Previous Course Outline Provided for Information Purposes Only

GEOG 3010 FIELD METHODS IN PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY WINTER TERM 2014

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Office Hours: TBA in January

Classes: Monday 14:35 – 17:25 DT 1006

Field course: Sunday 16 February 2 pm – Friday 21 February 4 pm. This is the Winter Break period, and includes Family Day. Field activities will take place on all days.

Calendar description: Field and laboratory approaches, methodologies and techniques in physical geography. Field projects will be undertaken to collect data for analysis, evaluation and presentation. A supplementary charge may apply.
Prerequisite(s): GEOG 2013 or GEOG 2014.

Textbooks: There is no assigned textbook for the course. Students will be expected to consult relevant resources to assist with calculations and statistical analysis of field data. Supplementary reading will be made available where appropriate, especially in January.

Objectives: The primary objective is to train students in data collection and analysis under field conditions. A secondary objective is to provide training in reporting of field assignments, both orally and in writing.

Course topics: Field measurements
Spatial and temporal variability of field data
Hypotheses and hypothesis testing
Field experiments
Precision and accuracy
Operation, care, and maintenance of field equipment
Field notes
Oral and written presentations of field studies

Program: Lectures and Workshops as per schedule
Individual field exercises
Group oral presentations
Group field project report
Final examination

Evaluation:	Individual field exercises	30%
	Oral presentations	20%
	Field project	30%
	Final examination	20%
		100%

Course arrangements

The course will meet weekly in the first half of term for instruction and arrangement of logistical aspects leading up to a 5-day field course held during the Winter Break. The field course will involve work outside for several hours at a time under winter conditions, and include travel by foot over rough terrain. The course will be a residential experience, away from Ottawa. It will not be possible to commute to the course on a daily basis. A supplementary fee to cover the costs of board and lodging will be assessed. The fee will be announced in October 2013.

The field course will consist of daily weather briefings to be prepared by students; field exercises to be completed in pairs; and a project to be developed and conducted in small groups.

After the course, students will concentrate on completing their field reports. Oral presentations of group projects will be made two weeks before the due date for the projects.

Assignments

1. Written field reports on daily field exercises must be submitted by 10:30 pm on the first three nights of the field course. The reports may be submitted electronically. The reports will present field data collected during the day and statistical analyses of the data conducted to test specific hypotheses.

2. A weather briefing will be prepared for each day of the field course. The briefing will present analysis of the synoptic conditions in eastern Ontario and the weather forecast for the next 24 hours. The briefing will be presented before field work for the day begins.

3. Projects will be developed in small groups, with proposals presented to the class before the field course. The scope of the projects will be for field work that can be completed in one day. Data collection for the projects will be on the fourth day of the field course. Oral presentations of the projects will be made two weeks before the due date for the written reports. The reports will contain text, figures, tables, and references.

4. A 3-hour examination will be held in the final exam period. The exam will comprise questions on topics covered in the course, and will require knowledge of material covered in lectures and in assigned readings. The examination is scheduled by central services, not the instructors.

Important dates.
January 17. Last day for registration in classes.
April 11-26. Exam period.

Plagiarism
The University Senate defines plagiarism as "*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own."* This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

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 forward any requests for academic accommodation to the Instructors during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation arises.

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 March 7, 2014. 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.

Timetable: we shall adhere to this schedule as much as possible.

Week 1	J06	Introduction to the course; Logistical arrangements
Week 2	J13	Hypotheses and field experiments
Week 3	J 20	Spatial and temporal variability of field data
Week 4	J 27	Field measurements; precision and accuracy; field notes
Week 5	F03	Presentation of project proposals;
Week 6	F10	Preparation of field equipment
Week 7	F16-21	Field course
Week 8	F24	No class
Week 9	M03	Discussion of project reports
Week 10	M10	Instructions on oral presentations
Week 11	M17	Instructions on written reports
Week 12	M24	Student oral presentations
Week 13	M31	No class
Week 14	A07	Project reports due at 3 pm.