Course Outline - ENST1001A –Introduction to Environmental Studies

Fall/Winter 2015-2016 - Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
Carleton University

IMPORTANT NOTE: This course precludes credit in FYSM 1100. That means that if you take both of them, you will only get a credit for one of them. Please don't waste your money! If this applies to you, please talk to Scott to get advice on which course to take.

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TAs: Michelle Fairbrother, Alex dePaiva (tutorial group assignments TBA)
Contact details for your TAs will be discussed in the first tutorial group meetings (Sept. 8/9/11). Please note that the TA assignments MAY change in January if necessary for scheduling reasons.

Course objectives:

This course, and the Environmental Studies (ENST) program, aim to prepare informed and skilled individuals for participation in the resolution of environmental conflicts and the environmental debates critical to our future (see http://carleton.ca/geography/environmental-studies/). This includes developing an understanding about what the environment is and how it works, as well as examples of effective strategies for change.

The environment is a highly complex set of interactive systems in which humans play an increasingly important part. The first part of the course will therefore focus on basic, cross-cutting environmental principles and processes, such as resources, energy, flow, ecosystems, cycling, geomatics, planning, and management. With this foundation in place, the course will then emphasize specific environmental `media´ and issues, such as climate change, minerals and energy, endangered species, forests, agriculture, water, marine, urban issues, and aboriginal and polar issues. In addition, the course will make links to timely environmental events and news, such as the Paris climate change conference and launch of the UN Sustainable Development Goals later in 2015.

*Introduction to Environmental Studies*is the first core course in the B.A. (Honours or General) program in Environmental Studies. It is also a popular interdisciplinary elective for students in many other degree programs.

Please make sure you do not try to take this course in addition to FYSM 1100, as you will only be given credit for one of the courses.

Course calendar:

Full group in lecture hall:		Mondays 11:35-13:25, University Centre 282 (currently scheduled to move to Tory 340 in Winter)
Tutorial groups: (all locations to be confirmed, & they change in winter)	A1: A2: A3: A4:	Wednesdays 14:35-16:25, University Centre 280 Tuesdays 9:35-11:25, Mackenzie 3190 Fridays 11:35-13:25, River Building 3220 CLOSED

Your group assignment **was set as part of your course enrolment** using Carleton Central; **you must attend your own assigned group,** unless otherwise instructed by your TA. Assignment due dates are also usually tied to your assigned tutorial.

Tutorial groups may sometimes meet somewhere besides the assigned room (e.g. in computer labs in the Loeb building, or outside). Monitor cuLearn and your email for announcements.

Detailed schedules for the term work and topics will be handed out as part of your coursepack. Individual discussion topics may shift according to the variable pace of class interaction, but you should note upcoming deadlines, plan ahead to manage your workload, and submit all work on time. While this is important in any course, in this class you will be completing a fair amount of cooperative work, and other students will often be counting on your portions of larger projects.

Tests and exams: There will be an online test starting at the end of week 7 of the fall term, due on November 6; an in-class test at the beginning of February; and a final exam in the exam period in April.

Course web site / electronic resources:

This course will use email and cuLearn for communications – be sure to monitor the cuLearn site, and either check your Carleton email regularly, or forward it to another account that you will check regularly.

Course readings:

The following textbook has been ordered and will be available at the Campus bookstore:

Dearden and Mitchell, 2012. Environmental Change and Challenge – A Canadian Perspective. Oxford Press, 4th edition, 606 pp.

Supplemental required readings will be assigned as needed.

Grading: Your grade will be evaluated based on a combination of tests, individual assignments, group projects, and participation. Some assignments will have portions of their marking schemes that come from peer evaluation, or specific participation scores. There is also a general participation score based on your attendance and interaction in tutorials throughout the year.

Fall Test (due Nov. 6):	10%
Winter Test (Feb. 1):	10%
Final exam:	25%
Tutorial assignments:	25% (details on assignments)
Final project (including Assignment 6):	30%

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Late policy

If a legitimate reason prevents you from submitting your work on time through regular means, it is your responsibility to get in touch with us **as soon as possible** (the earlier the better), to work out an alternative arrangement. Work that is late because you simply fell behind or forgot a deadline will be assigned a penalty. Some course requirements will have their own specific penalties, and / or limits on how late assignments will be accepted. Some of your responsibilities will be part of group submissions, and there will not necessarily be any possibility for a late submission – in these cases you should be especially careful to plan accordingly. In absence of any assignment-specific late penalty, there will be a deduction of 5% per day that the work is late without acceptable reason.

Instructional & Conduct Offences: Instructional offences include, among other activities, cheating, contravening examination regulations, plagiarism, submitting similar work in 2 or more courses without prior permission, and disrupting classes. Conduct offences apply in areas of discrimination and sexual harassment. Further information about University regulations that define and regulate these offences is presented in the undergraduate Calendar*:* *http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv14/*

Plagiarism is a serious offence and will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the submission of someone else's writing/ideas/work as your own. All ideas presented which are not your own must be properly referenced. While forms of plagiarism may vary, each involves verbatim or near verbatim presentation of the writings or ideas of others as ones own without adequately acknowledging the original source. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to) copying from a book, article or another student, downloading material or ideas from the Internet, or otherwise submitting someone else's work or ideas as your own.[1] **Plagiarism offences result in mandatory reporting to the Dean's office.**

You will often be working collaboratively in this class, but unless you receive specific written instructions to do otherwise, **you must write your assignments and tests individually**. In all cases, if there is any confusion, or you have different interpretations than your peers over individual or group responsibilities, please be sure to get clarification from the instructor **before** the assignment is due. If in doubt, assume you should be submitting a completely independently prepared piece of work.

[1]This statement on plagiarism courtesy of K. Torrance, 2003, GEOG3108 Course Outline, originally from http://www.carleton.ca/geography/geography/course_outlines/GEOG3108_0304.html.

Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:
Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide.

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam in April.

Course Materials

Our lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. We are the exclusive owners of copyright and intellectual property in the course materials. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not and may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial purposes without my express written consent.

ENST 1001 Class and Tutorial Schedule (2015-2016)

Term 1 – *Itinerary (Subject to Change[1])*

Week	*Lecture date (Instructor)*[2]	*Lecture (Mon 11:35)*	*Reading*[3]*:*	*Tutorial (**following** the lecture, on Tue., Wed. or Fri.)*	*Work due in tutorials*[4]
1	Sep 4 (SM&PC)	Environment, Resources, & Society	Ch 1	Assignment 1 - Ecological Footprint **(Sep 8/9/11)**	
2	Sep 14 (SM)	Geomatics	cuL	Assignment 2 - Reading maps	Assignment 1
3	Sep 21 (SM)	Energy, Flows & Ecosystems	Ch 2	Map library intro (meet at MADGIC desk)	
4	Sep 28 (SM)	Ecosystem Change	Ch 3, cuL	Assignment 3	Assignment 2
5	Oct 5 (SM)	Matter Cycling	Ch 4	Group work	
6	Oct 12	NO LECTURE (Thanksgiving)		Assignment 4 (test preparation)	Assignment 3
7	Oct 19 (PC)	Planning and Management: Philosophy	Ch 5	Test goes online Oct 23 (cuLearn) Introduce Assignment 5	
RW		READING WEEK – no classes Oct 26-30 - test still online			
8	Nov 2 (PC)	Planning and Management: Process, Method & Products	Ch 6	Proposal preparation, library workshop	**Test is due Nov 6** (online)
9	Nov 9 (SM)	Minerals and Energy	Ch 12	Report planning, next steps	Proposal (Assignment 5)
10	Nov 16 (SM)	Climate Change – Energy balance, Science Perspectives	Ch 7, cuL	TA and peer help for report	1st Drafts due to TA and peer (Assignment 5).
11	Nov 23 (SM)	Climate Change – Human Implications & Responses	Ch 7, cuL	Discuss 1st draft with your editor, TA	Peer editing suggestions
12	Nov 30 (SM)	Forests	Ch 9	Project planning: confirm groups; journal article searches refresher	
13	Dec 7 (SM)	Research ethics, term 2 projects, & term 1 wrap-up Course Evaluations (SM)	cuL	None	Assignment 5 final version due Dec 7th(last day of term)

[1] Due dates and timing of tests are fixed once the course begins; the list of topics covered and associated textbook readings is approximately correct.

[2] SM = Scott Mitchell. PC = Paul Csagoly.

[3]Ch = Chapter number in textbook; pp=page range in textbook; cuL = readings will be listed on cuLearn

[4] Tutorial assignments are, by default, due at 5pm on the Friday of the week noted; check each assignment for exceptions.

ENST 1001 Class and Tutorial Schedule (2015-2016)

Term 2 – *Itinerary (Subject to Change[1])*

Week	*Lecture date (Instructor)* [2]	*Lecture (Mon 11:35)*	*Reading*[3]*:*	*Tutorial (**following** the lecture, on Tue.,Wed. or Fri.)*	*Work due in tutorials*[4]
1	Jan 11 (PC)	Water I	Ch 11	Proposal workshop (Assignment 6)	
2	Jan 18 (PC)	Water II	Ch 11	Present project proposals	Assignment 6 (presentations)
3	Jan 25 (PC)	Ocean and Marine	Ch 8	Detailed action plan; proposal workshop; test preparation	Proposal (paper)
4	Feb 1 (PC & SM)	**TEST**	TBA	Journal articles (Assignment 7)	
5	Feb 8 (SM)	Agriculture	Ch 10	Project Work	
RW	READING WEEK – no classes Feb 15-19				
6	Feb 22 (PC)	Endangered Species & Protected Areas	Ch 14	Project Work	Assignment 7
7	Feb 29 (PC)	Urban Environments	Ch 13	Project Work	
8	Mar 7 (PC)	Aboriginal and Polar Issues	cuL	Project Work	
9	Mar 14 (PC)	Movie for Assignment 8	TBA	Movie Discussion, Assignment 8	
10	Mar 21 (PC)	Making it Happen	Ch 15	Project Work – Press Release Workshop	Assignment 8
11	Mar 28 (PC & SM)	Review & exam prep Course Evaluations		By arrangement with TA	Major communication product (due Apr 1)
12	Apr 4 (PC & SM)	Project presentations		Submit project	Rest of project due April 8

[1] Due dates and timing of tests will be fixed at the start of term; the list of topics covered and associated textbook readings is approximately correct.

[2] SM = Scott Mitchell. PC = Paul Csagoly.

[3] Ch = Chapter number in textbook; pp=page range in textbook; cuL = readings will be listed on cuLearn

[4] Tutorial assignments are, by default, due at 5pm on the Friday of the week noted; check each assignment for exceptions.

General Information About Tutorial Work

Tutorials are an essential part of this course. The eight term assignments and the major project for the course are all conducted through the tutorials. The grades for these components account for 55% of your final grade, therefore it is impossible to pass this course through the lectures, tests and final exam alone. Please take the tutorials seriously. If a conflict or health problem comes up that interferes with your regular attendance and participation in the tutorials, make sure that you contact your TA as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements.

Grading schemes for each of the assignments are provided in this coursepack, and vary according to the tasks at hand. However, in general, grades are governed by university-wide standards and practices. You will receive either a numeric or a letter grade, depending on the work, but in either case the meaning behind the grade is similar. The following table elaborates on how these grades conform to the Carleton grade point system, with some generalized descriptions of the levels:

Grade (letter/%)	Grade Point	Description	
A+ 90-100%	12	**Excellent**	Demonstrates a superb understanding of the material, and makes links between the issues and topics in the lab material and course readings or lectures. Unexpected insights. Incorporates additional information. Very few if any grammatical or spelling errors. Mature writing.
A 85-89%	11	**Excellent – Very Good**	Work shows comprehensive knowledge of the material at hand, critical thinking and originality. Clear, organized writing and precise, effective expression. Few errors.
A- 80-84%	10		
B+ 77-79%	9	**Very Good**	Shows good knowledge of the material and evidence of independent thought. Well organized. Writing flows fairly smoothly. Vocabulary is appropriate, but lacks the effectiveness of "A" work.
B 73-76%	8		
B- 70-72%	7	**Good**	
C+ 67-69%	6		Shows adequate understanding of the material, but lacks organization and coherency. Writing does not `effectively communicate ideas. Suffers from obvious errors.
C 63-66%	5	**Acceptable** / "**OK**"	
C- 60-62%	4		
D+ 57-59%	3		Shows limited knowledge and understanding of the material. Evidence of carelessness or lack of effort. Little to no originality or evidence of independent thought. Weak writing with frequent errors.
D 53-56%	2	**Poor**	
D- 50-52%	1		
F 0-49%	0	**Unacceptable**.	Failure to meet conditions of satisfactory performance. Misinterpretation of the material. Poorly organized. Betrays little to no effort. Poor writing with frequent errors.