

Natural Resource Management – Geog 3411
Course outline – Winter 2022

Professor: Dr. Stephen Hart
Graduate Assistants: N/A

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Lecture/Lab/Tutorial: Web-based course. No set times. Tutorials weekly. Times will vary.

The course

What is sustainability? Is it just being able to maintain yields of agriculture, fisheries, or natural resources? Or are we concerned about other non-target impacts of human activities?

With human society entering a sixth great mass extinction and accelerating climate change pressure on natural resources is resulting in forest loss, declining fisheries, and coastline eutrophication amongst other issues. At the same time, a large portion of the earth's population doesn't have access to enough resources to meet basic needs for clothing, shelter, and food. Sustainability in all its forms is increasing important to ensure resource use does not negatively impact critical earth systems processes, other resource users, and the ability of future generations to meet material needs.

Canada remains a major exporter of natural resources from foundations industries such as forestry to oil and gas, and mining, natural resources remain an important contributor to employment and national economic health, especially in smaller communities throughout the country.

Taking a Canadian perspective, this course will explore the use of natural resources in Canada and the increasing pressure on their use and effects of extraction and development of resource sustainability from ensuring adequate resource supply for human consumption to expanding concepts of sustainability to include impacts on biodiversity, climate, other resource users, and intergenerational sustainability.

A note about the course:

As a web-based course there are no set lecture times and students will have some ability to self-pace with regards to readings and assignments. However, due dates are set and marking of assignments and quizzes will not happen earlier. Likewise, as a developing course, not all lecture and additional reading materials will be posted more than one week in advance. As well, the nature of a web-based course requires students to complete most of the course work with minimal supervision. I will always reply to emails in a timely fashion and tutorial times will be made available weekly for students to ask questions as a group. However, a significant amount of responsibility is on the student to stay on top of material and assignments and to ask questions if they require clarification.

Marks Assignment

Midterm (Week 6)	20%
Final Exam (April 20)	25%
Reading Quizzes (weeks 2, 5, 8, 11)	20%

Assignments

Written Assignment 1 (Due week 3)	10%
Written Assignment 2 (Due week 7)	10%
Written assignment 3 (Due week 12)	15%

Lectures and Readings

Recorded lectures will be posted weekly. Lectures and textbook readings will follow the same broad topic but lectures will not simply be a summarization of textbook chapters but rather are intended to be a compliment to one another. Weekly reading quizzes will directly follow textbook material whereas exams will draw from lectures, textbook readings, and additional material provided for the course.

Textbook: Resource and Environmental Management in Canada (Mitchell, B. 2015. Oxford Univ. Press. 5th Ed)

Additional Resources:

Additional readings will be posted weekly on mycourselink.

Late policy: All late assignments will be penalized 5% per day.

Marking Policy: Students who feel they have received a mark that is unfair relative to the perceived quality of the work they have done, be that on exams or assignments, are welcome to resubmit their work for re-evaluation providing they provide a rationale for doing so. However, there is no guarantee their mark will increase and the possibility exists that their mark may decrease upon re-marking.

Textbook Chapters

Week	Chapter Number	Topic	Reading Quiz?
1	1, 2	Natural Resource Use and Sustainability	
2	3, 4, 6	Consultation and Indigenous Management	y
3	5, 7	Environmental Assessment and Policy	
4	8	Climate Change and Fisheries	
5	9	Fisheries	y
6	10	Agriculture and Forestry	
7	11	Forestry	
8	14	Water	y
9	15	Energy	
10	16	Mining	
11	17	Urban Environments	Y
12	18	Environmental Management in Canada	-