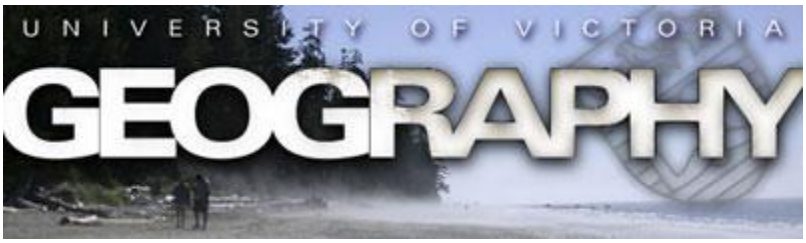

University of Victoria

Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Geography

GEOGRAPHY 101A – ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

SPRING TERM 2020

Instructor: Lisa Kadonaga
Email: arkenseal@gmail.com
Office: David Turpin Building (DTB) B204
Office hours: Tues and Wed, 1-4

Lectures: Mon and Thurs, 11:30 am-12:50 pm MacLaurin A144

Labs: ***See lab manual for details – all labs meet in DTB B307***

Lab instructors: Your lab instructor will post office hours at the beginning of the term. Kinga Menu, Senior Lab Instructor, is also available to discuss issues relating to the course and lab material. Kinga's office is DTB B304 and her email is kmenu@uvic.ca.

Course text: The course has a *required* text that is an excellent resource. The text will parallel and supplement the lecture content.

Dearden, P., and Mitchell, B. (2016). *Environmental change and challenge: A Canadian perspective.* 5th edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

The fourth edition is suitable, but some sections may differ. Please come prepared for each lecture and allocate approximately two to three hours per week for basic reading. The course text will be available on 2-hour reserve in the Reserve Reading Room in the Main Library (1st floor). Additional assigned readings will be distributed in class or available on the course website.

Course website: The course is supported by a CourseSpaces course management system (http://coursespaces.uvic.ca/my/). Outlines for points covered will be posted on CourseSpaces after lectures, along with additional required and supplemental readings. However, this won't substitute for attending classes, since some details may not be included in the posted outlines – and there will be advance exam questions distributed in class, which won't be put online. *It would be a good idea to check the CourseSpaces site regularly, in case of important class announcements and updates.*

Course structure: The course includes two 80-minute lectures per week and weekly 2-hour laboratory sessions. The laboratory sessions will include fieldwork, discussions, and debates. These laboratory sessions form an integral part of the course since they enable a more detailed discussion of topics relevant to the course. Furthermore, they are intended to counter the anonymity often experienced in the large lecture section.

Course objectives: The goal of Geog 101A is to introduce students to how 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.

Summary of assessment:
Exams – 55% (Midterm Exam Feb 24th, 15%; Final 40%)
Labs – 45% (Assignments* 35%**;** Participation (attendance and contribution): 10%) – see Lab Manual
*Eco Action group project 15%, Natural Areas group project 10%, 2 lab debates at 5% each
You must pass (i.e. score ≥ 50%) both the lab and exam components to pass the course. You will not be permitted to write the final exam if you do not submit all your lab assignments and receive a passing grade in the lab component.

Course schedule (Tentative)

Week of	**Lecture:**	**Textbook Readings:**
Jan 6	Spaceship Earth Human-Environment Relations	Obtain text
Jan 13	Sustainability and Resilience Energy Flows	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
Jan 20	Ecosystem Structure Biomes	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
Jan 27	Hydrological Cycle Biogeochemical Cycles	Chapter 4
Feb 3	Oceans and Fisheries	Chapter 8
Feb 10	Forests Climate Change	Chapter 9 Chapter 7
Feb 17	**(Family Day Holiday)**	Reading break
Feb 24	**Mid term exam** Biodiversity	Chapter 14
Mar 2	Endangered Species Protected Areas	Chapter 14
Mar 9	Agriculture Water	Chapter 10 Chapter 11
Mar 16	Water Energy	Chapter 11 Chapter 12
Mar 23	Urban Environment Planning and Management	Chapter 13 Chapter 5
Mar 30	Envisioning the Future	Chapter 15

*Readings refer to chapters in the course text, unless otherwise specified.

Note: Last day for adding courses is Jan 22nd 2020. Last day for dropping without penalty is Feb 29th 2020.

Undergraduate grading: (see UVic Calendar Grading Scale online for details)

A+ (grade point value = 9), 90-100%; A (g.p. value = 8), 85-89%; A- (g.p. value = 7), 80-84%
B+ (g.p. value = 6), 77-79%; B (g.p. value = 5), 73-76%; B- (g.p. value = 4), 70-72%
C+ (g.p. value = 3), 65-69%; C (g.p. value = 2), 60-64%; D (g.p. value = 1), 50-59%
F (g.p. value = 0), 0-49% (completed course); N (g.p. value = 0), 0-49% (incomplete course requirements)

Academic integrity: Please review the university policy on academic integrity and useful information on avoiding plagiarism.
http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-01/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcI.html

If problems arise and you cannot complete your assignments on time or cannot write the exams, it is your responsibility to discuss this with the course instructor, Counselling Centre, or your lab instructor, ASAP

Late assignments: Please inform the instructor ahead of time if you feel you will miss an exam due to medical or family circumstances so we can arrange an alternate time. If for a legitimate reason you are not able to submit an assignment on time, please notify your lab instructor in advance to make alternative arrangements. Outside of this, we will accept assignments **(with a 10% per day late penalty) up to three days after the due date**.

Course Experience Survey (CES): We 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 via MyPage regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback regarding the course and teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future.

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