



COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course:** ENSC 201, Introduction to Environmental Science - Winter 2024

Lecture 01 : TR 12:30 - 13:45 in ENC 70

Instructor	Email	Phone	Office	Hours
Dr William Holden	wnholden@ucalgary.ca	403 220-4886	ES 416	T & R 14:00 to 15:15

To account for any necessary transition to remote learning for the current semester, courses with in-person lectures, labs, or tutorials may be shifted to remote delivery for a certain period of time. In addition, adjustments may be made to the modality and format of assessments and deadlines, as well as to other course components and/or requirements, so that all coursework tasks are in line with the necessary and evolving health precautions for all involved (students and staff).

In Person Delivery Details:

This is an in-person course. All classes and mid-term examinations will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 13:45 in ENC70 (subject to change).

Course Site:

D2L: ENSC 201 L01-(Winter 2024)-Introduction to Environmental Science

Note: Students must use their U of C account for all course correspondence.

Equity Diversity & Inclusion:

The University of Calgary is committed to creating an equitable, diverse and inclusive campus, and condemns harm and discrimination of any form. We value all persons regardless of their race, gender, ethnicity, age, LGBTQIA2S+ identity and expression, disability, religion, spirituality, and socioeconomic status. The Faculty of Science strives to extend these values in every aspect of our courses, research, and teachings to better promote academic excellence and foster belonging for all.

2. **Requisites:**

See section [3.5.C](#) in the Faculty of Science section of the online Calendar.

3. **Grading:**

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the online University Calendar.

In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Course Component	Weight	Due Date (duration for exams)	Modality for exams	Location for exams
First Midterm Examination	25%	Feb 15 2024 at 12:30 pm (75 Minutes)	in-person	In Class
Second Midterm Examination	25%	Mar 21 2024 at 12:30 pm (75 Minutes)	in-person	In Class
Registrar Scheduled Final Exam	50%	Will be available when the final exam schedule is released by the Registrar	in person	Will be available when the final exam schedule is released by the Registrar

Each piece of work (reports, assignments, quizzes, midterm exam(s) or final examination) submitted by the student will be assigned a grade. The student's grade for each component listed above will be combined with the indicated weights to produce an overall percentage for the course, which will be used to determine the course letter grade.

The conversion between a percentage grade and letter grade is as follows.

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D
Minimum % Required	100 %	95 %	90 %	85%	80%	75 %	70 %	65%	60%	55 %	50 %

Each piece of work (midterm exam(s) or final examination) submitted by the student will be assigned a percentage grade. The student's percentage grade for each component listed above will be combined with the indicated weights to produce an overall

percentage grade for the course, which will be used to determine the course letter grade.

This course will have a Registrar Scheduled Final exam that will be delivered in-person and on campus. [The Final Examination Schedule](#) will be published by the Registrar's Office approximately one month after the start of the term. The final exam for this course will be designed to be completed within 2 hours.

A grade of A+ is given for a mark of 100%. If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart if the instructor, *at the instructor's discretion*, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement. Note: these boundaries will only be changed if such a change causes an **increase** in student grades. Tests and class participation will be marked on a numerical (percentage) basis. A passing grade in any one component is **not** required for the student to pass the course as a whole. This course has a registrar scheduled final exam. Please note, **no multiple choice questions will be asked on any examinations in this course**. All test questions will consist of true/false questions, fill in the blank questions, and short answer questions, which will be drawn from a set of study questions provided on D2L.

The University of Calgary offers a [flexible grade option](#), Credit Granted (CG) to support student's breadth of learning and student wellness. Faculty units may have additional requirements or restrictions for the use of the CG grade at the faculty, degree or program level. To see the full list of Faculty of Science courses where CG is not eligible, please visit the following website: <https://science.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/program-advising/flexible-grading-option-cg-grade>

4. Missed Components Of Term Work:

In the event that a student legitimately fails to submit any online or in-person assessment on time (e.g. due to illness, domestic affliction, etc...), please contact the course coordinator, or the course instructor if this course does not have a coordinator to arrange for a re-adjustment of a submission date, or possible exemption and reweighing of components. Absences not reported within 48 hours will not be accommodated. Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation ([Section M.1](#)) for an excused absence, See [FAQ](#).

If an excused absence is approved, options for how the missed assessment is dealt with is at the discretion of the coordinator or course instructor. Some options such as an exemption and pro-rating among the components of the course may not be a viable option based on the design of this course.

Under no circumstances will a deferred writing of a missed midterm examination be allowed. Students who miss a midterm examination for a valid reason will have their missed midterm examination reweighted onto the final examination. A missed final examination will require an application for a deferred final examination.

5. Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:

There are no scheduled out of class activities for this course.

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6. Course Materials:

The readings for this course consist of a series of lecture notes prepared by the instructor and they will be posted on D2L. In total there are eleven (11) units of readings. Units 1,2,3, and 4 will be covered on the first midterm examination. Units 5, 6, 7, and 8 will be covered on the second midterm examination. The final examination will be a **comprehensive final examination**, but it will also include questions from units 9, 10, and 11.

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection.

For more information please refer to the UofC [ELearning](#) online website.

7. Examination Policy:

No aids are allowed on tests or examinations.

Students should also read the Calendar, [Section G](#), on Examinations.

8. Approved Mandatory And Optional Course Supplemental Fees:

There are no mandatory or optional course supplemental fees for this course.

9. Writing Across The Curriculum Statement:

For all components of the course, in any written work, the quality of the student's writing (language, spelling, grammar, presentation etc.) can be a factor in the evaluation of the work. See also Section [E.2](#) of the University Calendar.

10. Human Studies Statement:

Students will not participate as subjects or researchers in human studies.

See also [Section E.5](#) of the University Calendar.

11. Reappraisal Of Grades:

A student wishing a reappraisal, should first attempt to review the graded work with the Course coordinator/instructor or department offering the course. Students with sufficient academic grounds may request a reappraisal. Non-academic grounds are not relevant for grade reappraisals. Students should be aware that the grade being reappraised may be raised, lowered or remain the same. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

- a. **Term Work:** The student should present their rationale as effectively and as fully as possible to the Course coordinator/instructor within **ten business days** of either being notified about the mark, or of the item's return to the class. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome, the student shall submit the Reappraisal of Graded Term work [form](#) to the department in which the course is offered within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor. The Department will arrange for a reappraisal of the work within the next ten business days. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected. See sections [I.1](#) and [I.2](#) of the University Calendar

- b. **Final Exam:** The student shall submit the request to Enrolment Services. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

Students will not be allowed to discuss an examination grade with the instructor within 48 hours after receiving their examination grade and, if they wish to discuss their grade with the instructor, must do so within 10 days after receiving their examination grade.

12. Other Important Information For Students:

- a. **Mental Health** The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, [Mental Health Services Website](#)) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website ([Mental Health](#)).
- b. **SU Wellness Services:** For more information, see their [website](#) or call [403-210-9355](#).
- c. **Sexual Violence:** The Sexual Violence Support Advocate, Carla Bertsch, can provide confidential support and information regarding sexual violence to all members of the university community. Carla can be reached by email (svsa@ucalgary.ca) or phone at [403-220-2208](#). The complete University of Calgary policy on sexual violence can be viewed [here](#).
- d. **Student Ombuds Office:** A safe place for all students of the University of Calgary to discuss student related issues, interpersonal conflict, academic and non-academic concerns, and many other problems.
- e. **Student Union Information:** [SU contact](#), Email your SU Science Reps: science1@su.ucalgary.ca, science2@su.ucalgary.ca, science3@su.ucalgary.ca.

f. Academic Accommodation Policy:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf>.

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, by filling out the [Request for Academic Accommodation Form](#) and sending it to Dr. Daniel Shugar by email daniel.shugar@ucalgary.ca preferably 10 business days before the due date of an assessment or scheduled absence.

- g. **Misconduct:** Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values

of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional [Code of Conduct](#) and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. Some examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to: posting course material to online platforms or file sharing without the course instructor's consent; submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work; submitting or presenting work in one course which has also been submitted in another course without the instructor's permission; borrowing experimental values from others without the instructor's approval; falsification/fabrication of experimental values in a report. Please read the following to inform yourself more on academic integrity:

[Student Handbook on Academic Integrity](#)
[Student Academic Misconduct Policy](#) and [Procedure](#)
[Faculty of Science Academic Misconduct Process](#)
[Research Integrity Policy](#)

Additional information is available on the [Student Success Centre Academic Integrity page](#)

- h. **Copyright of Course Materials:** All course materials (including those posted on the course D2L site, a course website, or used in any teaching activity such as (but not limited to) examinations, quizzes, assignments, laboratory manuals, lecture slides or lecture materials and other course notes) are protected by law. These materials are for the sole use of students registered in this course and must not be redistributed. Sharing these materials with anyone else would be a breach of the terms and conditions governing student access to D2L, as well as a violation of the copyright in these materials, and may be pursued as a case of student academic or [non-academic misconduct](#), in addition to any other remedies available at law.
- i. **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). Students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page. For more information, see [Legal Services](#) website.
- j. **Surveys:** At the University of Calgary, feedback through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction ([USRI](#)) survey and the Faculty of Science Teaching Feedback form provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference - please participate in these surveys.

Internet and Electronic Device Information: Unless instructed otherwise, cell phones should be turned off during class. All communication with other individuals via laptop, tablet, smart phone or other device is prohibited during class unless specifically permitted by the instructor. Students that violate this policy will be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated violations may result in a charge of misconduct.

Principles of Conduct. The University of Calgary Calendar includes a statement on the Principles of conduct expected of all members of the University community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors and volunteers) whether on or off the University's property. This statement applies in all situations where the members of the University community are acting in their University capacities. All Members of the University Community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with this. In order to create a classroom environment that is conducive to learning, the instructor of this course has a zero-tolerance policy with respect to people talking in class. All members of the class are requested to comply.

Rules Regarding Use of email. All emails to the instructor must be sent from a ucalgary.ca email address. The instructor will not reply to email messages that are sent from non-ucalgary.ca email addresses. The instructor will not reply to email question in the last twelve (12) hours before an examination. The email class list on D2L has been disabled but should it become available to students any use of it to communicate with other students is strictly prohibited.

The lectures for this course will be based upon the following readings. We will commence with these readings on the first class and proceed with through them in the order stipulated below. The first midterm examination will be based only on Part I, the second midterm examination will be based only on Part II, and **the final examination will be comprehensive**. Please note, the lecture notes for each unit were based upon various chapters of Dearden, P. & B Mitchell (2016). *Environmental Change & Challenge*. Fifth Edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Part I: Introduction to the Ecosphere

Lecture Notes Unit One
Lecture Notes Unit Two
Lecture Notes Unit Three
Lecture Notes Unit Four.

Part II: Climate Change, Aquatic Resources, and Agriculture

Lecture Notes Unit Five
Lecture Notes Unit Six
Lecture Notes Unit Seven
Lecture Notes Unit Eight

Part III: Forestry, Minerals, Energy, mining, and Protected Areas

Lecture Notes Unit Nine
Lecture Notes Unit Ten
Lecture Notes Unit Eleven

Course Outcomes:

- By the end of this course students will have a solid grounding in the basic concepts of environmental science such as (but not limited to): sustainable development (both intergenerational equity and intragenerational equity), the precautionary principle, biodiversity, genetic diversity, species endemism, alien invasive species, biomagnification of toxins, anthropogenic climate change, drought, the Clausius-Clapeyron Relationship, and habitat fragmentation. These topics will be discussed in the context of human resource extraction and wherever applicable microeconomic theory will be used to explain concepts. Students will also be introduced to the rudiments of Canadian environmental law.

Electronically Approved - Dec 07 2023 09:41

Department Approval