

GEOG/ENST 1120/1140, 2014-2015

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES – A GEOGRAPHICAL APPROACH

Fall Term Instructor Dr. Adam Cornwell
Office: RC 2006D *Hours:* Tue. 10:30-12:00, Wed. 3:30-5:00
e-mail: acornwel@lakeheadu.ca

Winter Term Instructor Dr. Mitchell Taylor
Office: RC 2006E
e-mail: mktaylor@lakeheadu.ca

Course 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.

Textbook:

Dearden, P. and B. Mitchell (2012). *Environmental Change and Challenge (4th Edition)*, Oxford University Press.

1120 Evaluation Scheme:

<i>Midterm 1</i>	15%	October 22
<i>Christmas Exam</i>	30%	December
<i>Midterm 2</i>	15%	TBA
<i>Final Examination</i>	40%	April

1140 Evaluation Scheme (lab component):

<i>Midterm 1</i>	10%	October 22
<i>Christmas Exam</i>	25%	December
<i>Midterm 2</i>	10%	TBA
<i>Final Examination</i>	30%	April
<i>Lab Assignments</i>	25%	See manual

Lecture Times and Place: Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 (RB 1042)

Lecture Schedule, Fall 2014 (*subject to changes*)

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Subjects</i>
Sept 8 & 10	Chapter 1 Introduction to Environmental Systems Thinking
Sept 15 & 17	Chapter 2 Energy Flows and Ecosystems
Sept 22 & 24	Chapter 2 Abiotic and Biotic Components
Sept 29 & Oct 1	Chapter 3 Ecological Succession
Oct 6 & 8	Chapter 3 Changing Ecosystems
Oct 13 & 14	Chapter 4 Biogeochemical Cycles
Oct 20	Chapter 4 Human Activity and Impact
Oct 22	MIDTERM 1
Oct 27 & 29	Chapter 5 Planning and Management Philosophy
Nov 3 & 5	Chapter 5 Ecosystem Management
Nov 10 & 12	Chapter 6 Adaptive Management
Nov 17 & 19	Chapter 6 Impact and Risk Assessment
Nov 24 & 26	Chapter 7 Global Climate Change

1140 Laboratory Requirement

Lab Instructor Mr. Jason Freeburn
Office: RC 2004
Hours: Mon. 11:00-12:00, Tue. 1:00-2:00, Wed. 10:00-12:00
e-mail: jtfreebu@lakeheadu.ca

1140Y1 -Tuesday 2:30-5:30 (RC2003)

1140Y2 -Tuesday 8:30-11:30 (RC2003)

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

<i>Objective</i>	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.
<i>Why Join</i>	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 future courses.
<i>Workload</i>	Most work will be completed during the three hour lab session but some exercises will involve extra time beyond the lab period itself.
<i>Who Should Attend</i>	The laboratory is mandatory for students in 1140YA majoring in Geography, Environmental Studies, and Environmental Science (Geography Major). It is also mandatory for those students enrolled in 1140Y3 in the Faculty of Natural Resources Management.
<i>Additional Space</i>	Space may be available in the Geography Lab Section for students of other majors on a first served basis. If you're not enrolled in 1140 but would like to take on the Laboratory Requirement , please see the 1140 Lab Instructor and attend the first lab for your section.

Expectations

Deferred Examinations and Assignments:

You must take all examinations during their scheduled periods, and submit assignments on or before the day that they are due. Missed exams and late assignments will be counted as zero credit unless prior approval is provided (email message or hard copy) or appropriate documentation for University approved absence is provided. Approved absence includes illness (medical practitioner certificate), varsity sports (letter or email message from coach), or family emergency (documentation of circumstance). Scheduling conflicts with other courses are not considered an approved absence. Absence due to participation in scientific meetings or field trips associated with other courses will be considered on a case by case basis. Enrollment in GEOG 1120/1140 should be regarded as a series of appointments for the dates and times identified by the course schedule. We will be there for all of them.

We are aware that some of you have to maintain a particular grade average to retain your scholarship, stay in the Honors program, and to graduate. Now is the time to decide what grade you need, budget the time to achieve that mark, and commit to doing the work necessary. Please don't come to us after the course is finished and ask what can be done to address a poor performance.

Special Circumstances or Disabilities:

Students with special circumstances or disabilities are encouraged to contact the Learning Assistance Center right away so that appropriate accommodations can be arranged. It is not necessary to get our permission. The Learning Assistance Center will notify us of any accommodations that are required, and this information is confidential.

Academic Honesty:

The Lakehead University Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures may be found on the university web site. Honesty and integrity are expected in class participation, examinations, assignments, and other academic work. Expectations include that you will:

- Perform your own work unless specifically instructed otherwise;
- Use your own work to complete assignments and exams;
- Cite the source when quoting or paraphrasing someone else's work;
- Follow examination rules;
- Be truthful on all university forms;
- Discuss with your professor if you are using the same material for assignments in two different courses;
- Discuss with your professor if you have any questions about whether sources require citation;
- Use the same standard of honesty with fellow students, lab instructors, teaching assistants, sessional instructors and administrative staff as you do with faculty.

Appropriate Behavior in Class:

Attendance is optional. However, those that do choose to attend class must refrain from talking once the lecture has begun. Questions are welcome, but conversations with other students cannot be accommodated because of the large number of students and the acoustics of the lecture hall. Please be considerate of other students around you.