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Geography 2153 - Environment Economy and Society

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Owl Sakai

ASSIGNMENTS

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SYLLABUS 2013 Environment Economy and Society

This syllabus is "dynamic", it will change throughout the term. Come back here before each lecture.

2 lecture hours, half course, Fall term

Prerequisite and Modules

None! This course fits into several [Geography Modules](#) including the **New** [Major in Environment and Health](#).

News

Aug 29/13

Growing - We are up to 69 students!

July 16/13

Welcome! - First class is Tues Sept. 10, 10:30 in UCC-56. The purpose of the first class will be to give you a sense of how the course will be structured so you can decide if the course is right for your needs. We have about 40 students so far - which is a great, modest size for format I have planned.

Description

Calendar Description

This course concerns the human uses of and impacts on the environment and resources through a social science and policy lens. While we will use the concept of "sustainability" throughout, we will critically analyze the meaning of this term in various contexts. We will examine contemporary environmental and resource issues using case examples throughout the term.

Format

This course consists of three lecture hours per week. The lecture hours will consist of a mixture of lecture and discussion. Some lecture class time will be devoted to tutorial-style break-out group discussion. Students are responsible for i) completing readings prior to each lecture and; ii) being prepared to engage in active group discussions.

Contact Information

Instructor/TA	Room	Email	Office Hour
Jamie Baxter	SSC 1407	jamie.baxter@uwo.ca	
TBA	TBA	TBA	by appointment

Timetable

Lect/Tut	Day	Duration	Start Time	End Time	Room	Instructor/TA	Turnitin ID	Turnitin Pass
Lecture	Tuesday	3hrs	10:30	13:30	UCC-56	Jamie Baxter	N/A	N/A

Evaluation

Component	Weight
Assignments (two)	40%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%

You must complete all course components to pass the course.
No electronic devices - e.g., phones, calculators are allowed at the midterm or exam.

Midterm

Weight: 25%

Duration: 1.5 hours

Date: Oct. 22

Location: UCC-56

Possible Format: mixed, all answers on exam paper.

- i. Multiple choice and true/false - 20
MC usually 1 of 5 choices (a - e)
NOT scantron, circle on exam paper
no "correction factor" (i.e., NO subtraction of incorrect answers from correct answers)
- ii. Definitions
- iii. Short Answer

Material Covered:

All lectures and readings up until the end of the class immediately prior to the midterm date. The focus will be on lectures, but the readings typically overlap the lectures considerably. Generally speaking you do not have to know specifics like who said what in what year for the multiple choice, but it would not hurt to know some of the more important figures mentioned in class to round out your definitions and short answer.

Final Exam

Weight: 35%

Duration: 3 hours

Date: TBA

Location: TBA

Format: mixed, all answers on exam paper. (100 marks)

- i. Multiple choice and true/false - (15 marks)
 - MC usually 1 of 5 choices (a - e)
 - NOT scantron, circle on exam paper
 - no "correction factor" (i.e., NO subtraction of incorrect answers from correct answers)
- ii. Definitions
(25 marks)
 - 5 marks ea.
 - choice - you will choose 5 from at least 7
 - identify what the thing is, why it is important, how it relates to other things in environment and health research and provide an example(s)
 - I have been told by students that I, "expect a lot in a definition". I agree.
 - only those definitions that include an example will receive full marks
 - space - use only the space provided - approximately 1/5 of a page
- iii. Short Answer
(30 marks)
 - 10 marks ea.
 - choice - you will choose 3 from at least 5
 - address the question directly and include at least one example
 - examples- only those short answers that include at least one example will receive full marks
 - space - use only the space provided - approximately 1/3 of a page
- iv. Essay
(30 marks)
 - choice - you will choose 1 from 2
 - address the question directly and include examples
 - space - use only the space provided - approximately 2 1/2 pages
 - outline - though there are no marks explicitly awarded for this, sketch an outline on the extra sheet of paper provided (back of last page)

Material Covered:

All lectures and readings since the midterm date. You are also responsible for material you might use in an essay answer. That is, the essay question will be quite general and will allow you to draw on material from the entire course. The focus will be on lectures, but the readings typically overlap the lectures considerably. Generally speaking you do not have to know specifics like who said what in what year for the multiple choice, but it could not hurt to know some of the more important figures mentioned in class to round out your definitions and short answer.

Readings

Course Text:

Draper, D. and Reed, M. (2009) *Our Environment: A Canadian Perspective (Fourth Edition)* Toronto: Nelson.

All other material will be made available via Sakai

Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading
Sept. 10	Scope of Course	None
Sept. 17	Introduction - Key concepts	Draper and Reed Ch 1
Sept. 24	Role of science in environmental decision-making Discussion Assignment 1 - formation of groups	Draper and Reed Ch 2
Oct. 1	Connections between physical and human systems on earth Field camp week, some students may be away	Draper and Reed Ch 3, 4
Oct. 8	Our changing atmosphere	Draper and Reed Ch 5
Oct. 15	Agriculture, Food, and Rural Environments Assignment 1 Due	Draper and Reed Ch 6
Oct. 22	MIDTERM EXAM	None
Oct. 29	Water, oceans and fisheries Discussion Assignment 2	Draper and Reed Ch 7, 8
Nov. 5	Forestry and Mining	Draper and Reed Ch 9, 10
Nov. 12	Energy	Draper and Reed Ch 11
Nov. 19	Sustainable cities Guest Speakers: Jay Stanford and Jamie Skimming: "Sustainable Cities – Adjusting how we use Today's Built Environment and Positioning for Tomorrow"	Draper and Reed Ch 13
Nov. 26	Meeting environmental challenges Course instructor evaluation Assignment 2 Due	Draper and Reed Ch 14
Dec. 3	Review for exam	

Handing in Material

I cannot get it in on time! (Accommodation for Illness, Family Death etc.)

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed graded course components must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

And now some messages from our lawyers...

Mental Illness

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information on these resources and on mental health.

Plagiarism

The Department of Geography has a zero tolerance policy towards plagiarism. If a student commits plagiarism, the instructor will assign a grade of zero to the assignment. A second instance of plagiarism is regarded as a scholastic

offense and will be dealt with according to The University of Western Ontario policy for Scholastic offenses - [more on our policy on plagiarism via this link](#). The most common offense is failing to cite properly - if you quote directly, cite the author! You do *not* get the benefit of the doubt (you are not presumed innocent until proven guilty) when such offenses are committed. That is, the burden of proof is reversed. Can you prove "it was an accident" (this is a rhetorical question)? The following is an excerpt from the university secretariat: Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Not citing the work of others is generally the main violation - ignorance is no excuse! See next...

Turnitin.com

Unfortunately turnitin has "caught" several offenders in my classes, please do not be the next one - it is awkward for everyone involved. If you do original work and write and cite properly you have nothing to worry about. The university has provided this mandatory wording: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](#)"

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