

**Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources
Department of Environment and Geography
The University of Manitoba**

Course : Environnemental Science II : Issues, ENVR 2000 A02

Course Time: Tuesday, Thursday | 10:00am – 11:15am (Jan 8th - Apr 10th, 2024)

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays (12:00 pm to 02:00 pm) or by appointment.

Room: Wallace 221

Instructor: Dr. Johny Stephen
Office: 254 Wallace
Email: johny.stephen@umanitoba.ca

Prerequisites: N/A
Credit: 3.0 hours

Course Description

This course will review the major features of the structure and function of natural systems along with the degree to which these have been compromised in the Anthropocene. The main components of the course will concentrate on the identification of the issues that underlie environmental degradation, while exploring alternative conditions that have the potential to reverse current trends and ultimately contribute to ecological sustainability.

This course is meant to engage students on issues of the environment and the well-being of humans and the natural world. We will explore issues from a foundation of understanding of the science behind the issue, the historical context, and technical and social solutions. Issues explored include long-term, systemic issues in addition to topics currently in the media.

Course Goals

The goal of this course is to explore the complexities of environmental issues, leading to a fuller understanding of the problems and multi-dimensional solutions available.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Students will be fluent in the basic terminology of the discipline, able to comment on complex environmental issues, have an in-depth understanding of environmental problems and potential solutions, and have demonstrated experience working towards solutions to environmental problems locally or globally.

Expectations

Expectations of Students:

The course is offered in- person this semester. Students are expected to be present in class. Please ensure that you are up to date with your readings. Professionalism in your behavior and work will be expected. Please ensure that instructions are followed for readings. This course offers a particularly engaging topic and content; I will attempt to relate it to current events whenever possible and would like you to critically engage with the course.

Expectation of Instructor:

As your instructor, I will be available and ready to answer your questions during class and during office hours. I will also respond to email (typically within 48 hours) during regular office hours 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. In addition to these basic expectations, I seek to engage you in a dialogue and think critically about our role as citizens of the earth. The earth is complex and fascinating, and I hope this class will provide you with a more informed lens and way of seeing the world.

Textbook and Reading Materials

Recommended Text

Environment: The Science Behind the Studies, 3rd Edition Withgott, Laposata, and Murck, Editors, 2018, Pearson Canada

To purchase e-book: <http://bookstore.umanitoba.ca/CourseMaterials.aspx>

Note: There will be additional readings that will be posted in UM Learn. The reason for this is because the course is so broad; a textbook that covers the wide array of topics does not exist.

Course Format and Evaluation

Classes will include a combination of lectures and discussions. Attending lectures will be important, as lectures will be part of testable material.

Course Topics:

- Earth Systems and Ecosystems
- Water Resources and Freshwater System
- Marine and Coastal Systems
- Atmosphere and Air pollution

- Climate Change
- Energy Alternatives
- Waste Management
- Environmental Policy

Important Dates:

A course schedule is available on the course website in UM Learn, which includes a schedule of class topics and readings, assignments, and tests. Please see the Important Dates section of the U of M General Calendar for information on holidays, final exams, and voluntary withdrawal dates.

Evaluation:

Class Test 1	25%
Class Test 2	25%
Documentary based Assignment	15 %
Final Exam	35%
Total	100%

Class Tests :

- Tests will largely be Multiple Choice Questions with a few short answers.
- Tests will happen during class hours under the supervision of the instructor.
- Testable chapters for each test will be available with the course schedule (see course schedule).
- Students are expected to carry their own stationery.

Documentary-based Assignment

There will be one documentary-based assignment. Students are expected to write the assignments and submit it on UM learn (see submission schedule in course schedule).

Final Exam

The final exam is worth 35% of the total grade and will be held as per the exam schedule of the Registrar’s office. The final exam will be cumulative in nature.

Detailed explanations of all assignments and test expectations will be discussed in class and posted on UM Learn. All assignments will be submitted electronically via UM Learn.

Grading Scale:

The grading scale used by the Department of Environment and Geography is:

Letter Grade	Percentage out of 100	Grade Point Range	Final Grade Point
A+	90-100	4.25-4.5	4.5
A	80-89	3.75-4.24	4.0
B+	75-79	3.25-3.74	3.5
B	70-74	2.75-3.24	3.0
C+	65-69	2.25-2.74	2.5
C	60-64	2.0-2.24	2.0
D	50-59	Less than 2.0	1.0
F	Less than 50		0

Note: The course instructor reserves the right to assign an alternate assignment or redistribute the percentage distribution between remaining assignments and or term paper/ final exam for those students who have a valid reason. In cases where there is a valid medical certificate or compassionate reason, the instructor may prorate the value for the test over the balance of the grades available.

Grading times and the Voluntary Withdrawal (VW) Date:

Assignments and Tests will generally be graded within two weeks from the date completion of the exam or submission of the assignments. The Last day to VW for the Winter Course is Mar 20th, 2024.

Policies

Course Policies:

Respectful and appropriate behavior is mandatory in this course, as in according with the University of Manitoba’s policy on *Respectful Work and Learning Environment* “inappropriate behavior” is defined as: "Inappropriate or disruptive behavior is behavior which persistently interferes with the academic or administrative activities of the University (and/or) which inhibits the ability of other students to learn and of instructors to teach." --Amanda, G. "Dealing with the Disruptive College Student: Some Theoretical and Practical Consideration", College Health, April 1986. (Source: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/279.html)

Plagiarism and Copyright:

Plagiarism and any form of cheating will be subject to serious academic discipline and penalty. See the Academic Integrity Section in the University of Manitoba’s General Calendar: <http://crscalprod1.cc.umanitoba.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=240&chapterid=2310&topicgroupid=14503&loaduserredits=False>

This being said, the majority of plagiarism is accidental and caused by incorrect referencing. Educate yourself on how to avoid this! <http://umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/dafoe/media/plagiarism.pdf>

There is a copy right over the course materials, presentations and lectures, which form part of this course. No audio or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without the permission of Dr. Stephen. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research. (From the Exemplar Syllabus)

Missed Classes/Assignments:

Students are expected to be present at all exams and tests for the scheduled times. Make-up assignments or tests will not be permitted, and the students will get an automatic zero for the tests and exams not taken at the designated time. Assignments not submitted on the announced due date and time will not be graded and the students will not receive a grade for the assignment.

In the case of extreme extenuating circumstances (i.e. a death in the immediate family) please contact the instructor.

Guidelines for Electronic Communication:

Please ensure that proper grammar and professionalism is expected in all email content; failure to do so will result in unanswered emails.

Ensure that your University of Manitoba email account is active, as all correspondence will take place through U of M email accounts. Please do not email from your personal accounts. This is required by the University of Manitoba. For complete details regarding Electronic Communication please comply with the following:

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_w_ith_students_policy.html).

Online Classes:

This course is designed to be an in-person course. While all efforts will be taken to conduct in- person classes, in case of an unforeseen circumstance (example: inclement weather/ instructor falling sick) some classes might be shifted online. Students will be informed of any such changes.

Student Support Services

Academic Support:

The University of Manitoba provides many services and supports to encourage good scholarship and overall health and wellness including instruction to improve writing skills, best use practices for copyrighted materials, and supports for studying for examinations etc., personal health (both mental and physical) including: student advocacy, student counseling and health services, etc. and supports for assaults (both verbal and physical). These are designed to make each student's experience positive, safe and assist in successful completion of courses and programs of study. The University provides and encourages all members and students to maintain a respectful work and learning environment. Policies have been

developed regarding threatening behavior, or assaults whether verbal or physical to support victims and discipline offenders.

Student Accessibility Services

If you are a student with a disability, please contact SAS for academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/> 520 University Centre 204 474

7423 Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Additional Valuable Student Resources

There are many free services accessible to you through the University of Manitoba and I encourage you to access them to maximize your success in this course and university degree. Below is a quick list, but I have also provided more detail information following this list:

- General Student Support Website: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/student-support.html>
- Academic Learning Centre: http://umanitoba.ca/student/academic_learning/
- Student Accessibility: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/>
- Student Advocacy: http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/student_advocacy/
- Student Counseling and Career Centre: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/>

Writing and Learning Support:

The Academic Learning Centre (ALC) offers services that may be helpful to you throughout your academic program. Through the ALC, you can meet with a learning specialist to discuss concerns such as time management, learning strategies, and test-taking strategies. The ALC also offers peer supported study groups called Supplemental Instruction (SI) for certain courses that students have typically found difficult. In these study groups, students have opportunities to ask questions, compare notes, discuss content, solve practice problems, and develop new study strategies in a group-learning format.

You can also meet one-to-one with a writing tutor who can give you feedback at any stage of the writing process, whether you are just beginning to work on a written assignment or already have a draft. If you are interested in meeting with a writing tutor, reserve your appointment two to three days in advance of the time you would like to meet. Also, plan to meet with a writing tutor a few days before your paper is due so that you have time to work with the tutor's feedback.

These Academic Learning Centre services are free for UofM students. For more information, please visit the Academic Learning Centre website at: http://umanitoba.ca/student/academic_learning/

You can also contact the Academic Learning Centre by calling 204-480-1481 or by visiting 201 Tier Building.

University of Manitoba Libraries (UML):

As the primary contact for all research needs, your liaison librarian (if they weren't recently fired by Central Administration) can play a vital role when completing academic papers and assignments. Liaisons can answer questions about managing citations, or locating appropriate resources, and will address any other concerns you may have, regarding the research process. Liaisons can be contacted by email or phone, and are also available to meet with you in-person. A complete list of liaison librarians can be found by subject: <http://bit.ly/WcEbA1> or name: <http://bit.ly/1tJ0bB4>

In addition, general library assistance is provided in person at 19 University Libraries, located on both The Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses, as well as in many Winnipeg hospitals. For a listing of all libraries, please consult the following: <http://bit.ly/1sXe6RA>. When working remotely, students can also receive help online, via the Ask-a-Librarian chat found on the Libraries' homepage: www.umanitoba.ca/libraries

Mental Health

For 24/7 mental health support, contact the Mobile Crisis Service at 204-940-1781.

Student Counselling Centre: Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as individual, couple, and group counselling. Student Counselling Centre: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/> 474 University Centre S207 Medical Services (204) 474-8592

Student Support Case Management: Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself for another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. Student Support Intake Assistant <http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html> 520 University Centre (204) 474-7423

University Health Service: Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. University Health Service <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/> 104 University Centre, Fort Garry Campus (204) 474-8411 (Business hours or after hours/urgent calls)

Health and Wellness: Contact our Health and Wellness Educator if you are interested in information on a broad range of health topics, including physical and mental health concerns, alcohol and substance use harms, and sexual assault. Health and Wellness Educator <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health-wellness/welcome.html> Katie.Kutryk@umanitoba.ca 469 University Centre (204) 295-9032

Live Well @ UofM: For comprehensive information about the full range of health and wellness resources available on campus, visit the Live Well @ UofM site: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/livewell/index.html>.

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