

**CAPILANO UNIVERSITY
COURSE OUTLINES**

TERM: SPRING 2017	COURSE NO: GEOGRAPHY 222	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE NAME: ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY: GLOBAL TO LOCAL	
OFFICE: TEL:	SECTION NO:	CREDITS: 3
MOODLE WEBSITE: http://moodle.capilanou.ca		

COURSE FORMAT:

Three instructional hours per week plus a **fourth hour activity** for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course focuses on teaching students three fundamental skill sets. First, the course is designed to encourage students to take a proactive approach by becoming better informed about the planet's life support systems by imparting a deep understanding of the biosphere's function and to link basic environmental management principles to environmental and resource problems in both Canadian and global contexts.

Second, the course is addressed to students who would like to learn about and participate in a real world environmental research project. The course is designed to serve as a preliminary guide for students in carrying out a research project from conception to execution.

Third, students will read a weekly package of environmental studies readings and then write a brief summary of the content and critically discuss the readings in the classroom. By the end of the course students will have obtained skills in assessing and analyzing what they read. The critical analysis of a piece of writing is an invaluable skill for all students.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- Define and articulate connections between key concepts such as sustainability, energy transition, efficiency revolution and environmental localization.
- Explain the physical and biological dynamics of global ecologies including first-hand knowledge of local and regional ecosystems.
- Analyze the social, economic, and political and policy dynamics involved in both the emergence and the resolution of environmental problems.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Reading package - TBD

Northey, Margot, Diane Draper and David B. Knight. Making Sense in Geography and Environmental Sciences: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing. Fifth ed. New York: Oxford, 2012

COURSE CONTENT:

This outline provides an overview of the lecture topics for each week. A detailed outline of readings and assignments is available on the course Moodle site.

WEEK	TOPIC	READING
1	ORIENTATION – Special Presentation & discussion	TBD
2	Our Environment: Problems and Challenges	
3	Earth's Life-Support Systems	
4	Human Population: Demographic Transition in Process	
5	Our Changing Atmosphere/Global Warming	
6	Agroecosystems and Land Resources	
7	Fresh Water Supply and Distribution	
8	Oceans and Fisheries	
9	The Earth's Forests	
10	Energy: Non-Renewables / Renewables	
11	Restoring the Earth	
12	Feeding Eight Billion Well	
13	Can we Mobilize Fast Enough?	
14/15	EXAM Period	

EVALUATION PROFILE:

Exam 1	30%
Exam 2	30%
Key Concept	5%
Research Essay	25%
Participation	10%

	100%

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 77 - 79%	C+ = 67 - 69%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89%	B = 73 - 76%	C = 63 - 66%	F = 0 - 49%
A- = 80 - 84%	B- = 70 - 72%	C- = 60 - 62%	

ASSIGNMENTS:

- Key Concept: Students will be expected to make a short illustrative presentation to the class on a key concept in environmental geography, and post a short description of it on Moodle. Guidelines are posted on Moodle.
- Short Paper: Students will be given a list of topics relevant to environmental geography and will be asked to write a research essay (around eight pages) on one of the topics.
- Participation: There will be regular class discussions of relevant subject matter, and 10% of the final grade will be assessed by the instructor for individual participation in the discussions as well as general attendance.

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Attendance: Attendance is a significant component in participation. As well, students are responsible for obtaining all the information; i.e. notes, time lines on exams, etc.

Missed Exams:
Exams must be taken at posted times.

Late Assignments:
Please note the time lines for all submissions. Marks will be deducted for lateness.

Incomplete Grades:
"I" grades will be awarded to any student who legitimately requires additional time to complete assignments. The amount of time deemed necessary for completion will be determined through consultation between the student and the instructor.

English Usage:
It is expected that all submitted written work will be legible and grammatically correct. No work requiring extensive correction of grammar will be accepted. Any student anticipating problems should drop in to the English Writing Centre.

Cheating/Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's work or ideas as if they were one's own. Information about how to avoid plagiarism by proper documentation of sources is available from the Library and the Writing Centre. All students should familiarize themselves with the University Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism (See the University Website) as such behaviour can result in suspension from the University.

Electronic Devices:
During all classes, turn off cell phones and remove them from the desk.

Emergency Procedures:
Please read the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom