# GEOGRAPHY/ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES 1120YA / 1140YA (2013-2014)

### **Environmental Issues – A Geographical Approach**

Fall Term Instructor Dr. Robert Stewart, Associate Professor

Office: RC2006: Hours – Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:00-1:00 Telephone: 766-7181 e-mail: rob.stewart@lakeheadu.ca

Winter Term Instructor Dr. Todd Randall, Associate Professor

Office: RC2006: Hours - TBA

Telephone: 343-8381 e-mail: randall@lakeheadu.ca

Time Tuesdays 2:30pm – 4:00pm

Thursdays 2:30pm – 4:00pm

Location RB 1042 (Fall Term: Sept. 10 to Nov. 28)

(Winter Term: Jan. 7 to April 3)

#### Content

Current environmental issues will be examined using a geographical approach that stresses the interrelationships between environments and societies. Such issues are seldom completely new, but have evolved over decades or even centuries. A short overview of the various issues and approaches to them over the years will allow them to be placed in a historical framework. The major physical and societal components of the earth/atmosphere system will be considered in the first term to provide a base for the understanding of the nature and development of modern environmental concerns. The causes, characteristics and impacts of specific problems will be examined in detail in the second term and potential solutions will be evaluated through consideration of such elements as technology, politics, economics and planning and management.

Text

Dearden, Philip and Mitchell, Bruce (2012). *Environmental Change and Challenge (4<sup>th</sup> Edition)*, Oxford University Press, Don Mills, Ontario, Canada

#### 1120 MARK ASSESSMENT

Midterm Exam 1 (Oct. 24)	15%
Christmas Exam (Dec. TBA)	30%
Midterm Exam 1 (Feb. 13)	15%
Final Exam (April TBA)	40%

### **1140 MARK ASSESSMENT** (Those enrolled in Lab Component)

Midterm Exam 1 (Oct. 24)	10%
Christmas Exam (Dec. TBA)	25%
Midterm Exam 1 (Feb. 13)	10%
Final Exam (April TBA)	30%
Lab Assignments	25%

N.B. Because of the size of the class, requests to write tests and exams outside the normally scheduled time cannot be considered

# **FALL TERM 2013**

Sept. 10 & 12	Chapter 1 Introduction to Environmental Systems Thinking
Sept. 17 & 19	Chapter 2 The Ecosphere: Energy flows and Ecosystems
Sept. 24 & 26	Chapter 2 The Ecosphere: Abiotic and Biotic Components
Oct. 1 & 3	Chapter 3 Ecosystems are Dynamic: Ecological Succession
Oct. 8 & 10	Chapter 3 Ecosystems are Dynamic: Changing Ecosystems
Oct. 15 & 17	Chapter 4 Ecosystems and Matter Cycling: Biogeochemical Cycles
Oct. 22 & 24	Chapter 4 Human Activity and Impact ( <i>Midterm 1 Exam – October 24<sup>th</sup></i> )
Oct. 29 & 31	Chapter 5 Planning and Management Philosophy
Nov 5 & 7	Chapter 5 Ecosystem Management
Nov 12 & 14	Chapter 6 Adaptive Management
Nov 19 & 21	Chapter 6 Impact and Risk Assessment
Nov 26 & 28	Christmas Exam Review

# 1140 LABORATORY REQUIREMENT

1140Y1 - Monday 2:30-5:30 (RC2003) 1140Y2 - Friday 8:30-11:30 (RC2003)

1140Y3 - Monday 2:30-5:30 (BB0021) - NRM Students only

**Objective:** To provide additional learning opportunities (to collect environmental

data; learn to use base set of equipment for environmental assessment) for Geography majors during their first year in a Geography / ENST with

Geography program.

Why Join Each laboratory period will involve hands-on learning of a skill or skills

that will enhance your understanding of the discipline and better prepare

you for courses in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of your program.

Workload Most work will be completed in the three hour lab session but some

exercises will involve extra time beyond the lab period itself. On average, this may entail an extra two hours per lab exercise.

Mark Allocation The laboratory component of the course will be worth 25% of your final

grade in the course. See Lecture course outline for complete breakdown.

Who should come The laboratory is <u>mandatory</u> for students in 1140YA majoring in

Geography, especially those in an Honours program (e.g., Honours Geography, Honours Geography and Education, Environmental Studies with Honours Geography). It is also mandatory for those students enrolled in 1140 Y3 in the Faculty of Natural Resources Management

Additional Space Space may be available in the Geography Lab Section for students of

other majors on a first served basis. To reserve a place, please see the 1140 Lab Instructor (Jason Freeburn – RC2004 and attend first lab for

section).

Fees are \$15.00 per student payable (Cheque or Cash)

Bring payment to Jennifer McKee (RC3016G) by OCTOBER 1, 2013