



COURSE OUTLINE

GEOG276: Introduction to Geomorphology

In grateful acknowledgement of the L'kwungen & WSÁNEĆ Peoples upon whose territories we are able to live and learn.

Course materials and instructions will be made available on Brightspace (bright.uvic.ca). Please read this outline and further instruction carefully.

The laboratory component of this course is supported by Senior Laboratory Instructor Gillian Krezoski (gkrezoski@uvic.ca) and TA's Jordan Prior (jordan99prior@uvic.ca) and Wyatt Maddox (wrmaddox@uvic.ca). You can find all lab assignment and supporting material on Brightspace. All contact information and lab details will be provided.

Instructor: Dr. Sophie Norris

Office Hours: Tuesday 9.30-10.30 am (my office David Turpin Building B128)

Contact: sophienorris@uvic.ca

Lectures: T, W 11:30 – 12:20 (A01) Cornett Building A221

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Geomorphology is the study of the surface of the Earth. What makes geomorphology different from the other earth science fields is that it is primarily rooted in the explanation of present landforms and active processes. From the perspective developed by studying the present, geomorphologists may seek to interpret the importance of past events on present landforms.

This course examines a variety of geomorphological processes and systems. The goal is to provide students with an appreciation of how the landscape around them formed and its continued evolution with particular focus on landscapes of British Columbia, Canada, and western North America.

KEY THEMES:

1. Recognise and describe the characteristics of common landforms.
2. Understand and explain the physical principles of common geomorphic and hydrologic processes, and the functioning of the water and sediment cascades.
3. Explain landform development in relation to the relevant geomorphic and hydrologic processes and anticipate the effects of environmental change on both the processes and landforms.
4. Discuss, with the help of case examples, the application of geomorphology and hydrology to environmental management.

RECOMMENDED TEXT

Paul R. Bierman and David R. Montgomery. Key Concepts in Geomorphology – either 2013 (1st edition) or 2020 (2nd edition). E-book can be accessed here:

<https://store.macmillanlearning.com/ca/product/Key-Concepts-in-Geomorphology/p/1319059805>

EVALUATION

The course grade will be based on the following

		Date (or date due)	Weight	Subject
1	Quizzes	2 quizzes (5% each) – Dates TBA	10 %	Lecture, text and labs topics and external lecture reports
2	Mid-Term Test	Listed below	20 %	Lecture and text materials
3	Final Exam	Will be posted	30 %	Lecture materials (all)
4	Labs	Detailed breakdown to follow in sections	40 %	Varied

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: <http://geog.uvic.ca>

Undergraduate Advisor: Cam Owens- geogadvising@uvic.ca

Department Chair: Dr. David Atkinson - geogchair@uvic.ca

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, **with emails cc'd to your TAs**. Requests will be granted for legitimate reasons with appropriate documentation as necessary.

POLICY ON ATTENDANCE

The lecture quizzes, midterm and final are based on lecture and lab material – attendance is strongly recommended.

Lab marks are almost half of your final grade – attendance is strongly recommended.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

- **Midterm Examination: February 15th** MC/Short answer/Long answer, 50 minutes
- **Final Examination: Apr TBA** MC/Short answer/Long answer, ~2-2.5 hrs
Two quizzes will be administered throughout the term on lecture topics covered in the previous weeks.

WEEK	DATE	Lecture Topic	Chapter Pages for Recommended Readings (1 st ed); (2 nd ed)
1	Jan 10-11	1&2_ Introduction	5-30; 4-28
2	Jan 17-18	3&4_ Weathering and Soil	77-110; 120-157
3	Jan 24-25	5&6_ Geomorphic Hydrology	111-137; 86-112
4	Jan 31-1	7&8_ Hillslope Geomorphology (Quiz 1)	145-177; 165-197
5	Feb 7-8	9&10_ Fluvial Geomorphology	179-251; 199-269
6	Feb 14-15	11&12_ Fluvial Geomorph. (Midterm Feb 15th)	5-251; 4269
7	Feb 21-22	Reading Break- no classes	-
8	Feb 28-1	13&14_ Karst Geomorphology	133-137; 109-112
9	Mar 7-8	15&16_ Glacial Geomorphology	291-315; 373-399
10	Mar 14-15	17&18_ Periglacial Geomorphology	316-324; 399-410
11	Mar 21-22	19&20_ Coastal Geomorphology (Quiz 2)	253-287; 271-304
12	Mar 28-29	21&22_ Aeolian Geomorphology	329-354; 311-338
13	Apr 4-5	22&23_ Geomorphology and Landscape evolution	461-494; 491-524

DISCLAIMER

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

LABORATORY COMPONENT

Labs are designed to cover a variety of exercises designed to elaborate on the lecture material. The labs are also used to teach practical skills in geomorphology. The laboratory sessions will be supervised by

teaching assistants who will also be responsible for assessment of lab work. Lab sessions will be held in David Turpin Building B303 at the following times:

Tues B01 (14:30-16:20) TA: Wyatt Maddox (wrmaddox@uvic.ca)
 Wed B02 (12:30-14:20) TA: Jordan Prior (jordan99prior@uvic.ca)
 Thurs B03 (14:30-16:20) TA: Wyatt Maddox (wrmaddox@uvic.ca)
 Fri B04 (10:30-12:20) TA: Jordan Prior (jordan99prior@uvic.ca)

WEEK	DATE	Lab Schedule	Due dates: Mondays before 5pm
1	Jan 10-13	No Labs	
2	Jan 17-20	No labs	
3	Jan 24-27	Lab 1: Introduction to Isostasy (6%)	
4	Jan 31-3	Lab 2: Sea-level Geomorphology (6%)	
5	Feb 7-10	Lab 3: Landslides (6%)	Lab 1 due (Feb 6)
6	Feb 14-17	No labs - Midterm	Lab 2 due (Feb 13)
7	Feb 21-24	Reading Break- no classes	
8	Feb 28-3	Lab 4: Contours and Hillslopes I – Group Lab	Lab 3 due (Feb 27)
9	Mar 7-10	Lab 4: Contours and Hillslopes II* (12%)	
10	Mar 14-17	Lab 4: In-Lab Work Week (Creating Contour Maps)	
11	Mar 21-24	Lab 5: Glacial Geomorphology* (10%)	Lab 4 due (Mar 20)
12	Mar 28-31	Lab 5: In-Lab Work Week	
13	Apr 4-6	No labs	Lab 5 due (Apr 3)

*Denotes Outdoor Labs – dress for the weather.

All assignments will be submitted to Brightspace Dropbox before the due date.

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/archives/202205/undergrad/index.php#/policies>.

If you have any questions, talk to me, your course instructor. 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 RCSD 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.

SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AT UVIC

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR; Sedgewick C119

Phone: 250.721.8021

Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca

Web: uvic.ca/svp

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.

NOTE:

A note to remind you to take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone.

Counselling Services - *Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.* uvic.ca/services/counselling/

Health Services - *University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.* uvic.ca/services/health/

Centre for Accessible Learning - *The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations* 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.*

Elders' Voices - *The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.*

uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/index.php