

# Geography / Environmental Studies 1190: Indigenous Knowledge, Science and the Environment

Current environment and sustainability issues will be examined using a geographical approach that incorporates Indigenous knowledge, worldviews and practices. By comparing traditional ecological knowledge with western scientific approaches students will gain an enhanced understanding of ecosystems and society's place within it. The course engages students in case studies that exemplify the role of Indigenous Peoples in ecosystem management in Canada, in particular. The role of treaties and Indigenous rights in federal and provincial environment and resource management, the impact of environmental law decisions on Indigenous Peoples, and the adversarial and collaborative roles that Indigenous Peoples play in response to current environmental changes and challenges will be the focus of key topics.

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*Required Text* Berkes, Fikret (2012). *Sacred Ecology* (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) Routledge, New York.

*Supplemental* Dearden, Philip and Mitchell, Bruce (2016). *Environmental Change and Challenge* (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), Oxford University Press, Don Mills, Ontario, Canada

*Classes* Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:00pm – 5:30pm (UC 2011)

## Course Evaluation:

Participation	10%
Group Project	20%
Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

Week of Jan. 9	Context of Science and Indigenous Knowledge	Chapter 1
Week of Jan. 16	Research in Environmental Science/Studies	Chapter 2
Week of Jan. 23	Traditional Ecological Knowledge	Chapter 3
Week of Jan. 30	Knowledge Systems and Practice	Chapter 4
Week of Feb. 6	Worldviews and the Environment	Chapter 5
Week of Feb. 13	Ecosystem Knowledge and Social Learning	Chapter 6
Week of Feb. 20	<b>READING WEEK (No Classes)</b>	
Week of Feb. 27	Midterm Review and Exam	
Week of Mar. 6	Ecosystem-Based, Adaptive Management	Chapter 7
Week of Mar. 13	Climate Change and Local Observations	Chapter 8
Week of Mar. 20	Uncertainty and Complex Environmental Systems	Chapter 9
Week of Mar. 27	Conflict and Barriers to Environmental Decision-Making	Chapter 11
Week of Apr. 3	Towards a New Ecological Knowledge Synthesis	Chapter 12