



You will learn by ...

I like to mix it up in the classroom to involve different learning mechanisms and styles. These include listening, watching, reading, thinking about what you're reading, discussing, visiting coastal areas, presenting, writing and creating.

Reading you said?

There is no textbook for this course. A reading will be assigned for each module. Readings are available on CourseSpaces.

Field trip Woo hoo!

You will have the opportunity to go on a fieldtrip to the beautiful Cowichan Estuary. The Cowichan Estuary is a perfect example of bringing together the many themes we will discuss in class. In addition to walking around the estuary, we will also meet with people involved in various capacities in the estuary, e.g., biologists, residents, First Nations, industry, stewardship groups. Tentative dates: afternoon of Thursday October 13, Saturday October 15.

What do you actually have to do in this class?

Assignment/Exam <sup>1</sup>	Due Date/Time	% of Final Grade
Reading 1 – Talking Points	Friday, September 16 @ 3:00 PM	5%
Reading 1 – Analysis	Thursday, October 13 @ 9:00 AM	5%
Reading 2 – Talking Points	Wednesday, October 19 @ 3:00 PM	5%
Reading 2 – Analysis	Tuesday, November 8 @ 3:00 PM	5%
Reading 3 – Talking Points	Monday, November 14 @ 9:00 AM	5%
Reading 3 – Analysis	Thursday, December 1 @ 2:30 PM	5%
Visual Essay – Pecha Kucha	Various dates throughout the term <sup>2</sup>	5%
Visual Essay	Thursday, December 1 @ 2:30 PM	25%
Midterm Exam	Monday, October 17	15%
Final Exam	Exam period	25%

**Important Notes:**

1. Details on the assignments are in the Appendix.
2. Choices of October 24, 31, November 7, a14. PowerPoint files and speaking notes must be emailed to me by 4:30pm the day before your scheduled presentation.

Help! I can't get my assignment in on time

Deadlines are important to keep you on track and to be fair to all students. Of course, life happens, whether it be medical situations or other personal circumstances. The earlier you come to speak to me the better I can help you. Otherwise, I will have little choice but to apply a 10% deduction for every day an assignment (reading essay or visual essay) is late.

3 bees in my bonnet

*Bzzz* My aim is to encourage an engaging, respectful, effective and inspiring learning environment for all. I (and your fellow students) get particularly bothered by the use of electronic devices for texting, tweeting, instagramming, facebooking, surfing, social networking, game playing and a host of other uses that I'm not even aware of. So please be respectful and be prepared to be reminded in class. If that doesn't convince you, studies have shown that using electronic devices in the classroom other than for note-taking leads to statistically lower grades (Duncan, Hoekstra and Wilcox 2012)! *Bzzz*. Writing a well-articulated and organized essay is an important skill for both university and your future professional life. The reading essays provide

opportunities to

## Appendix – Assignment Details

### Readings (30% of final grade)

A reading will be assigned for each of the modules (Biophysical, Communities, Human Use and Conservation). These readings set the context and encourage discussion of lecture material.

Before the first class of each module you will submit 3 or 4 sentences for each of three 'talking points' raised by the article based on your reflection of the reading. These can be ideas generated, links to

changes due to weather, time of day, time of year etc and to get more than a snapshot of the place. Additional information can be gathered from sources such as print material, websites, or talking to people you see at the site. The assignment should integrate (1) an overview of the area including location; (2) a description of the biophysical features and processes, e.g., habitats, organisms, substrate, physical processes; (3) a description of coastal communities, development, resource use, conservation and other human activity; and (4) critical thinking that reflects concepts covered in class.

You may submit your assignment in one of two formats that combines imagery (photos and/or video) and verbal description (text and/or audio).

Photo Essay: 10-12 pages (printed, scrap book style). Should include photos and associated text. May also include other items, e.g., pressed seaweed for a scrapbook.

Video Essay: 10-12 minutes. Includes both video and/or still imagery with voice