

# GEOGRAPHY 101A – ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

SPRING TERM 2018

**Instructor:** Lisa Kadonaga (kadonaga@arkenseal.com)  
**Office:** David Turpin Building (DTB) B208  
**Office hours:** Thursday 11:00-3:00 or by appointment  
**Lectures:** TWF 9:30-10:20; DTB A102  
**Labs:** Labs start week of Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. Available timeslots are M (10:00-11:50 and 13:00-14:50), T (10:30-12:20), W (12:30-14:20). *All labs meet in DTB B307.*

Your lab instructor will post office hours at the beginning of the term. Kinga Menu, Senior Lab Instructor (DTB B304) is also available to discuss issues relating to the course and lab material. Her email is [kmenu@uvic.ca](mailto:kmenu@uvic.ca).

**Course structure:** The course includes three 50-minute lectures per week and one weekly 2-hour laboratory session. The laboratory sessions will include fieldwork, discussions, and debates.

**Required course text:** Dearden, P., and Mitchell, B. (2016). *Environmental change and challenge: A Canadian perspective*. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

*The fourth edition is suitable, but some sections may differ.* The course text will be available on 2-hour reserve in the library. (Reserve Reading Room in the Main Library, 1st floor).

**Course website:** The course is supported by a CourseSpaces course management system (<http://coursespaces.uvic.ca/my/>). Outlines will be posted on CourseSpaces after lectures, along with additional required and supplemental readings. However, this won't substitute for attending classes, since some details may not be included in the posted outlines – and there will be advance exam questions distributed in class, which won't be put online. *It would be a good idea to check the CourseSpaces site regularly, in case of important class announcements and updates.*

## Course objectives:

The goal of Geog 101A is to introduce students to how 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.

## Summary of assessment:

**Exams – 55%** (Midterm Exam Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, 15%; Final 40%)

**Labs – 45%** (Assignments\* 35%; Participation (attendance and contribution): 10%) – see Lab Manual

\*Eco Action group project 15%, Natural Areas group project 10%, 2 lab debates at 5% each

*You must pass (i.e. score  $\geq 50\%$ ) both the lab and exam components to pass the course. You will not be permitted to write the final exam if you do not submit all your lab assignments and receive a passing grade in the lab component.*

## Course schedule (Tentative)

Date	Lecture	Reading*	Labs
Jan 3	Course Introduction		No Labs
Jan 5	Human and Environment Relationships		
Jan 9	Spaceship Earth	Ch. 1	Lab orientation and introduction to <i>Ecoaction</i>
Jan 10	Sustainability and Resilience	Ch. 1	

Jan 12-16	Energy Flow	Ch. 2	<i>Project</i>
Jan 17	Ecosystem Structure	Ch. 2	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Jan 19-23	Dynamic Ecosystems	Ch. 3	
Jan 24	Ecosystem Classification	Ch. 3	Week of Jan 29, EA Up#1
Jan 26-30	Biogeochemical Cycles	Ch. 4	<b>Natural Areas due</b>
Jan 31-Feb 2	Hydrological Cycle	Ch. 4	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Feb 6-9	Oceans and Fisheries	Ch. 8	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Feb 13-16	<b>Reading Break</b>		No labs
Feb 20-21	Forests and Forestry	Ch. 9	No labs
Feb 23	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>		
Feb 27-28	Climate Change	Ch. 7	<b>Debate #1</b>
Mar 2	Wildfire	TBA	
Mar 6-7	Biodiversity/Endangered Species	Ch. 14	<b>Debate #2</b>
Mar 9	Protected Areas	Ch. 14	<b>(all debate papers due)</b>
Mar 13	Foraging	TBA	
Mar 14-16	Agriculture	Ch. 10	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Mar 20-23	Water	Ch. 11	<b>see Lab Manual</b>
Mar 27	The Environment in Science Fiction	TBA	Week of Mar 27
Mar 28-Apr 4	Making it Happen	Ch. 15	<b>Ecoaction presentations</b>
Apr 6	Course Wrap-up and Exam Hints		<b>and papers due</b>

\*Readings refer to chapters in the course text, unless otherwise specified.

Note: Last day for adding courses is Jan 19<sup>th</sup> 2018. Last day for dropping without penalty is Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2018.

**Undergraduate grading: (see UVic Calendar Grading Scale online for details)**

A+ (grade point value = 9), 90-100%; A (g.p. value = 8), 85-89%; A- (g.p. value = 7), 80-84%

B+ (g.p. value = 6), 77-79%; B (g.p. value = 5), 73-76%; B- (g.p. value = 4), 70-72%

C+ (g.p. value = 3), 65-69%; C (g.p. value = 2), 60-64%; D (g.p. value = 1), 50-59%

F (g.p. value = 0), 0-49% (completed course); N (g.p. value = 0), 0-49% (incomplete course requirements)

**Academic integrity:**

Please review the university policy on academic integrity and useful information on avoiding plagiarism.

<http://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/students/resources/expectations/>

<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-01/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcI.html>

*If problems arise and you cannot complete your assignments on time or cannot write the exams, it is your responsibility to discuss this with the course instructor, Counselling Centre, or your lab instructor, ASAP*

**Late assignments:** Please inform the instructor ahead of time if you feel you will miss an exam due to medical or family circumstances so we can arrange an alternate time. If for a legitimate reason you are not able to submit an assignment on time, please notify your lab instructor in advance to make alternative arrangements. Outside of this, we will accept assignments (**with a 10% per day late penalty**) **up to three days after the due date.**

**Course Experience Survey (CES):** We value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey via MyPage regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback regarding the course and teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future.

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