

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY – ORILLIA CAMPUS
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
GEOG 4431 FAO – CONSERVATION GEOGRAPHY- 2018**

Course Outline

A) COURSE INSTRUCTOR:

Florin Pendea (OA, Room 3026)

Office hours – Thursdays, 13:30-14:30 am or by appointment

B) COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the complex relationships between environmental conservation, culture and economic development. Course themes include the analysis of a diversity of environmental conservation schemes, such as national and provincial parks, marine protected areas, and biosphere reserves, as well as planning and management practices currently in place in Canada and around the world. We will concentrate mainly on large natural areas from Canada, managed primarily for the conservation of biodiversity and recreational use. Students will gain understanding of various planning and management issues facing Canada's parks and protected areas and will become familiar with the current status of major national and provincial parks.

The second part of the course will target global issues regarding environmental conservation and will focus on protection and rehabilitation of valuable biological resources that have the power to assure human survival in conditions of increasing threats, such as over-population, climate change and environmental degradation. Topics will include an overview of some "forgotten" plant and animal species that have the potential to increase future environmental sustainability, boost food security, and reduce human pressure on landscapes and ecosystems.

C) PREREQUISITES

GEOG 1150 or permission from the Instructor.

D) STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME

At the end of semester, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** how Canadian environmental conservation system works and summarize the relationships existing between conservation, culture and economic development. This will help students prepare for a potential career with Environment Canada or Parks Canada;
2. **Identify and critically discuss** the main planning, management, and economic issues facing conservation efforts in Canada and elsewhere;
3. **Analyze and critique** the potential role of various biological resources to increase community sustainability, food security and environmental protection and **identify** policy, social and economical tools that may ensure their conservation in perpetuity.

E) IMPORTANT DATES

Lectures are Tues and Thurs from 11:30 to 13:00 hrs in OA Room 2015. Fall term runs from September 4 to December 3, as the semester progresses lectures in PPT format, assigned readings and supplementary material will be put on D2L.

F) ASSIGNMENT

One assignment is planned for this class: **Proposal for a future natural park, protected area or biosphere reserve in Canada.** The students will submit a full-fledged proposal for creation of a new conservation unit (park, protected area, biosphere reserve, game reserve), which will include a: a) description of the area of choice emphasizing the main elements that require protection; b) a general rationale on the relevance of the proposed area in the context of existing parks and protected areas in Canada; c) a SWOT analysis of the proposed conservation area emphasizing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats; and d) a logistical plan to be carried out for the integration of the proposed unit into the national and provincial infrastructure (this section must include a map of the area, and yes, you will learn to make your own map using Google Earth – a great skill to have).

G) EVALUATION

Midterm Exam	30%
Assignment 1	30%
Final Exam	40%

The midterm test and final exam may include multiple choice and “short answer” questions as well as hand-written essays. The "short answer" questions require one or two paragraph answers. The essays should normally be 1-2 pages long, but should not exceed three pages. Definitions make up 10-15 percent of the exams. One-third of the final exam will be comprehensive (i.e. from the entire semester's material).

Please realise that departments have no control over the scheduling of final examinations and that individual professors do not have the authority to allow students to write the final exam outside the designated time slot. Furthermore, there will be no opportunity to "re-do" or "make-up" missed or failed assignments and midterms. Additional work to improve a grade is not an option. If you miss the midterm or fail to submit an assignment without a doctor's certificate a mark of "1" will be awarded. Students with disabilities, however, can arrange to write the exam in a special setting. Please contact Student Affairs for more information.

H) REFERENCE TEXTS

Recommended:

Dearden Ph. & Rollins R. (eds) 2009. Parks and Protected Areas in Canada. Planning and Management, 3rd Edition. Oxford University Press Canada.

I) LECTURE TOPICS AND TENTATIVE CALENDAR

Week 1

Introduction and course outline

From Wild Places to Endangered Spaces – a History of Protected Area creation

Week 2

Social Science, Conservation, and Protected Areas Theory

Week 3

Biological basis of Conservation and Biodiversity

Week 4

Biological basis of Conservation and Biodiversity cont'

Week 5

Threats to Biodiversity

Week 6

READING WEEK

Week 7

MIDTERM October 18th

Aboriginal Stewardship and Culturally Appropriate Protected Area Creation

Week 8

Tourism, Eco-tourism and Protected Areas

Marine Protected Areas

Week 9

Northern Parks and Protected Areas

Protecting the future: Conservation of Natural Resources

Week 10

Sustainable futures: Conservation of Crop Diversity

Sustainable futures: Conservation of Livestock Diversity

Week 11

Managing National Parks

Applications of Ecological Concepts to the Management of Protected Areas

Week 12

Planning and Managing for Ecological Integrity in Canada's National Parks

Challenges for the future

Week 13

Seminar – In class concluding discussions

Exam preview

J) Student responsibilities and Academic Integrity

Students are expected to participate in all course activities and complete all assignments on time. Late assignments carry a 10% reduction in value per day, no exceptions.

Academic dishonesty (plagiarism):

The most common offense under the Academic Code of Conduct is plagiarism.

This could be material copied word for word from books, journals, internet sites, professor's course notes, etc. It could be material that is paraphrased but closely resembles the original source. It could be the work of a fellow student, for example, an answer on a quiz, data for a lab report, a paper or assignment completed by another student. It might be a paper purchased through one of the many available sources. Plagiarism does not refer to words alone - it can also refer to copying images, graphs, tables, and ideas. "Presentation" is not limited to written work. It also includes oral presentations, computer assignments and artistic works. Finally, if you translate the work of another person into French or English and do not cite the source, this is also plagiarism.

Remember! Do not copy, paraphrase or translate anything from anywhere without citing where you obtained it!

University guidelines on the matter:

The University takes a most serious view of offences against academic honesty such as plagiarism, cheating and impersonation. Penalties for dealing with such offences will be strictly enforced.

A copy of the "Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures" including sections on plagiarism and other forms of misconduct may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.

The following rules shall govern the treatment of candidates who have been found guilty of attempting to obtain academic credit dishonestly.

(a) The minimum penalty for a candidate found guilty of plagiarism, or of cheating on any part of a course will be a zero for the work concerned.

(b) A candidate found guilty of cheating on a formal examination or a test, or of serious or repeated plagiarism, or of unofficially obtaining a copy of an examination paper before the examination is scheduled to be written, will receive zero for the course and may be expelled from the University.

Students disciplined under the Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures may appeal their case through the Judicial Panel.

Note: "Plagiarism" shall be deemed to include:

1. Plagiarism of ideas as where an idea of an author or speaker is incorporated into the body of an assignment as though it were the writer's idea, i.e. no credit is given the person through referencing or footnoting or endnoting.
2. Plagiarism of words occurs when phrases, sentences, tables or illustrations of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a writer's own, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on the format followed) are present but referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given.
3. Plagiarism of ideas and words as where words and an idea(s) of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a written assignment as though they were the writer's own words and ideas, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on format followed) are present and no referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given.

A listing of University Regulations can be found at:

<http://calendar.lakeheadu.ca/current/contents/regulations/univregsintro.html>

The code of student behaviour and disciplinary procedures can be found at:

<http://policies.lakeheadu.ca/policy.php?pid=60>

K) Class Etiquette

Out of common courtesy, your professors request a few things of you. While students are in class, they are expected to give their full attention to the professor. Reading, talking, sleeping, and leaving before the end of class are impolite. If you know before class that you will have to leave early sit towards the back near the door so as not to disrupt the class. Likewise, if you arrive late, please enter from the back of the class.

This course is designed to compliment other geography, geology and environmental courses. Certain important and "fundamental" topics are the domain of all of these courses and will probably be repeated.