

# GEOGRAPHY 101A – ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

## SPRING TERM 2019

**Instructor:** Lisa Kadonaga (arkenseal@gmail.com)  
**Office:** TBA  
**Office hours:** Tuesday and Wednesday 1-4 or make arrangements  
**Lectures:** Monday and Thursday 1-2:20; Cornett A221  
**Labs:** Labs start week of Jan 14<sup>th</sup>. Available timeslots are M (10:00-11:50 and 14:30-16:20), T (10:30-12:20), W (12:30-14:20). *All labs meet in DTB B307.*

Your lab instructor will post office hours at the beginning of the term. Kinga Menu, Senior Lab Instructor (DTB B304) is also available to discuss issues relating to the course and lab material. Her email is [kmenu@uvic.ca](mailto:kmenu@uvic.ca).

**Course structure:** The course includes two 80-minute lectures per week and one weekly 2-hour laboratory session. The laboratory sessions will include fieldwork, discussions, and debates.

**Required course text:** Dearden, P., and Mitchell, B. (2016). *Environmental change and challenge: A Canadian perspective*. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

*The fourth edition is suitable, but some sections may differ.* The course text will be available on 2-hour reserve in the library. (Reserve Reading Room in the Main Library, 1st floor).

**Course website:** The course is supported by a CourseSpaces course management system (<http://coursespaces.uvic.ca/my/>). Outlines 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 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 28th, 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  $\geq 50\%$ ) 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)

Date	Lecture	Reading*	Labs
Jan 7	Course Introduction		No Labs
Jan 10	Human and Environment Relationships		
Jan 14	Spaceship Earth; Sustainability and Resilience	Ch. 1	Introduction to <i>Ecoaction Project</i>
Jan 17	Energy Flow	Ch. 2	

Jan 21	Ecosystem Structure	Ch. 2	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Jan 24	Dynamic Ecosystems	Ch. 3	
Jan 28	Ecosystem Classification	Ch. 3	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Jan 31	Biogeochemical Cycles	Ch. 4	
Feb 4	Hydrological Cycle	Ch. 4	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Feb 7-11	Oceans and Fisheries	Ch. 8	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Feb 14	Forests and Forestry	Ch. 9	
Wk of Feb 18	<b>Reading Break</b>		No Labs
Feb 25	Forests and Forestry	Ch. 9	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Feb 28	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>		
Mar 4	Climate Change/Wildfire	Ch. 7	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Mar 7	Biodiversity/Endangered Species	Ch. 14	
Mar 11	Protected Areas	Ch. 14	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Mar 14	Foraging	TBA	
Mar 18-21	Agriculture	Ch. 10	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Mar 25-28	Water	Ch. 11	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Apr 1	The Future/Making It Happen	Ch. 15	<b>EcoAction Presentations</b>
Apr 4	Course Wrap-up, Exam Hints	TBA	

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

Note: Last day for adding courses is Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018. Last day for dropping without penalty is Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2018.

**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://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/students/resources/expectations/>

<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.

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