GEOG 3471: Environmental Assessment and Management

Wednesday and Friday
1:00-2:30 p.m., OA 2006

Course Objective and Scope

The course introduces environmental assessment in the context of sustainable development and environmental management. Focusing on environmental impact assessment (EIA), lectures will focus on the basic principles of biophysical and socio-economic assessment and how they relate to environmental management policies and practice. Although the Canadian EIA system will be given particular attention, key techniques and methods will also be covered using case studies from selected Canadian jurisdictions. The course is lecture-based with an application of methods and techniques on the practice of environmental assessment in Canada and elsewhere.

Texts:

Required Text:

Recommended Text:

Evaluation:

Assessment of student performance will be as follows;

- Class Participation- 20% (Attendance, Class Discussion and/or Exercises*)
- Mid-term Exam- 30%
- Final Exam- 30%
- EIA Seminars by Canadian Jurisdictions- 20%

*Exercises: Take home assignments, individualized with instructions provided.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1 | Introduction to Course - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Management  
Overview: Environmental Management  
Nature, Origins and Development of EIA  
*Read Chapter 1, Noble, 2014* |
| Week 2 | The Canadian EIA System  
EIA and Sustainable Development  
EIA Process - *Read Chapter 1, Hanna 2015, Chapter 1, Noble, 2014*  
Legal Basis; Evolution of Federal Environmental Assessment in Canada  
*Read Chapter 2, Noble, 2014*  
The Canadian Federal EIA System  
*Read Chapter 10, Hanna 2015; Chapter 2, Noble, 2014* |
| Week 3 | The Science of Assessment and Environmental Impacts  
Public Participation in Canadian EIA  
*Read Chapters 3-4, Hanna 2015; Chapter 10, Noble, 2014* |
| Week 4 | The EIA Practice  
Consideration of Alternatives, Screening of Actions  
*Read Chapter 4, Noble, 2014*  
Scoping of Impacts  
*Read Chapter 5, Noble, 2014*  
Predicting Environmental Impacts  
*Read Chapter 6, Noble, 2014*  
Managing Project Impacts  
*Read Chapter 7, Noble, 2014* |
| Week 5 | Techniques and Methods in EIA  
Tools Supporting EIA Practice  
The Practitioners Toolkit and Impact Identification  
*Read Chapter 3, Noble, 2014* |
| Week 6 | Thanksgiving and Study Break (*October 10-14, 2016*)  
No classes |
| Week 7 | Strategic Environmental Assessment  
*Read Chapter 5, Hanna 2015*  
Aboriginal Engagement and C-Management in Canada’s EA  
*Read Chapter 8, Hanna 2015* |
Week 8  Multi-jurisdictional Environmental Assessment
       Read Chapter 9, Hanna 2015

Mid-Term Examination- October 21, 2016, in-class

Week 9  Seminars in Canadian Jurisdictions
       Seminar: Environmental Assessment in the Yukon
               Read Chapter 11, Hanna 2015
       Seminar: EIA in Northwest Territories
               Read Chapter 12, Hanna 2015

Week 10 Seminars in Canadian Jurisdictions
       Seminar: Impact Assessment in Nunavut
               Read Chapter 13, Hanna 2015
       Seminar: Impact Assessment in British Columbia
               Read Chapter 14, Hanna 2015
       Seminar: EIA in Alberta
               Read Chapter 15, Hanna 2015

Week 11 Seminars in Canadian Jurisdictions
       Seminar: Environmental Assessment in Saskatchewan
               Read Chapters 16, Hanna 2015
       Seminar: Environmental Assessment in Manitoba
               Read Chapter 17, Hanna 2015

Week 12 Seminars in Canadian Jurisdictions
       Seminar: Ontario Environmental Assessment Act
               Read Chapter 18, Hanna 2015
       Seminar: EA in Quebec
               Read Chapter 19, Hanna 2015
       Seminar: EA in the Atlantic
               Read Chapter 20, Hanna 2015

Week 13  Wrap-up and Integration
       Final Exam date to be announced by the Registrar’s Office

Student Responsibilities:
1. Students are encouraged to attend classes regularly and participate in
class discussions and learning activities.
2. All students are advised to familiarize themselves with the policies
on academic dishonesty such as plagiarism and cheating.
3. Students are strongly encouraged to contact the Instructor during office hours,
by e-mail or by telephone, and/or by appointment, if they have questions or study issues.