

GEOG-2204(3)-001

Human Impact on the Environment

Winter, 2022

January 6th to April 5th 2022

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jacqueline Binyamin
Office: 5L10
Phone: 204 786-9982
E-mail: j.binyamin@uwinnipeg.ca
Office Hours (Zoom): Tuesday and Thursday (16:00 – 17:00) or
by appointment

LECTURES: Tuesday and Thursday 14:30 – 15:45,
Online-Synchronous

TEXTBOOK (recommended):

Environmental Change & Challenge (6th edition)
by P. Dearden, B. Mitchell and E. O’Connell (2020)
ISBN 9780199033829
ISBN 9780199033836 (ebook)

Environmental Change & Challenge (5th edition)
by P. Dearden and B. Mitchell (2016)
ISBN 9780199015146

All classes will be conducted online using a combination of **Nexus** Communication Tools and **Zoom**. Students should be available during the posted lecture and lab time for live streaming and/or discussions. Lectures and other course materials will be posted on Nexus.

A recurring zoom link will be sent at the beginning of the course to all students registered for the course. The same link can be used for all lectures, labs and office hours. While it is not necessary to keep video on during lectures, however, students are required to do so during tests and exams.

Students are required to attend zoom classes on time and keep their microphones on mute unless they have a question or comment or are participating in a discussion. If you have a question, you can use the ‘raise hand’ feature or use the chat option in zoom to ask the question and the instructor will call on you when ready. **Live lectures will not be saved as video files.** These tools will also be reviewed on the first day of class.

COURSE NEXUS: Use your WebAdvisor User ID and Password.
Login in at <https://nexus.uwinnipeg.ca>

If you are having difficulties with Nexus contact the help desk at 204-786-9149 or servicedesk@uwinnipeg.ca

Please use your University of Winnipeg email address for course related correspondence: name@webmail.uwinnipeg.ca. Students have a responsibility to regularly check their **Nexus e-mail addresses** to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from their course instructor. Emails from others accounts such as Hotmail or Gmail are frequently treated as spam and thus may not reach the recipient.

Office hours are scheduled in **Tuesday and Thursday 16:00 – 17:00**. If these hours are inconvenient, appointment can be arranged. If you have no other alternative but to leave an e-mail, the instructor cannot guarantee an immediate response to your e-mail or phone message.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course studies the causes, effects, and controls of detrimental change to the natural environment resulting from human activity. Emphasis will be given to issues pertaining to the alteration of ecosystems and the various types of air, water, and soil pollution.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this course is for students: (1) to understand the implications of climate change for natural and human systems and learn the importance of reducing energy use in society , (2) to analyze human impacts on various aspects of the natural world (e.g., population growth and consumption, climate change, deforestation, water pollution, overfishing, biodiversity and species at risk, urbanization, energy use, agriculture), (3) to understand what the boreal forest is, its significance to Canada, and the main threats it is facing, and (4) to describe and explain management approaches and solutions to address environmental issues on a local, national and global level. Students should gain a better understanding of the impact of urban areas on the environment and make better decisions to minimize their impact on the environment.

GRADING PROCEDURE:

Midterm Test 40% (2 Tests at 20% each)
Research Paper Outline 10%, Monday, February 28 at 11:59 pm
Research Paper 30%, Due on Sunday, March 27 at 11:59 pm
Final Exam 20%
Total 100%

Final grades will be assigned on the basis of accumulated scores from the above components. **Midterms and Final Examinations:** there will be two Midterms and a Final Examination, which may consist of combination of multiple-choice, true and false and short-long answer questions. The contents of the final exam will only cover the course material covered after the midterms.

Test/Exam Policy

Exams will be given **online**, via **Zoom and Nexus**. All exams are “**closed-book**” exams proctored through **Zoom with your webcam on**. The students are **not allowed** to search on their notes, internet or other reference material while taking the exam. Use of a simple calculator or dictionary is allowed but no other electronic devices are permitted.

If you miss a test or exam, you must contact your instructor immediately. Proof of illness or exceptional circumstances is required before alternate arrangements can be made. Vacation travel is not an acceptable reason.

Research Paper Outline: An outline consisting of 2 single-spaced pages, which includes a title, an overview of the paper’s structure, and a comprehensive list of references. The goal of this submission is to obtain feedback from the instructor to assist in further development and finalization of the research paper.

Research Paper: A comprehensive paper of 6-8 pages that addresses the following: (1) identify one major environmental issue developed due to human activities and describe their potential short-term and long-term impacts on ecosystem and human health. (2) Explain how human activities contributed to this environmental problem and suggest prevention and /or mitigation strategies. If there are any prevention measures that could have been adapted to the situation you may come up with those strategies. In case if you do not see any prevention mechanisms on the issues identified by you, then suggest measures of mitigation. You must use the text book as a reference and at least five peer-reviewed scholarly articles. Limit your paper to not more than eight pages of word-processed, 12-point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced text, (not including references, tables and figures). Do not use more than three Tables or Figures. Your paper includes Title, Author (student name), Introduction, Main Body (Methods, Analysis), Results and Conclusions, References, Appendices.

All facts, data, and opinions that are not your own must be acknowledged in your paper by properly citing the source. You should not use informal blogs, newsletters, or any source without reasonable support in research or established fact. Other acceptable sources include regular internet sources, such as government agency, professional organizations, or company websites. You should submit word documents (doc or docx) on-line through **dropbox** in the Nexus webpage. Please do not submit pdf files. **Papers sent as email attachments are not accepted.**

Letter grades are typically determined using the following numeric groupings as guidelines:

%	90-100	84-89	80-83	75-79	70-74	65-69	55-64	50-54	<50
Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	C+	C	D	F

NOTE: *The numeric boundaries separating letter grades may be adjusted at the request of the Departmental Review Committee.* Grades are not final until approved by the University Senate.

If you miss a test or exam, you must contact your instructor immediately. Proof of illness or exceptional circumstances is required before alternate arrangements can be made. Vacation travel is not an acceptable reason.

The **Final Exam** must be written as scheduled in the 2021-2022 Fall/Winter Exam Schedule; alternate dates will not be considered. If you have a final Theory Exam conflict (i.e., two final exams on the same date and time), or if exceptional circumstances prevent you from writing the exam as scheduled, you must contact Academic Advising immediately, otherwise, you must write the final exam as scheduled. Please refer to section 9d, of Regulation and Policies in the 2021-2022 Undergraduate Academic Calendar link: (<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/calendar-calendar>).

IMPORTANT DATES:

Thursday, January 6	Lectures begin for the 2022 Winter Term.
Thursday, February 10 at 14:30 pm	Midterm Theory Test #1.
February 20-26 Monday, February 21	Reading Week- No lectures. Louis Riel Day - University closed.
Monday, February 28 at 11:59 pm Sunday, March 13	Research Paper Outline due Daylight Saving Time begins – turn your clock 1 hour ahead.
Tuesday, March 16	Final date to withdraw without academic penalty. Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not result in a fee refund.
Thursday, March 17 at 14:30 pm	Midterm Theory Test #2.
Sunday, March 20	Vernal Equinox at 10:33 am CDT (Sunday, March 20 at 03:33 pm UTC/GMT).
Sunday, March 27 at 11:59 pm	Research Paper due
Tuesday, April 5 Friday, April 15	Last lecture in this course. Good Friday, University closed.
Final Exam (Date TBA)	Please check http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/exam-schedules/ for final exam schedule

Course Subjects and Readings:

The following table outlines the topics to be covered during the lectures. The order of presentation is subject to change as circumstances dictate and all the topics listed may not be covered. Any changes will be announced in class.

Topics	Readings from the Textbook
Environment, Resources and Society	Ch. 1
The Ecosphere	
Energy Flows and Ecosystems	Ch. 2
Ecosystems are Dynamic	Ch. 3
Ecosystems and Matter Cycling	Ch. 4
Planning and Management: Perspectives, Processes and Methods	
Planning and Management Perspectives	Ch. 5
Planning and Management: Processes and Methods	Ch. 6
Resource and Environmental Management in Canada	
Climate change, Oceans and Fisheries, Forests, Agriculture, Water, Minerals and Energy, Urban Environment, Endangered Species and Protected areas	Ch. 7 - 11 Ch. 12 - 14
Environment change and challenge revisited	Ch. 15

PENALTIES (For Late Submission of the Assignments):

The assignment will be accepted until five days after the submission date with 5% of the total mark of the assignment being deducted each day from the mark achieved (weekends and holidays are considered as normal days). Work submitted 6 days late or more shall not be accepted.

Voluntary Withdrawal

Please note the deadline date for voluntary withdrawal from this course is **Wednesday, March 16, 2022**. You must formally withdraw from a course. If you simply stop going to classes, you may receive an “F” on your transcript and loss of tuition credit. Students are encouraged to see the instructor before withdrawal to discuss matters pertaining to the grades.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

1. Students can find answers to frequently asked questions related to remote learning here: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19/remote-learning-faq.html>.
2. When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, every effort will be made to inform students via UWinnipeg email and in **Nexus**.
3. Students have the responsibility to regularly check their UWinnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the University and/or their course instructors.

4. The first day of class is Thursday January 6, 2022. Last class will be held on Wednesday April 6, 2022. Evaluation period is Friday, April 8 to Friday, April 22, 2022.
5. The dates the University is closed for holidays, irrespective of campus closure related to COVID-19: Winter mid-term Reading Week February 20-26, February 21 (Louis Riel Day) and April 15 (Good Friday).
6. **Regulations, Policies, and Academic Integrity.** Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the “Regulations and Policies” found in the University *Academic Calendar* at: <https://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>. Particular attention should be given to subsections 8 (“Student Discipline”), 9 (“Senate Appeals”), and 10 (“Grade Appeals”). Please emphasize the importance of maintaining academic integrity, and to the potential consequences of engaging in plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct. Even “unintentional” plagiarism, as described in the UW Library video tutorial “Avoiding Plagiarism” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvFdxRU9a8g>) is a form of academic misconduct. Similarly, uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or trader sites (filesharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) is a form of misconduct, as it involves “aiding and abetting” plagiarism. More detailed information can be found here:

Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures:

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>.

7. **Respectful Learning Environment.** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner on campus and in the learning environment irrespective of platform being used. Behaviour, communication, or acts that are inconsistent with a number of UW policies (e.g. *Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy* <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/respect-policy.html>, *Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy* <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/acceptable-use-of-information-technology-policy.pdf>) could be considered “non-academic” misconduct. More detailed information can be found here:

Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures:

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>.

Forms of Academic Misconduct:

- Plagiarism: includes presenting other people’s published or unpublished work in part or as a whole as your own. This includes material from lab manuals, essays, journal articles, books, etc. Plagiarism also refers to submitting the same work in more than one course without both instructors’ permission and to the situation where two or more students submit identical (or nearly identical) work for evaluation when the work was to be completed individually.

- Cheating: includes copying another person's answer on a test, communicating with another person during a test or exam, consulting unauthorized sources (including written and electronic sources), obtaining a copy (of all or part) of a test/exam/assignment before it is officially available, purchasing tests, essays or other assignments and submitting the work as your own.
- Improper Academic/Research practices include: fabricating or falsifying results, using other peoples' research findings without permission, misrepresenting research results or methods, referring to non-existent sources or investigators, contravening the University's Policy and Procedures on Research Integrity.
- Obstructing academic activities of another person; for example, interfering with another person's access to pertinent resources or information to gain academic advantage.
- Impersonation: both impersonation of another individual or allowing someone to impersonate you.
- Falsification or Modification of an Academic Record: including tests, transcripts, letters of permission, etc.
- Aiding and Abetting Academic Misconduct.
- See online <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>

Penalties for Academic Misconduct:

Penalties for academic misconduct include, but are not limited to:

- Written warning
- Lower or failing grade on an assignment or test
- Lower or failing grade in a course
- Denial of admission or readmission to the University
- Forfeiture of University awards or financial assistance
- Suspension from the University for a specified period of time
- Withholding or rescinding a U of W degree, certificate or diploma
- Expulsion from the University

Procedures for Academic Misconduct:

All allegations of academic misconduct must be reported initiating a process which involves several steps. These include procedures involving the instructor of the course in which the misconduct is alleged to have occurred, the Departmental Review Committee, and the Senate Academic Misconduct Committee. Students facing a charge of academic or non-academic misconduct may choose to contact the UWSA Student Advocacy Centre where Student advocates will be available to answer any questions about the process, help with building a case and ensuring students have access to representation. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact us at [yps@theuwsa.ca](mailto:ypsa@theuwsa.ca) or 204-786-9780.

- 8. Copyright and Intellectual Property.** Course materials are the property of the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides—irrespective of format. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor/presenter before, for example, photographing, recording, or taking screenshots of slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board. Students found to be in

violation of an instructor's intellectual property rights could face serious consequences pursuant to the *Academic Misconduct* or *Non-Academic Misconduct Policy*.

Misuse of Filesharing Sites. Uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or trader sites (filesharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) involves “aiding and abetting” plagiarism. Students who do this can be charged with Academic Misconduct.

Avoiding Copyright Violation. Course materials are owned by the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor /presenter before photographing or recording slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board.

9. Research Ethics. Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including a family member, must obtain research ethics approval before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities done in class as a learning exercise. For submission requirements and deadlines, see <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html>

10. Privacy. Students should be reminded of their rights in relation to the collecting of personal data by the University (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/admissions-privacy-notice.html>), especially if Zoom is being used for remote teaching (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-privacy-notice.html>) and testing/proctoring (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-test-and-exam-proctoring.html>).

11. Writing Exams on Holy Days

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work or examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found in the 2021-22 Undergraduate Academic Calendar.

12. Accessibility Services:

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams or during lectures/laboratories are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204.786.9771 or <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility-services/> to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.

13. Indigenous Student Services

Indigenous students seeking additional supports, academic or other, are encouraged to contact the Aboriginal Student Services Centre (ASSC). The ASSC offers a variety of support services, and was created to maintain a safe, educational and culturally sensitive environment for all Aboriginal students (First Nation, Metis and Inuit) as they pursue their academic studies at The University of Winnipeg. More information can be found at: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/assc/>.