
COURSE OUTLINE
Karst Geomorphology Field School

Karst refers to the landscapes and underground systems that form due to dissolution of soluble rocks via chemical weathering. This course has been designed to introduce students to the abundant karst landscapes on Vancouver Island. We will examine how karst forms, and the geomorphology, hydrology, geology, and biogeography of two specific karst landscapes in differing geologic units to compare formation processes. We will also examine karst conservation topics, with the final deliverable being an environmental management plan for a local karst unit.

This class will be supported by members of the UVIC Caving Club (UCCC)

Field Course Dates: Monday, August 30 - Sunday, September 5, 2021 – Southern Vancouver Island, BC
Final Paper/Presentation due date: November 19, 2021

Instructor: Jill Krezoski

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_____ or (250) 4724269 (office phone)

KEY THEMES:

1. Recognise and describe common karst landscape features
2. Understand and explain the physical principles of common geomorphic and hydrologic processes, and the functioning of the water and weathering on karst formations
3. Obtain a holistic awareness of the interrelationship of the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere in the formation of karst landscapes, and how changes in each can impact karst ecosystems.
4. Understand cave conservation and karst management from a natural resource perspective.

COURSE TEXTBOOK

Students will be provided with a field guide. Additional required and optional readings will be posted on Brightspace (bright.uvic.ca)

EVALUATION

Grade Breakdown

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|---|------|
| Pre-reading activity (<i>Individual</i>) | 5 % |
| Gordon River Cave Presentation (<i>Deliverable 1 - Group</i>) | 15 % |
| Field Deliverable (<i>Deliverable 2 - Individual</i>) | 10 % |
| Field Notes (<i>Individual</i>) | 10 % |
| Additional term deliverables* (<i>Individual</i>) | 20 % |
| Final Paper + Evaluation (<i>Group</i>) | 30 % |
| Final Presentation (<i>Group</i>) | 10 % |

Final paper due date: Week of November-~~19~~ (by 11:59 on November ~~19~~)

Final group presentations: ~~3~~pm Friday, November ~~19~~ Location TBD. Ind87% 4aT*3tTd 5ern195Tm5 (i)0.5(v)8.3

