

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG**  
**GEOG 2212(3)-760**  
**NATURAL HAZARDS**  
**Spring 2022**

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**Lectures:** Voice over Power Points – online asynchronous (Lectures uploaded everyday by 9:00 am)

**Office Hours:** Email me anytime – and I'll get back to you promptly

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course examines the natural hazards in our environment and their effects on society. The emphasis will be on the actual risk that these events pose, their geographical distribution, the perceived risk that different people, or groups of people, associate with them, and the various methods of response. The primary objective is to arrive at an understanding and appreciation of the impact that extreme natural events have, or can have, on the lives of people and on communities of various sizes, especially those in the so-called "developing" countries of the world. To this end, we will examine the theoretical aspects of natural hazards studies, analyze the causes and characteristics of a few natural events in detail, and review and assess the methods used to prevent or mitigate negative impacts.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

First Lecture	May 2, 2022
Final date to withdraw without academic penalty	May 20, 2022
Victoria Day, University Closed	May 23, 2022
Last Lecture	May 30, 2022

**COURSE ASSESSMENT:**

Term Paper	40 %	Assigned May 6, 2022; Due June 3, 2022
Test 1	30 %	May 13, 2022
Test 2	30 %	May 27, 2022

Final grades will be assigned based on accumulated numeric marks allocated throughout the term. Letter grades are typically determined using the following numeric groupings as guidelines:

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

**NOTE: The numeric boundaries separating letter grades may be adjusted at the request of the Departmental Review Committee.**

**TEXTBOOK:** *Natural Disasters*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Edition, Abbott and Samson (2015), McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:** The following table outlines the topics to be discussed during the lectures. The order of presentation is subject to change as circumstances dictate and all the topics listed may not be covered (text readings assigned during class).

<b>Introduction to Natural Hazards:</b> Course objectives, context, theory, definitions, hazards vs disasters, extreme events.
<b>Risk and Response:</b> Frequency, Return Period, Magnitude, Risk, Vulnerability, Responses and Adjustments.
<b>Earth Energy Flows:</b> Origin of the Earth, Internal and External Sources of Energy
<b>Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tsunamis:</b> Setting of Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tsunamis (examples).
<b>Weather:</b> Weather and Climate, Climate Change
<b>Severe Weather:</b> Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Floods
<b>Fires:</b> Stages, Suppression, Climate Change
<b>Mass Movements:</b> <i>Conditions, Classifications</i>

**Assignment Submissions:** The assigned paper must be typed and follow the guidelines as set forth in the instructions provided in the May 6, 2022 lecture.

**Late Penalties:** The paper is due by the end of the day (11:59 PM) on June 3, 2022. Late penalties are assessed at **10% per day**. The weekend counts as 1 day.

When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, I will make every effort to inform students via uwinnipeg email (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as designated in this outline).

Students are reminded that they have a responsibility to regularly check their uwinnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the University and/or their course instructors.

Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not necessarily result in a fee refund.

A permitted or necessary change in mode of delivery may require adjustments to important aspects of course outlines, like class schedule and the number, nature, and weighting of assignments and/or exams.

Students can find answers to frequently asked questions related to remote learning here: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19/remote-learning-faq.html>.

**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 familiarize yourself on the importance of maintaining academic integrity, and of 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.

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:**

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<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>.

**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>

**Accessibility Services:** Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., access to volunteer note-takers) are encouraged to contact the Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or contact <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility-services/index.html> and [accessibility@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibility@uwinnipeg.ca). All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.

**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/>.

Students may be required to provide identification when writing a test or an examination.

**Equipment authorized for use during a test/examination:** calculators, dictionaries.

**NEXUS:** Additional materials related to this course will be available on Nexus. Students are expected to log on to Nexus to access all relevant course materials. If you are having difficulties with Nexus contact the help desk at 204-786-9149 or [help.desk@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:help.desk@uwinnipeg.ca).

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

*In the event of extenuating circumstances, I reserve the right to make changes to any information presented in this document, after consulting with, or with the approval of, the class. Changes in test dates require the unanimous approval of the class.*

**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>.

**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*; such consequences could possibly involve legal sanction under the *Copyright Policy*

([https://copyright.uwinnipeg.ca/docs/copyright\\_policy\\_2017.pdf](https://copyright.uwinnipeg.ca/docs/copyright_policy_2017.pdf)).

**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>).

The University of Winnipeg affirms the importance of student mental health and our commitment to providing accessible, culturally appropriate, and effective services for students. Students who are seeking mental health supports are encouraged to reach out to the Wellness Centre at [studentwellness@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:studentwellness@uwinnipeg.ca) or 204.988.7611. For community-based mental health resources and supports, students are encouraged to dial 2-1-1. This program of United Way is available 24/7 in 150 languages.