Course Outline - ENST1001A – Introduction to Environmental Studies

Fall/Winter 2014-2015 - Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
Carleton University

Instructors: FALL: Scott Mitchell, Loeb B359
613-520-2600 extension 2695
Scott.Mitchell@carleton.ca
Office hours Wednesdays 12:00-14:00

WINTER: Justin Stefanik, Loeb A301D
Justin.Stefanik@carleton.ca
Office hours Tuesdays 9:00-10:30

TAs: Stephen Malesevich & Michelle Fairbrother
Contact details for your TAs will be discussed in the first tutorial group meetings (second week of classes. Note the TA assignments MAY change in January, if necessary for scheduling reasons.

Course objectives:

This course serves as an introduction to Environmental Studies, a program aiming to educate and prepare informed, skilled individuals to participate in the resolution of environmental conflicts and the larger environmental debates critical to our future\(^1\). In addition to being a popular interdisciplinary elective in other degree programs, ENST1001 is the primary option to start the BA (Honours or General) program in Environmental Studies.

Our presentation of environmental studies is influenced by our backgrounds in geography and geomatics. The advent of space exploration, and rapid developments in Geomatics, have changed and in some ways created modern environmental studies; developments in geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing (RS) have allowed us to discover new perspectives and new ways of seeing Earth. Spatial analysis is a valuable tool for making sense of environmental issues, and we will often supplement traditional environmental studies resources with spatial perspectives, to present a visual interpretation of earth system science and socio-cultural knowledge. We will learn to integrate knowledge from many sources, including models of ecosystem processes, GIS/RS, online resources, mass media, traditional academic publications, and fellow students.

Course calendar:

**Full group in lecture hall:** Mondays 14:35-16:25, Tory 210

**Tutorial groups:**

A2: Wednesdays 8:35-10:25, Paterson 111
A3: Wednesdays 15:35-17:25, Southam 415
A4: Wednesdays 14:35-16:25, River Bldg 3110

Assignment due dates are also usually tied to your assigned tutorial.

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1 adapted from DGES website [http://www.carleton.ca/geography/environmental-studies/](http://www.carleton.ca/geography/environmental-studies/)
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 between weeks 7 and 8 of the fall term (specifically, see attached schedule), an in-class test in January, 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 texts:
The following textbook has been ordered and will be available at the Campus bookstore:

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Test (due Nov 7)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter Test (Jan. 26)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorial assignments</td>
<td>25% (details on assignments)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final project (including Assignment 6)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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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/regulationsacademicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv14/](http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulationsacademicregulationsoftheuniversity/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.² **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.

**Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and 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.

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by Nov. 8, 2013 for the Fall term and March 7, 2014 for the Winter term.

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at [http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation).

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² 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](http://www.carleton.ca/geography/geography/course_outlines/GEOG3108_0304.html).