

GEOGRAPHY 314:
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND THE HUMAN RESPONSE
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
Course outline – Summer 2015

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dr. Shannon Fargey
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Office hours: Thursday 3:00 to 4:00 pm, Friday 10:30 to 11:30 am
or by appointment

Lecture Information:

Time: T/R – 12:30-2:30 pm, F 12:30-1:30 pm
Location: COR B111

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the causes of global environmental change, the present and expected impacts on natural and social systems, and response strategies that have been proposed or enacted. Topics include global environmental change; sustainable development; biodiversity; and population impoverishment and environmental degradation among others.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

This course has been designed with the idea in mind that it will be important, regardless where you live in the world, that you understand the ecological, social, cultural and economic changes that will surround you in the coming decades.

By the end of the course you should be able to answer the following questions:

What is the relationship between natural climate variations and human-induced climate change?

What are the major concerns regarding global environmental change?

How does global environmental change relate to other problems like population growth, sustainable development, biodiversity, poverty, pollution and

land/environmental degradation?

What are some current response strategies (i.e. mitigation and adaptation) to global environmental change and how are they being implemented around the world

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Assignments (

COURSE COMMUNICATION

CourseSpaces learning management systems (LMS) will serve as the main avenue of communication in this course (<http://coursespaces.uvic.ca>). Please monitor the page on a regular basis for course announcements, readings assignments and lecture handouts. If

Assignments/papers:

Late assignments/papers will be penalized 20% per day (including weekends and holidays). Exceptions will only be granted for documented medical or compassionate reasons. Only the course instructor can grant exceptions.

Conflicts with holidays or travel plans are not considered an acceptable reason to apply for an assignment extension.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A high level of student cooperation and participation, involving asking and answering questions during the lectures and labs.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating) is a very serious matter in any academic institution and is dealt with severely at the University of Victoria.

The responsibility of the institution: Instructors and academic units have the responsibility to ensure that standards of academic honesty are met. By doing so, the institution recognizes students for their hard work and assures them that other students do not have an unfair advantage through cheating on essays, exams, and projects.

The responsibility of the student: Plagiarism sometimes occurs due to a misunderstanding regarding the rules of academic integrity, but it is the responsibility of the student to know them. If you are unsure about the standards for citations or for referencing your sources, ask your instructor.

TERM WORK – IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION

Assignments (25%)

Assignment 1 (12.5%)	Date Assigned: May 15 th , 2015
	Date Due: May 22 nd , 2015

Assignment 2 (12.5%)	Date Assigned: May 22 nd , 2015
	Date Due: May 29 th , 2015