

GEOG 3000/ENST 2900. Honours Field Camp
Assessing the Carleton Campus as a Happening Place for Students
May 8 – June 12, 2024

Instructor: John Milton

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Course Times: Wednesdays, 0905 – 1555 (9:05 am – 3:55 pm)

This is a non-residential field camp course based on campus. It is scheduled to run from May 8 to June 12. *Please note that the field camp takes place Wednesdays and is a full-day class, running from 9:05 to 3:55 with a lunch break from 11:45 to 12:30. Because of both the time limitations that a summer semester presents and the nature of a field camp, it is mandatory that all students attend all classes. Absence for whatever reason(s) can result in an “F” in the course. Missing two classes in part or completely will require you to withdraw from the course. Furthermore, all students are required to contribute to all components of the fieldwork or else risk not passing the course. I am not stating this to be a mean bas%\$#d-o; this is, after all, an experiential course; you must be in the field in order to learn.*

What makes geography/environmental studies unique both as a discipline and a professional field of work is its integrated nature. We straddle the natural and social sciences, and this is what we will be doing in this field camp. Your task in this field camp is to assess the Carleton campus from the student’s perspective. Is it a ‘Green’ campus? Does it provide a place the supports student health and wellbeing? Do students like being on campus? is it a ‘happening place’ that provides students with a place of vibrance and creativity?

You will be working in teams of four or five (depending upon the number of students enrolled in the course) in the field. You will be assessing the campus for its built/natural balance, for student mobility in and around the campus, the campus greenspaces and woods, and from its social milieu. You will also learn how to design a survey questionnaire and surveying strategy, and then will go out and interview students for their opinions about the campus.

Although you will be working in teams, you will be submitting laboratory reports individually. Do not be intimidated by this. You will be working through a course laboratory manual, and I will be working alongside you, so the tasks will be easy to follow and results easy to interpret. But by taking this course, you will gain important experience in the diverse range of field research methods available to you as environmental professionals on topics of current importance.