



COURSE OUTLINE
GEOG 476 ADVANCED STUDIES IN GEOMORPHOLOGY



Coastal Bluffs, Helliwell Provincial Park, Hornby Island.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an advanced, project-based investigation for senior students in geomorphology. In this course you will work on your own datasets to develop a testable hypothesis, conduct data analysis, and practice the presentation of findings in form of a poster and journal-style report. In the lectures, we will examine spatial data analysis techniques, time series analysis, and numerical modelling in Geomorphology. Your performance will be evaluated based on the different project components (proposal, seminar, poster, report). More details on expectations regarding the different project components will be provided in class.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, you should be able to

- Conduct a literature review and summarize key aspects of a geomorphological research problem
- Develop a testable hypothesis given a dataset, and write a proposal around the hypothesis
- Detect pattern and processes in field data using advanced geomorphological research approaches
- Prepare quality graphics for presentation of results
- Present your results in form of a poster to an audience of your peers
- Prepare a journal-style research report

PREREQUISITES

GEOG 376; permission of the instructor

*****UPDATE: From January 10 – January 23, 2022 classes and lab meetings will be held online via zoom during their scheduled times! Zoom links can be found on Brightspace under Course Tools > Zoom.

Class Meetings: Wednesdays 2:30 to 05:20 pm
Classroom Business & Economics Building 170***** see note above!

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Dr. Eva Kwoil, Department of Geography, **DTB B123a**, ekwoil@uvic.ca
Office Hours: Via Zoom: Thursdays 11:30 to 12:30 pm or by appointment; s. Brightspace for Zoom Link

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Brightspace learning management systems (LMS) will serve as the main avenue of communication in this course (bright.uvic.ca). This is where all important resources are uploaded, including course information, topic slides, important dates, announcements, lab materials, and TA information (email addresses and office hours). Please go here first and visit often. If you are having difficulty logging in or password problems, contact the Computer Help Desk Email: helpdesk@uvic.ca, Tel: 250-721-7687

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

As part of your project preparation you will be asked to conduct a small literature review on your research topic. For this you are expected to use resources at the library to browse the peer-reviewed literature. In addition, I recommend the following E-book that is downloadable through the library:

Shroder, John F et al. (2013) Treatise on Geomorphology, Elsevier/Academic Press, Amsterdam.
Downloadable as EBook here: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/referenceworks/9780080885223>

EVALUATION

Geomorphological project (to be done in groups)

Literature Review (due 28.01)	10%
Proposal presentation (16.02)	20%
1-page written Proposal (due 18.02)	10%
Figure Presentations (23.03)	10%
Research Presentation (06.04)	20%
Project Report (due 08.04)	30%

GRADING SYSTEM

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
A+ A A-	9 8 7	90-100% 85-89% 80-84%	Exceptional, outstanding and excellent performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
B+ B B-	6 5 4	77-79% 73-76% 70-72%	Very good, good and solid performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
C+ C	3 2	65-69% 60-64%	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
D	1	50-59%	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
F	0	0-49%	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	0-49%	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO

- Geography Department website: <http://geog.uvic.ca>
- Undergraduate Advising: geogadvising@uvic.ca
- Department Chair: Dr. David Atkinson geogchair@uvic.ca

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

A deduction of 10% of the total mark per weekday (weekends count as 1 day) will be applied to all late assignments. Accommodations are made only for extenuating circumstances with proper medical or counselling documentation provided.

PLAGIARISM

It is every student's responsibility to be aware of the university's policies on academic integrity, including policies on cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized use of an editor, multiple submission, and aiding others to cheat. Policy on Academic Integrity: web.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html.

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, for referencing your sources, or unauthorized use of an editor, please familiarize yourself with the University policy on academic integrity found in the Undergraduate Calendar at the following website. <http://web.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html>. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Infractions will be dealt with in accordance with University policy. Commonly, the penalty for any form of cheating/plagiarism is a grade of F on the tests or laboratory assignments, or a final grade of F in the course. However, depending on the severity of the case other penalties may include a record on the student's transcript or expulsion.

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a documented disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) as soon as possible. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations <http://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

POSITIVITY AND SAFETY

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members. To ensure that all class members feel welcomed and equally able to contribute to class discussions, we will all endeavour to be respectful in our language, our examples, and the manner in which we conduct our discussions and group work. If you have any concerns about the climate of the class, please contact me.

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 regarding your learning experience (CES). The

survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed online and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AT UVIC

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR; Sedgewick C119

Phone: 250.721.8021

Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca

Web: uvic.ca/svp

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Date	Wednesday	Assignments
12.01	Introduction Literature Review Writing a research proposal	Literature Review due (10%)
19.01	Spatial Analysis in Geomorphology	
26.01	Spatial Analysis in Geomorphology	
2.02	Time Series Analysis in Geomorphology	
9.02	Time Series Analysis in Geomorphology	
16.02	Proposal Presentations (20%)	Written proposal due (10%)
23.02	Reading Break	
2.03	Creating Figures Scientific Writing and Presentation	Written reports due (30%)
9.03	Numerical Modelling in Geomorphology	
16.03	Numerical Modelling in Geomorphology	
23.03	Figure Presentations (10%)	
30.03	Team Work Block	
6.04	Research Presentations (20%)	

DISCLAIMER

The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.