildlife rehabilitation at the University of Guelph's Wild Bird Clinic, helped establish a community seed bank in Afghanistan, and was one of the founders of UVic's original Campus Community Garden. She is also an executive producer with Doggie Dream Productions, a film/TV production company.

EVALUATION

Lab marks

1. 101A-scapes

a. Posts and responses – 20%

b final presentation -10%

c. synthesis paper – 15%

2. Participation – 10%

3. Ecoaction presentation – 5%

Exams

1. Mid term 10%

2. Final 30%

TOTAL: 100%

* The lab participation grade is assigned by your lab instructor and reflects the amount and quality of your contribution to lab sessions. Although attendance is part of this grade, students who attend but who do not contribute in a meaningful fashion can expect no more than *half* marks.

BEWARE!! Experience has shown that to obtain a respectable grade in this course it is necessary to do well in ALL sections. A good mark cannot be attained by excelling in the exams while doing poorly in the labs and vice versa. Attend all your lab sessions, be enthusiastic, work hard, be thoughtful, contribute intelligently and you can obtain all your lab marks (and enjoy yourself!). It is more difficult to obtain all examination marks (but not impossible!). **In fact you must pass both the exam portion and the lab portion to pass the course.**

SCHEDULE[1]

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[1] Subject to change

Lecture and Lab Schedule Fall term 2020, Dr. Dearden:

Date:	**Lecture:**	**Readings:**	**Lab:**
Sept 10	Introduction	Nikiforuk: The New Normal. The Tyee, May 30, 2020	**NO LABS FOR 101A**
Sept 14 Sept 17	Spaceship Earth Flatten that Curve!	Chapter 1 Chapter 2	1. Lab Orientation
Sept 21 Sept 24	Energy Biomes	Chapter 3 Chapter 3	2. Flatten that curve!
Sept 28 Oct 1	Ecosystem Change Biogeochemical Cycles	Chapter 4 Chapter 5	3. Where am I?
Oct 5 Oct 8	Sulphur and Acid rain Global Climate Change	Chapter 5 Chapter 8	4. Biocycles
Oct 12 Oct 15	**Thanksgiving** Water	 Chapter 12	No Labs
Oct 19 Oct 22	**Mid term exam** Agriculture	 Chapter 11	5. My food
Oct 26 **Oct 29**	Forestry Biodiversity I	Chapter 10 Chapter 15	6 Great Bear Rainforest
Nov 2 Nov 5	Biodiversity II Protected Areas I	Chapter 15 Abbey, E. (1968). *Desert solitaire*, pp. 39-59	7. My biodiversity
Nov. 9 Nov. 12	**Reading Break** Protected Areas II	 Chapter 15	No Labs
Nov 16 Nov 19	Oceans Fisheries	 Chapter 9	**8**. My 101A scape I
Nov 23 Nov 26	Salmon Commons resource challenges	Chapter 9 Hardin, G. (1968).The Tragedy of the Commons, Science 168, 1243-1248.	9. My 101A scape II
Nov 30 Dec 3	Environment and Development Spaceship Earth revisited	Chapter 16 Chapter 16	10. EcoAction Presentations

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LAB WORK

Important things to note regarding 101A labs

- Please let us know as soon as possible if you are in a non- North American/Central American/South American time zone. You are expected to attend lab SYNCHRONOUSLY as we do many interactive activities and your presence is needed. If you cannot attend synchronously because of time zone issues, we will try to figure out the best ways to make things work and support you. Email Kinga at kmenu@uvic.ca
- **Please do not schedule work during lab time. You are expected to attend synchronously as much of what we do is interactive.**
- You must have functional access to the internet as most of what we will be doing is synchronous.
- Make sure you attend to your own privacy and be respectful of the privacy of others.
- Please make sure you have access to a copy of the text book (see syllabus for text)
- Make sure you carefully read over the syllabus so you know what the course is about and also so you don't have any unexpected surprises regarding expectations and grades etc.
- Please make sure you have the zoom link for :
    - Your lecture
    - Your professor's office hours
    - Your lab section
    - Your TA's office hours
    - They will be posted and available through Brightspace.

You must log in to zoom meetings through your UVic account. Hopefully you will be able to do this directly from Brightspace. We are working on that right now. Otherwise go to **uvic.zoom.us** and log in from there. This keeps the meetings safe and allows you to enter the meeting directly without being sent to the waiting room. If you are sent to the waiting room, we will ask you to log on through uvic.zoom.us.

- UVic is using a new learning management system called Brightspace. Try to familiarize yourself so it will be easier for you to use as the term begins, but don't stress! All of our course materials, assignments, lectures etc will be on your 101A Brightspace page. You may also receive emails from your TA or the Senior lab instructor.
- Check Brightspace regularly please.
- Communication is vital! If you have any questions, concerns, things that you might need to let us know so that we can support your learning effectively, please let us know. Your TA is the frontline for communication regarding Labs. Kinga, the Senior Lab instructor is your next step if you are having contact difficulty with your TA (hopefully that won't be an issue, but a plan B is always good) The Professor is frontline for Lecture/exam related communication. Kinga , the Senior Lab Instructor is also a great plan B in that situation as well. We do work as a team, so we can best support you, as you do your best.
- Assignments are due on, or before, the date indicated. The due dates/lab schedule at a glance shows activities and due dates by the week. You need to translate that to your lab date that week.

- We are using a work around for due dates so please read this carefully. Your assignments will normally be due on your next lab day. So if you have an assignment due in lab 3 week of *****, it is due by the beginning of your lab time, that day. **This is the tricky part: The Brightspace assignment due date will not be correct for most of you. It will be the date of the last lab that week (say the Friday) . But your assignment is due in that week , by the time of <u>your</u> lab section.** Your TA will help explain.
- The labs are posted on Brightspace in the Module labelled Labs, and have all the information you need regarding what to do and how to do it, and how and where to submit assignments and activities.
- Please be on time to the Labs and Lectures. We are intending them to be open a few minutes early so you can come in and get comfortable.
- Academic integrity is very important and I urge you to read over your obligations regarding integrity in the syllabus.
- Be kind to yourself and to your lab mates and to your instructional team. We are all doing our best in very challenging times, with what for many of us, are brand new tools. There will be glitches. We are working very hard to have as few as possible.

Assignments are due by the beginning of the lab. ***Late assignments will be deducted 10% per day***. Exceptions to the late policy will only be granted by your lab instructor for verified illnesses (ie, doctor's note needed). *All* assignments must be submitted to get a passing grade in the laboratory component.

As with any course which includes laboratory work, students will be required to make satisfactory standing in <u>both parts of this course</u>. Results in laboratory work will be announced by the department concerned prior to the final examinations, and <u>students who have not obtained a grade of at least D in their laboratory work will NOT be permitted to write the examination, nor receive any credit for the course.</u>

DEPARTMENT POLICY ON GRADE EXPECTATIONS

The performance expectations for a given letter grade should be consistent with the level of the course (100, 200, 300, 400). The higher the course level, the more should be expected when assigning a letter grade. First class letter grades (**A-, A, A+**) are assigned for performance above expectations, *i.e.*, demonstrating a thorough understanding of most, or all, aspects of course material.
Letter grades of **B-, B, and B+** are assigned for performance that is about as expected, i.*e.*,demonstrating a good understanding of the key, but not all, aspects of the course material.
A passing grade of **D, C, or C+** is assigned for performance that is marginally acceptable.
A **failing grade** is assigned for unacceptable performance. Performance is unacceptable if the student does not display an understanding of at least the essentials of the course

material. It is expected that the rate of course failure will be higher in lower level courses than in higher level courses.

The expected average grade for courses in the Geography Department will typically be in the range of B- to B+, depending upon course level. It is expected that not more than 25% of students will receive a grade in the range of A- to A+.

The grading scale (which percentages equal which letter grade)

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
90-100%	85-89%	80-84%	77-79%	73-76%	70-72%	65-69%	60-64%	50-59%	49% or Less

* An 'N' grade is given when a student has missed one or more components of a course and does not reach a passing grade. **Failure to submit a lab assignment or complete an exam (midterms, final) without permission from the instructor will result in an 'N' grade.**

ACADEMIC HONESTY

"Academic honesty has been compromised when a student (or students) enrolled in a course has committed one of the following offences:

a)If the lecture assignment or lab project was completely done by somebody else, it is complete or full plagiarism, which will result in expulsion from the course for any student(s) submitting the work (course grade of F). The Assistant Dean of Arts and Science will be notified of this action.

b)If the lecture assignment or lab project includes extensive copies of phrases or complete sentences without citation, it is substantial plagiarism, which will result in a zero on the assignment for any student(s) submitting the work. Submitting the same assignment for two courses without both instructors' prior approval will also result in a zero on both assignments or projects.

c)If the lecture assignment or lab project has only one or two instances where the writing in a sentence is presented as one's own but it not, it is minor plagiarism, which will result in at least a half-grade reduction on the assignment or project for any student(s) submitting the work."

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

The policies of the current University of Victoria Calendar will guide our grading of your work. Read carefully the section ***Policy on Academic Integrity*** (see 2014/2015 UVic Course

Calendar). If you are having personal or medical problems and cannot complete your assignments on time or cannot write the exams, it is your responsibility to request assistance from the Counselling Centre, or our lecturers, senior lab instructor, or your lab instructor, at the earliest possible opportunity.

Grading – Uvic Policy

The table below shows the official grading system used by UVic instructors in arriving at final assessments of student performance.

Undergraduate Grading		
Passing Grades	**Grade Point Value**	**Description**
A+ **A** **A-**	9 8 7	**Exceptional**, **outstanding** and **excellent** performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
B+ **B** **B-**	6 5 4	**Very good**, **good** and **solid** performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
C+ **C**	3 2	**Satisfactory**, or **minimally satisfactory**. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
D	1	**Marginal** Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
COM	Excluded Grade	**Complete** (pass). Used only for 0-unit courses and those credit courses designated by the Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
Failing Grades	**Grade Point Value**	**Description**
E	0	Conditional supplemental.
F	0	**Unsatisfactory** performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.
N/X	Excluded Grade	Did not complete course requirements by the end of the term; no supplemental. Used only for co-op work terms and for courses designated by Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings. The grade is EXCLUDED from the calculation of all grade point averages.

F/X	Excluded Grade	**Unsatisfactory** performance. Completed course requirements; no supplemental. Used only for co-op work terms and for courses designated by Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings. The grade is EXCLUDED from the calculation of all grade point averages.
Temporary Grades	**Grade Point Value**	**Description**
INC	N/A	**Incomplete**. Used only for those credit courses designated by the Senate, to be replaced with a final grade by June 1. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
DEF	N/A	**Deferred status** granted. Used only when deferred status has been granted because of illness, an accident or family affliction. See Deferred Status.
UNK	N/A	**Unknown**. Used when grade is unknown.
INP	N/A	**In Progress**. Used only for courses designated by the Senate, to be replaced with a final grade by the end of the next Winter Session. If the student does not reregister, then the final grade will be N. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
CIC	N/A	**Co-op Interrupted Course**. See Co-op Regulations (14).
CTN	N/A	The **CTN** designation will appear on student transcripts at mid-point through the course or at the end of the first academic term (Sept-Dec). On completion of the course, the CTN designation will remain on the transcript for the first term and a final grade will be noted for the second academic term (Jan-April).
Grade		**Note**
AEG	N/A	**Aegrotat**. Transcript notation accompanying a letter grade, assigned where documented illness or similar affliction affected the student's performance or prevented completion of all course work.

-from UVic Course Calendar, 2014-2015

COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEY (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. towards the end of term, as in all other courses at uvic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as

well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey you will receive an email inviting you to do so. You will need to use your uvic netlink id to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. We will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

Syllabus Copyright Statement: