Geography 101A

Environment, society and sustainability

Fall Term 2018

Course Instructor Dr. Phil Dearden (pdearden@uvic.ca)
Office: DTB B 358 Tel: 721-7335

Office hours: Monday, Thursday 3.00-4.30
Lectures: Mondays, Thursdays, 1 pm ï 2:20 pm David Turpin Building, Room A 120

Labs: (Instructors TBA**)**

M 14:30-16:20	DTB B307
T 08:30-10:20	DTB B307
T 12:30-14:20	DTB B307
T 14:30-16:20	DTB B307
W 10:30-12:20	DTB B307
W 14:30-16:20	DTB B307
R 8:30 -10:20	DTB B307
F 8:30 -10:20	DTB B307

If you miss a lab for any reason, or know you are going to miss a lab, please check with your TA and try to attend another section of that week's lab. Attendance of labs is not only expected, it is required, so when it is at all possible to make up a missed lab, you must do so, or find a mutually satisfactory alternative allowed by your TA.

Lab Instructors: Your lab instructor will post office hours shortly after the beginning of term. Senior Lab Instructor, Kinga Menu is also available to discuss general issues surrounding the course. Office: DTB B304 Office phone: 721-7346 email: kmenu@uvic.ca

Website: Lecture and lab materials and notices are found on the Geography 101A Course Spaces site. Please check regularly for updates.

Readings: Dearden, P., and Mitchell, B. (2016). *Environmental change and challenge: A Canadian perspective*. 5th Edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press. Only use the 5th edition.

Course The course includes 2 one hour and 20 minute-minute lectures per week and weekly 2-hour laboratory sessions.

Structure: The laboratory sessions will include field work, discussions, projects and debates. These laboratory sessions form an integral part of the course since they enable a more detailed discussion of topics relevant to the course and are intended to complement, not repeat the course. Furthermore, they are intended to counter the anonymity often experienced in the large lecture section.

This course outline provides an introduction to GEOG101A. More detailed information on the course including the labs can be found in the lab manual available on the course site.

COURSE CONTENT

The goal of Geography 101A is to introduce students to the way in which the ecosphere functions and the ways in which humans interact with the natural environment. There is a strong emphasis on gaining understanding of key environmental problems and developing more sustainable approaches to societal interactions with the environment.

Two main themes of geographical enquiry are determining and explaining the biophysical processes that underlie areal differentiation of the earthôs surface, and understanding the relationship between these processes and human activities. The first focus is physical geography and includes biogeography, climatology, and geomorphology; the second focus is resource management and includes environment, and development, and regional geography. Although there is a long history of geographical enquiry in these foci, they have come to greater prominence over this last decade due to the increasing scale and severity of environmental change in the biosphere and the role of human activity in causing this change.

To understand the dimensions of various environmental problems, such as acid rain, climate change, eutrophication, species extinction, deforestation, and a host of others, students must have some idea of how the biosphere functions. The first part of the course focuses on this aspect, involving understanding the ways in which energy flows and materials cycle through the biosphere, and the structure and organization of ecological communities. From this base, students will more readily appreciate the ways in which these naturally occurring processes are changed by human activities such as forestry, agriculture, fisheries, and water management. These are covered in the second half of the course. Examples from throughout the world are used to illustrate these changes. Due to the high profile of many of these issues in the media, students are expected to pay particular attention to these current issues as the course progresses.

The course is designed to meet the requirements of three groups of students:

1. those who wish to take basic courses in geography to supplement their major in another field;
2. those who wish to do a BA/BSc Major/Minor in geography, 101A being a prerequisite for many higher level geography courses; and
3. Environmental Studies students wishing an introduction to the functioning of environmental systems and human interaction with these systems.

Geog 101A as well as 101B, 103 are designed for BSc/BA Major/Minor geography programmes. Students wishing to know more about the Geography Department should review the Geography homepage and contact Kinga Menu (DTB B304) or Phil Wakefield (DTB B302), Senior Lab Instructors. ***GEOGPLAN*** is a useful complement for planning your Geography program ï find it linked on our UVic Geography homepage. Any students interested in joining the Geography Co-

Evaluation

EXAMINATIONS:	Mid-term	15%
	Final	40%
	Labs	45%
LAB 1: Introduction and Introduction to EcoAction		P*
LAB 2: Natural areas and EcoAction preparation		P*
LAB 3 Natural Areas - Field Work		P*

COURSE CONTENT[1]

Lecture and Lab Schedule Fall term 2018, Dr. Dearden:

Date:	**Lecture:**	**Readings:**	**Lab:**
Sept 6	Introduction	Chapter 1; Diamond (2003), *Why Do Some Societies Make Disastrous Decisions.* On reserve, course site or google it	**NO LABS FOR 101A**
Sept 10 Sept 13	Spaceship Earth Human-Environment Relations	*Reserve Reading Natural Areas Fieldwork;* Chapter 1, again.	1. Lab Orientation Ecoaction Project Introduction
Sept 17 Sept 20	Energy Biomes	Chapter 2	2. Natural Areas Project Introduction Eco Action planning
Sept 24 Sept 27	Ecosystem Change Biogeochemical Cycles	Chapter 3 Chapter 4	3 Natural Areas fieldwork
Oct 1 Oct 4	Sulphur and Acid rain Global Climate Change	Chapter 4 Chapter 7	4. Natural Areas presentation
Oct 8 Oct 11	Thanksgiving Water	Revision/no class Chapter 11	**NO LABS FOR 101A**
Oct 15 Oct 18	Agriculture Biodiversity I	Chapter 10 Chapter 14	5. Debate I
Oct 22 **Oct 25**	Biodiversity II **Mid term exam**	Chapter 14	6 Great Bear Rainforest
Oct 29 Nov 1	Protected Areas I Protected Areas II	Chapter 14 Chapter 14; Abbey, E. (1968). *Desert solitaire*, pp. 39-59	7. Debate II
Nov. 5 Nov. 8	Oceans		

Laboratory Work

Assignments are due at the beginning of the lab. ***Late assignments will be deducted 10% per day.*** Exceptions to the late policy will only be granted by your lab instructor.

Academic Honesty:

ñAcademic honesty has been compromised when a student (or students) enrolled in a course has committed one of the following offences:

COM	Excluded Grade	**Complete** (pass). Used only for 0-unit courses and those credit courses designated by the Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
Failing Grades	**Grade Point Value**	**Description**
E	0	Conditional supplemental.
F	0	

Each lab is described in the following pages. Background information is provided in the Appendices at the end of the lab manual.

Assignments are due at the beginning of the lab. *Late assignments will be deducted 10% per day*. Exceptions to the late policy will only be granted by your lab instructor for verified illnesses (ie, doctorôs note needed). *All* assignments must be submitted to get a passing grade in the laboratory component.

As with any course which includes laboratory work, students will be required <u>to make satisfactory standing in both parts</u> of this course. Results in laboratory work will be announced by the department concerned prior to the final examinations, and students who have not obtained a grade of at least D in their laboratory work will NOT be permitted to write the examination, nor receive any credit for the course. **If you must miss a lab** you are required to either make it up by attending another lab section (with both TAôs permission) or by doing a relevant replacement assignment as to be decided between you and your TA with the professor being the overriding decision