

Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
GEOG 4050 – *Environmental & Geographic Education*
Course Syllabus / Winter Term 2018

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Seminar: Thursdays, 11:35 a.m. – 2:25 p.m., January 8 – April 11
Location: Loeb A410

GEOG 4050 [0.5 credit] – *Environmental & Geographic Education*

Calendar description: Selected issues – theoretical and applied – concerning environmental and geographic education.

Prerequisite: Fourth-year Honours standing in Geography or Environmental Studies, or permission of the Department. [Please note, this course is open to 4th year students of other disciplines, especially those interested in teaching, so simply request access!]

Format: Seminar, three hours per week.

GEOG 4050—*Environmental & Geographic Education* is a fourth-year elective that will appeal primarily to students interested in a career in the educational field, or to those interested in reflecting critically on their own education to date.

Core Objectives

- ❖ To hone critical thinking skills related to a (re)consideration of education generally, and of environmental education and geographic education more specifically;
- ❖ To analyze the merits, limitations and constraints of mainstream and alternative educational models;
- ❖ To identify the core competencies of environmental literacy;
- ❖ To reflect on the multitude of ways in which learning takes place, and the implications of this on formal education systems;
- ❖ To use creativity in presenting materials to engage students with diverse learning styles; and finally,
- ❖ To explore themes such as: critical eco-pedagogy, environmental citizenship, campus sustainability, etc.

Readings

Required text: Worldwatch Institute (2017) *Earth Ed: Rethinking Education on a Changing Planet*. Washington, DC: Island Press.

[Available through Octopus Books, 116 Third Ave, (613) 233-2589, www.octopusbooks.ca for ~ \$32]

Other required readings will be available through an Electronic Course Pack – provided on cuLearn as .pdf files (where copyright permits) and/or as active URL links to online resources.

Distribution of Grades:

Evaluation:	Value:
Participation	20%
A1: Environmental Autobiography	15%
A2: Subvertisement	10%
A3: Article Review	15%
Final Project	40%
Total:	100%

Your confidential grades will be posted on cuLearn as soon as they are available. Please notify your professor of any omissions and/or inaccuracies.

Assignments:

Three assignments (listed above) account for a total of 40% of your grade. Specific details and expectations will be distributed in class, closer to the due dates. Several criteria can't help but influence the quality of your assignments. Therefore, before handing in your assignments, ask yourself the following questions:

- Have you researched your answer?
- Have you included relevant quotes and/or statistics to substantiate your position?
- Have you cited all sources in a standardized bibliographic format?
- Have you answered the question(s) in a thorough and systematic way?
- Have you followed the instructions?
- Have you checked your answer for spelling mistakes and grammatical errors?
- Have you attempted to improve your style and polish your prose?
- Have you tried to go above and beyond the stated expectations?

Students are urged to adhere to the maximum word and/or page limit. Your bibliography/reference list is not included in the page limit.

All assignments must be submitted in a standardized 12-point font (e.g., Times New Roman, Cambria, Calibri or Arial), double-spaced, with 1-inch margins.

NB Include your name, student number, date, and descriptive title somewhere in the header of your document.

Assignments will generally be received electronically through cuLearn. Late assignments will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a doctor's note. Otherwise, if you are late for a due date, hand the assignment in the following week for partial marks. You will be penalized for late submissions.

While you are encouraged to work cooperatively with your peers, identical assignments will be considered grounds for an allegation of Instructional Offense. Work submitted must be in your own words. Any reference to the work of others should be carefully acknowledged with full credit given to the source.

Final Project:

Representing 40% of your total grade, there will be a final project around a theme related to the course (but negotiated with the instructor). There will be some flexibility, so students will be able to work independently or in groups, as desired. This project might entail original research (data collection), synthesis, and audio-visual and written communication in the form of a mixed-media product.

Participation

Representing 20% of your total grade, your participation will be evaluated as follows:

- ❑ **Attendance** (a simple tally of the number of classes attended); multiplied by...
- ❑ **Participation** (a qualitative assessment of your contribution to class)

NB in an upper-year, seminar setting, it is imperative that students complete the assigned readings prior to class; attend all classes; engage positively and respectfully in class discussions and group work; raise questions; complete voluntary activities when requested; bring in relevant materials to share with peers; and maintain their personal integrity and academic honesty throughout.

Deferred Assignments

Only official deferrals petitioned through the Office of the Registrar will be honored. Students who are unable to complete an assignment or final project because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, may apply within five working days to the Registrarial Services Office for permission to extend a deadline or to write a deferred examination. Permission can be granted only if the request is fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documents.

Grades

In accordance with the Carleton University Calendar, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 56-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50			

WDN =	Withdrawn from the course
ABS =	Student absent from final exam
DEF =	Deferred
FND =	Failed, no Deferred (Student could not pass the course even with 100% on final exam)

Final grades are subject to the Dean's approval.

Requests for Academic Accommodations

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 visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>

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 visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>

Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities 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 the PMC at (613) 520-6608 or by e-mail at: 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 (if applicable) at: <http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Standing and Conduct

Students must familiarize themselves with the regulations concerning academic standing and conduct in the 2017/2018 *Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar*. This document can be accessed online at: <http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/>

Retain Copies of Work Submitted

Students are strongly advised to retain a hard copy (and electronic backup) of all assignments and final projects in the event of loss for whatever reason.

University Regulations Regarding Cheating and Plagiarism

University regulations stipulate that allegations of plagiarism, cheating or any violations of examination conduct rules will be thoroughly reviewed. Each case must be reported to the Dean, who investigates each allegation. If there is no resolution following this investigation at the Dean's level, a tribunal will be appointed by the Senate to review the case and make a final decision.

(Note on Plagiarism):

Webster's Dictionary defines plagiarism as stealing. *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 one's 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.