



COURSE OUTLINE
Karst Geomorphology Field School



Karst refers to the landscapes and underground systems that form due to dissolution of soluble rocks via chemical weathering. This course has been designed to introduce students to the abundant karst landscapes on Vancouver Island. We will examine how karst forms, and the geomorphology, hydrology, geology, and biogeography of two specific karst landscapes in differing geologic units to compare formation processes. We will also examine karst conservation topics, with the final deliverable being an environmental management plan for a local karst unit.

This class will be supported by members of the UVIC Caving Club (UVCC).

Field Component Dates: Monday, May 1st - Sunday, May 7th, 2023 – Southern Vancouver Island, BC
Group project intermediate check-ins, first draft due: Weeks of May 22-June 10th, 2022 (Zoom, Bright)

Research Group Presentations: Thurs, June 22nd, 2023 (5pm-7pm, Zoom)

Final draft Research Group Paper due: Fri, June 23rd 11:59pm (Brightspace)

Instructor: Jill Krezoski

Office Location: DTB B302 or via Zoom

Contact: gkrezoski@uvic.ca or (250) 472-4269 (office phone)

KEY THEMES:

1. Recognise and describe common karst landscape features.
2. Understand and explain the physical principles of common geomorphic and hydrologic processes, and the functioning of the water and weathering on karst formations.
3. Obtain a holistic awareness of the interrelationship of the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere in the formation of karst landscapes, and how changes in each can impact karst ecosystems.
4. Understand cave conservation and karst management from a natural resource perspective.

COURSE TEXTBOOK:

Students will be provided with a field guide. Additional readings will be posted on Brightspace

EVALUATION

Grade Breakdown

Pre-reading activity (<i>Individual</i>)	10%
Gordon River Cave Presentation (<i>Field Deliverable 1 - Group</i>)	15%
Field Deliverable (<i>Field Deliverable 2 - Individual</i>)	15%
Field Notes (<i>Field Deliverable 3 - Individual</i>)	15%
Interest Group Paper and stage submission (<i>Group</i>)	30%
Final Presentation (<i>Group</i>)	10%
Reflection activities (<i>Individual</i>)	5%

GRADING SYSTEM

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
A+ A A-	9 8 7	90-100% 85-89% 80-84%	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	77-79% 73-76% 70-72%	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	65-69% 60-64%	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
D	1	50-59%	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
F	0	0-49%	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	0-49%	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO:

- Geography Department website: uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/
- Undergraduate Advising: geogadvising@uvic.ca

IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES

Students are expected to attend course activities, take notes and be punctual. A high level of student cooperation and participation, involving asking and answering questions is expected. For safety, cell phones should only be used during non-course time except in case of emergency.

As an Instructor, I can refuse a student admission to learning activities because of lateness, misconduct, inattention or failure to meet the responsibilities of the course. Students who neglect their academic work may be assigned a final grade of 'N' (which equals a Grade Point Value of 0) or debarred from final project work. Please refer to the UVIC academic calendar in the section on student academic conduct for further information.

Conflicts with holidays or travel plans are not considered an acceptable reason to apply for a deferred or assignment extension.

Unless otherwise stated students are expected to complete work independently.

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late work receives a 20% reduction in points for each day late (weekends count as one day). Any extensions must be approved by your course instructor. Requests will be granted for legitimate reasons with appropriate documentation as necessary.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is every student's responsibility to be aware of the university's policies on academic integrity, including policies on **cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized use of an editor, multiple submission, and aiding others to cheat.**

Policy on Academic Integrity:

<https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/index.php#/policies?group=Undergraduate%20Academic%20Regulations>

If you have any questions or doubts, ask. For more information, see uvic.ca/learningandteaching/cac/index.php.

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a documented disability or health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL as soon as possible <https://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>). The CAL staff is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals, and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

POSITIVITY AND SAFETY

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

DISCLAIMER

The below schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Anticipated Schedule (important academic term dates can be found [here](#))

- **First Day of Class:** Monday, May 1st, 2023: IN PERSON – you must be available in person through May 7th.
- **Intermediate check in and first drafts due:** Weeks of May 22-June 10th. (via Zoom)
- **Research group presentations:** 5-7pm on Thursday, June 22nd. (via Zoom)
- **Final Research Group paper:** Due Friday June 23rd (11:59 pm).

	Monday, May 1	Tuesday, May 2	Wednesday, May 3	Thursday, May 4	Friday, May 5	Saturday, May 6	Sunday, May 7	
	Classroom/ travel	A/B	C/A Classroom	B/C	A/B	C/A	B+C am only	
8:30	08:30 gear drop	Leave 09:00	Pack up camp, travel to Caycuse Campsite	To caves 08:00	To caves 08:00	To caves 08:00	Pack up camp, head to Looper Canyon	
9:30	9:00-12:30 Introduction to class and karst	9:30-2:00 Horne Lake karst orientation (picnic lunch) Hike	Lunch on road. Final gas and supply stop in Lake Cowichan	Gordon River Caves (supported by UVCC) Picnic lunch Bring snacks	Gordon River Caves (supported by UVCC) Picnic lunch Bring snacks	Wrap-up Gordon River Caves (2/3 day – leave by 3pm)	Looper Canyon (supported by UVCC) Picnic lunch	
10:30								
11:30								
12:30	Break for Lunch (12:30)							
1:30	1:30 Travel to Qualicum Beach Campsite							
2:30								
3:30								
4:30		Horne Lake Caves; check in 2:30 Caves 3- 6pm						
5:30		<i>Deliverable 1:</i> Presentation (Study Site Orientation) 4:30						
6:30								
7:30	Meeting: Camp Rules and procedures.		UVCC meet and greet - GRC Coordination			Movie night <i>Deliverable 2 Due before EOD</i>	Head back to Victoria*	

A/B/C Breakfast/Dinner help schedule

Adjustments to dates, times and activities on a given day are subject to change

**Deliverable 3: Turn in your field notebook before you depart for home.*