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**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**GEOG 376 PROCESS GEOMORPHOLOGY (CRN: 11820)**

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**Office Hours: M 2:00 – 4:00 pm, or by appointment**

**Office Location: DTB B124**

**Contact: [ekwooll@uvic.ca](mailto:ekwooll@uvic.ca)**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course follows the Introductory Geomorphology Course (GEOG 276). Here, we will dive into the processes that create and maintain landforms. We will explore the mechanics behind the creation and transport of sediment from hillslopes to low-lying coastal settings. Lectures will encompass geomorphic processes in fluvial, coastal, glacial and periglacial settings. We will examine how changes in tectonics and climate affect surface processes in these settings and how these processes affect landscape evolution. We will also learn about methods that are used to study modern geomorphic processes today. These methods range from traditional to more advanced field instrumentation, laboratory experiments and numerical modelling. This course includes a field trip in the Greater Victoria Area.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of this course the students will be able to

- Explain the principle forces and feedbacks driving geomorphic processes on Earth
- Apply basic physical relations to solve geomorphic problems
- Evaluate the suitability of research methods for a given research problem
- Critically reflect on scientific articles on geomorphic research

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**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Ritter, D.F., R.C. Kochel, and J.F. Miller (2011). *Process Geomorphology* (5/e). Waveland Press (ISBN 13: 978-1-57766-669-1). A copy will be on reserve in the library and previous editions are suitable and available.

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS**

Throughout this course, we will also read scientific articles that will be announced in class. Further recommended reading are found in:

Schroeder, J. (Editor in Chief) et al. (2013). *Treatise on Geomorphology*. Available online as html or PDF via Uvic Library E-book. ISBN: 978-0-12-398353-4. DOI: 10.1016/B978-0-12-374739-6.09021-7

I will specify in each class which chapters are recommended. This is meant as a study resource and to familiarize you with reading scientific literature.

## EVALUATION

Lab assignments	40%
Mid-term	20%
Lab Examination	10%
Final Exam	30%

## GRADING SYSTEM

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
<b>A+</b> <b>A</b> <b>A-</b>	9 8 7	90-100% 85-89% 80-84%	<b>Exceptional, outstanding and excellent</b> 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> <b>B</b> <b>B-</b>	6 5 4	77-79% 73-76% 70-72%	<b>Very good, good and solid</b> 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.
<b>C+</b> <b>C</b>	3 2	65-69% 60-64%	<b>Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory.</b> These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
<b>D</b>	1	50-59%	<b>Marginal</b> Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
<b>F</b>	0	0-49%	<b>Unsatisfactory</b> performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
<b>N</b>	0	0-49%	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

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## GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO

- Geography Department website: <http://geog.uvic.ca>
- Undergraduate Advisor: Dr. Phil Wakefield – [geogadvisor@uvic.ca](mailto:geogadvisor@uvic.ca)

## COURSESPACES

<https://coursespaces.uvic.ca>

All relevant course material will be posted here.

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## POLICIES

### 1. Labs:

- Lab assignments are an essential part of GEOG376. Students are required to **complete all assignments and obtain a passing grade** in the lab component (labs + lab exam) to obtain credit

for this course.

- Labs are due 1 week after assigned unless specified otherwise.
- All details regarding labs & their marks are managed by your TA. Please attend only the section for which you are registered.
- Please bring: calculator, ruler, protractor, and any other supplies recommended. Software for spreadsheet analyses and graphing (e.g., MS Excel, Open Office, etc.) will also be required for some labs and will be announced. Most computing labs on campus have these software.
- To help reduce the environmental impact of paper consumption, please submit assignments printed on both sides of the paper. Your TA may also agree to electronic (e.g., PDF) submissions, but please check with her personally.

## 2. Lateness policy:

- A deduction of 25% of the total mark per weekday (weekends count as 1 day) will be applied to all late lab assignments. Accommodations are made only for extenuating circumstances with proper medical or counselling documentation provided. Note that if you must miss a lab, please make arrangements with your TA in advance.

## 3. Examinations:

- The Mid-term and the Lab Exam will be held during lecture on the dates shown below.
- Exam attendance is mandatory. Exceptions will be made only under the following conditions:
- The instructor is informed in person before the exam that the absence will occur. \*Note: do not sit an exam if you are ill, provide medical documentation in advance.
- The student has proper written documentation of a serious medical or compassionate cause for the absence AND this documentation is provided either before or immediately after the exam;
- See UVic Course Calendar for official university guidelines Please feel free to contact the course instructor with any concerns.

## PLAGIARISM

If you include external sources in your lab assignments, you must use proper citation and follow good scientific practice. For more details on when and how to cite, please see:

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

The labs will involve group work, however each student must submit their own lab assignment. Penalties will be given for duplicated assignments.

**Policy on Academic Integrity:** <http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-01/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcl.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.

## Lecture Outline (subject to change)

### Important dates:

**18. Sep.** Last day to add this class to your agenda to be able to receive a passing grade.

**02. Oct** Field trip day! We will explore the greater Victoria area and talk about geomorphology in the field. Details will follow in class.

Week	Dates	Monday	Thursday	Lab		Reading
1	04.Sep - 08.Sep		Introduction			
2	11.Sep - 15.Sep	Key concepts	Climate & Topography	Lab 1	Geotechnical	Text: Chapters 1-2
3	18.Sep - 22.Sep	Weathering	Mass movement and slopes	Lab 2	Mass wasting	Text: Chapters 3-4
4	25.Sep - 29.Sep	Fluvial processes		Lab 3	Fluvial	Text: Chapters 5-7
5	02.Oct - 06.Oct	Field trip	Course Review			Text: Chapters 5-7
6	09.Oct - 13.Oct		Midterm			
7	16.Oct - 20.Oct	Coastal processes		Lab 4	Coastal Lab	Text: Chapter 13
8	23.Oct - 27.Oct	Aeolian processes		Lab 5	Aeolian Lab	Text: Chapter 8
9	30.Oct - 03.Nov	Glacial processes		Lab 6	Glacial Lab	Text: Chapter 9-10
10	06.Nov - 10.Nov	Periglacial processes		Lab 7	Periglacial Lab	Text: Chapter 11
11	13.Nov - 17.Nov		Ecogeomorphology			
12	20.Nov - 24.Nov	Methods in Geomorphology				
13	27.Nov - 01.Dec	Course Review + Lab Exam	Course Review			