

GEOG 519 H(3-3) AREA III

LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY

Timetable:	Days	Time	Location	Catalogue # 2088
Lec # 01	TR	10:30 – 12:00	ST027	
Lab # 01	R	13:00 – 16:00	ES407	

Instructor: Dr. Darren Bender
 Office: ES 302
 Office hours: TBA
 Phone: 220-6398
 Email: dbender@ucalgary.ca

Calendar Description:

This course provides an introduction to the multi-disciplinary field of landscape ecology. The course integrates concepts and theory from geography (particularly geomorphology, soil sciences, biogeography, natural resource management, and GIS) and biology (particularly conservation biology, ecosystem ecology, population ecology, and population genetics).

The goal of the course is to teach the history, theoretical foundations, and fundamental applications of the science of landscape ecology. To accomplish this goal, a combination of lectures, tutorials and lab-based practical exercises will be undertaken. Key topics will include the ecology of landscapes, landscape structure, habitat fragmentation and landscape connectivity, mosaics and flows, ecological responses to landscape change, reserve design and landscape-based ecosystem management.

Prerequisites:

This course is designed to be taken by students majoring in Geography, Environmental Science or Biology. The calendar prerequisites are as follows:

One of (Geography 313 or Biology 313) *and* one of (Geography 339 or Biology 315) or consent of the Department. At least one of the following is also strongly recommended: Geography 417, 421, 517, or Ecology 419, 439, 501.

Required Text:

Forman, R.T.T. 1995. *Land Mosaics: The Ecology of Landscapes and Regions*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK. 632 pp.

Readings/Manual:

The lab manual and required readings will be made available electronically on the University of Calgary Blackboard system (<http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca>).

Lab Assignments and Tutorials:

Throughout the term, lab-based exercises and tutorials will be assigned on alternating weeks. Labs will be scheduled in the Department of Geography's GIS Laboratory (ES 415). Tutorial sessions will be scheduled in the same room as the lecture periods (to be confirmed).

Grading:

Students will be evaluated in two areas: (1) their knowledge of lecture materials, and (2) practical assignments/tutorials. The midterm test and final exam will evaluate the students' knowledge of the conceptual issues and theory of landscape ecology. The application of this knowledge will be evaluated through laboratory assignments and tutorials. In addition to achieving a passing grade overall for the course, students must also achieve passing grades in both the tutorial and laboratory components to pass the course.

The distribution of marks will be:

20% – Mid-term test

40% – Laboratory assignments

10% – Tutorial participation

30% – Final exam (to be scheduled by the Registrar's Office)

Grading System:

Grade	Percent	Description
A+	95.0 - 100	Outstanding
A	90.0 - 94.9	Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	85.0 – 89.9	
B+	80.0 – 84.9	
B	75.0 – 79.9	Good performance – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete
B-	70.0 – 74.9	
C+	65.0 – 69.9	
C	62.0 – 64.9	Satisfactory performance — basic understanding of the subject matter
C-	59.0 – 61.9	
D+	55.0 – 58.9	
D	50.0 – 54.9	Minimal pass — marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
F	<50.0	

Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar. Quite often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are 1) presenting another student's work as your own, 2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without proper referencing, and 3) using work completed for another course. This activity will not be tolerated in this course and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar.

Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- Assignments will be handed back only in class or by the Professor at pre-arranged time(s).
- To receive your assignment back via mail, please include an appropriately sized self-addressed, stamped envelope with your assignment when handing in to the professor.
- Posting of grades will be at the discretion of each Professor and, if posted, they will be scrambled or obtainable online using secure access. Grades will not be available at Geography's main office.

Campus Safewalk

Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day, to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security officer will accompany you to your Campus destination.