



Geography 209: Introduction to Environmental Management Fall 2017

COURSE SYLLABUS

Lectures

Mondays & Thursdays 1:00 – 2:20

MacLaurin Building (MAC) D288

Instructor Information

Instructor: Sean Irwin
Office: DTB B214
Office Hours: Mondays, 11:30-12:30
Email: irwin@uvic.ca

Labs

B01	Katlyn Keats	Mondays, 2:30-4:20	DTB B311	k.keats@hotmail.ca
B02	Katlyn Keats	Tuesdays, 12:30-2:20	DTB B311	k.keats@hotmail.ca
B03	Audrey Tung	Wednesdays, 8:30-10:20	DTB B311	agtung94@gmail.ca
B04	Audrey Tung	Thursdays, 10:30-12:20	DTB B311	agtung94@gmail.ca

Course Description

Featuring both a lab and lecture component, Geog 209 is the core 200-level course in the Department of Geography's "Environment and Sustainability" concentration. Having developed an understanding of the biophysical elements and processes that comprise our ecosystems in Geog 101A, this course turns to exploring how humans attempt to manage our relationship with, and be a part of, those ecosystems.

The course will explore the recent historical context and patterns in environmental management and interrogate the social and ecological challenges created by that management system. We will then move to examine the latest theories, ideas, tools, and approaches that offer us hope for creative solutions, and for living in a manner that allows for a more sustainable and just trajectory. These will be explored by using case studies from around the world.

Readings and Materials

Texts: There are no mandatory texts assigned for this class.

Essential readings and materials in the forms of journal articles, book chapters, news articles, videos, etc., can be either found through the UVic library or will be posted on CourseSpaces. While readings are peripheral to learning in some courses, they are central to this one. Reading effectively is absolutely essential for success in this course. Be mindful that simply reading without engaging with the material (i.e. marking, highlighting, frequent re-reading, taking notes and critical reflection) is essentially useless (i.e. you will not develop an in-depth and nuanced understanding of the material).

CourseSpaces

The UVic online learning support system CourseSpaces (<http://coursespaces.uvic.ca/>) will be used for this course. There you will find announcements, assigned readings, grades, and other course information. Be sure to check it frequently.

Outline

Here you will find an outline of the topics that will be covered each week. The topics and their order are considered flexible, and may be changed to suit instruction needs, student interest, and course flow.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics</u>
Week 1 – Sept 7	Introduction and Course Outline
Week 2 – Sept 11, 14	The history of environmental management
Week 3 – Sept 18, 21	The concept of environmental management
Week 4 – Sept 25, 28	Perspectives and ways of knowing
Week 5 – Oct 2, 5	Environmental impact assessments
Week 6 – Oct 12	Public participation
Week 7 – Oct 16, 19	Public participation, <u>Midterm Exam Oct 19</u>
Week 8 – Oct 23, 26	Management models
Week 9 – Oct 30, Nov 2	Protected areas
Week 10 – Nov 6, 9	Ecosystem based management & adaptive management
Week 11 – Nov 16	Science, decision-making, and complexity
Week 12 – Nov 20, 23	Market Mechanisms
Week 13 – Nov 27, 30	Course Review

Evaluation

- **Lab activities and assignments – 50%:** See lab manual for details.
- **Midterm exam – 20%:** This exam will be based on course material from first half of the course. It will be held in class on **October 19th**.
- **Final Exam – 30%:** This exam will challenge your understanding of course content from the entire semester. The exam will be scheduled by the UVic Office of the Registrar and announced near the end of October.

- **Bonus Marks – 3%:** If you put in 10 hours of volunteering for a non-profit environmental organization you can receive a 3% bonus to your overall mark. To get credit for your work you must hand in a signed letter from a supervisory person at the organization where you volunteered acknowledging you volunteered for ten hours or more. I highly encourage you to pursue a volunteering opportunity, frankly because it's a good thing to do, but it can also foster relationships, looks good on a resume, and an extra 3% is often enough to push you up a letter grade. The letter demonstrating that you undertook volunteering must be submitted to your TA at or before the final exam.

The grading system for this course comes from the Academic Calendar and is as follows:

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.

Important Dates

September 2017

- 19 Tuesday Last day for 100% reduction of tuition fees for standard first term and full year courses. 50% of tuition fees will be assessed for courses dropped after this date.
- 22 Friday Last day for adding courses that begin in the first term.

October 2017

- 9 Monday Thanksgiving Day – No Classes
- 10 Tuesday Last day for 50% reduction of tuition fees for standard courses. 100% of tuition fees will be assessed for courses dropped after this date.
- 31 Tuesday Last day for withdrawing from first term courses without penalty of failure

November 2017

11 Saturday Remembrance Day
13-15 Mon-Wed Reading Break – No Classes

December 2017

1 Friday Last day of classes
4 Monday First-term examinations begin
18 Monday First term examinations end

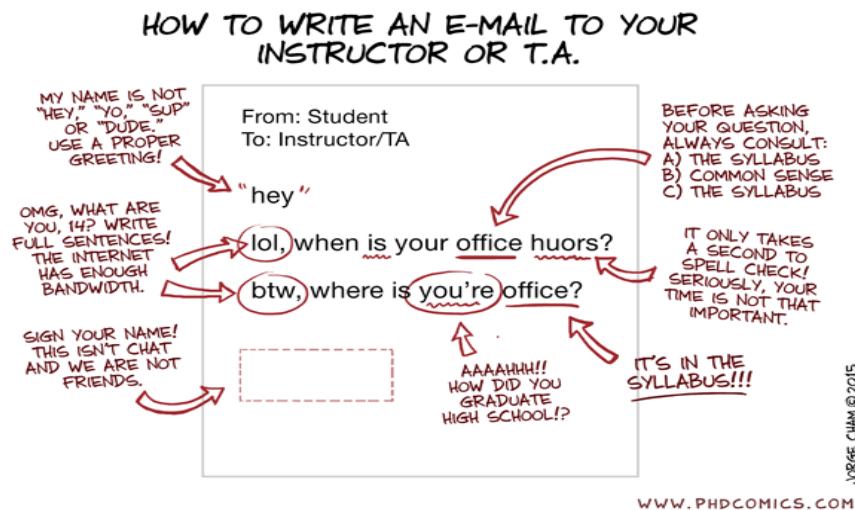
Policies

Absences: If you are absent for an exam you must notify me by either contacting me before the exam, or if it is for a last minute reason (ex: car accident) contact me within 12 hours following the exam. You must also provide proper documentation (doctor's note, accident report, etc.) supporting the stated reason for absence. An absence without supporting documentation will result in a zero. Absence for a graded in-lab activity also requires appropriate documentation. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of 0 for the related assignment and will affect your participation mark.

Late Assignments: These will only be accepted without penalty if proper documentation (see above) is provided. Otherwise, any assignment that is handed in after the deadline will incur a penalty of 20% off per day that it is late. Assignments must be handed in at the time and in the manner stipulated by the instructor or TA.

Referencing: All of your work should have references, and you should use as many as are needed to produce an effective assignment. APA format is preferred. A quick Google search will provide all that you need to know on how to do APA formatting.

Contacting the Instructor: See email and office hours above. If you have a course conflict with my office hours I will be happy to arrange an alternate time to meet. You are also free to chat with me before or after class (time permitting). If you have easy to answer questions, email works best. Here is some funny (but good) advice on email correspondence:



Plagiarism

The rules and consequences of plagiarizing or cheating at university are well known and enforced. Students caught cheating or plagiarizing can face anything from a zero on the assignment to expulsion from the university. Please review the following UVic webpages on academic integrity:

<http://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/students/resources/expectations/>

<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-01/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcI.html>

Accessibility

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

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. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

Geography Department Info

The UVic Geography Department website is <http://geog.uvic.ca> and the undergraduate advisor, Dr. Phil Wakefield, can be reached at geogadvisor@uvic.ca