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**University of Manitoba
Clayton Riddell Faculty
Department of Environment and
Geography**

**Advanced Applications in Field Readiness
Course Syllabus
ENVR 4020 T01
Winter 2024**

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Course Details

Course Title & Number: Advanced Applications in Field Readiness ENVR 4020 T01

Number of Credit Hours: 3 Credit Hours

Class Times & Days of Week: Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (January 13 – April 6)

Location for classes/labs/tutorials: To be held in part at the University of Manitoba Fort Gary Campus Wallace Bldg. as well as Parkland Mews Falconry & Bird of Prey Education Centre. There may be other destinations included (e.g., Assiniboine Zoo) which are outlined in this course syllabus and will be discussed in class.

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor(s) Name:	Dr. Erin McCance
Office Hours or Availability:	Online Office hours via Cisco WebEx Thursday 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm (by appointment only)
Office Phone No.	(204) 232-2941
Email:	E-mail: erin.mccance@umanitoba.ca Communication with students is only conducted through @myumanitoba.ca email accounts All email communication will be responded to within 24 hours
Contact:	Students should contact me by email
Teaching Assistant: Specialists:	Robert Weaver: Robert.weaver@umanitoba.ca Robert Wheeldon: rewheeldon51@gmail.com
Professional Engagement:	This course will expose students to a number of professionals that have extensive field-based and specialty experience to include: Robert Wheeldon (PLMs), Nancy Wheeldon (retired UofM), Victoria Dearborn (UofM), Robert Weaver (DFO), Dr. Charlene Berkvens (Assiniboine Park Zoo), Don Sexton (retired DUC), Dr. Richard Baydack (UofM).

Course Description

Advanced Applications in Field Readiness is a course open to all undergraduate students in the C.H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources and particularly those who have completed ENVR 3020 and for those in the Co-operative Education Option. The intent of the course is to expose students to essential and practical hands-on learning opportunities to assist students in becoming field ready and safe. The course is designed to provide participants with an enhanced understanding of important safety measures and building foundational technical skills for working in a field setting. Lectures consist of both classroom style learning and outdoor practical hands-on applications.

General Course Information

The course is designed to provide participants with an understanding of important safety measures and foundational technical skills for working in a field setting. This course aims to expose students to a hands-on practical learning experience in a safe and monitored environment, so skills can be practiced prior to deployment into the field for research or future employment purposes. The course is held in part at the University of Manitoba, Fort Gary Campus, as well as at Parkland Mews Falconry & Bird of Prey Education Centre (Map provided on U of M Learn), located 10 minutes south of the University of Manitoba. Students will each be responsible to make their way to the lecture destination. For those who may be interested in carpooling, students may connect with each other to arrange. The course is held weekly, during a 3-hour time slot which will allow for in-classroom lecture-based learning as well as practical application of that learning in a hands-on field setting. Evaluation metrics in the course include written submissions, oral presentations, and hands-on completion of foundational skills learned.

The course consists of a number of field activities in which students will take an active role in observing, examining, and assessing various approaches to becoming field ready and safe. Please note that the University of Manitoba Animal Care Committee requires that for any activity involving live animals, students have the option not to attend, and if they choose to take part, they are only to observe the activity and not participate in the handling, capture, killing, or pursuit of live animals in any way.

Course Objectives

The intent of this course is to:

1. Expose students to important considerations for being field ready & safe.
2. Allow students to practice, in a monitored and safe environment, skills required for working in a field setting.
3. Gain practical experiences using techniques to assess and monitor wildlife.
4. Present students with an array of techniques commonly used by environmental professionals in a field setting.

Course Goals

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Apply survival skills required for working in a field setting;
- Better understand the importance of communication;

- Be wildlife safe and smart;
- Understand approaches used, relative to legislation, for assessing avian and terrestrial species population abundance;
- Understand gill net sets and food acquisition from water; and
- Appreciate the pathology and common diseases found in local ungulate species in Manitoba.

Course Schedule

Class will be held each week on Saturday mornings from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Students must plan appropriately to ensure they arrive early with time to get settled before class begins promptly at 9:00 am. Students must check the course syllabus for information as to whether the class is held at the University of Manitoba, Fort Gary Campus or whether class will take place at Parkland Mews Education Centre (map provided on U of M learn). Any variation to the schedule provided in this course syllabus (i.e., weather/snow day) will be communicated to students by 4:00 pm on the Friday prior to class on Saturday. This communication will be posted on the announcements page for the course on U of M Learn as well as emailed to all student U of M email accounts. Students are required to check U of M Learn and their U of M email accounts regularly.

The voluntary withdrawal date for this course is March 20, 2024. By the voluntary withdrawal date, students will have completed approximately 40% of their course grade as well as have a good idea of their performance relative to the attendance evaluation metrics.

Microsoft Teams

Instructor office hours will be held following each lecture as well as during scheduled office hours (by appointment only) using Microsoft Teams. Each student should take time to download Microsoft Teams (<https://www.microsoft.com/en-ca/microsoft-teams/download-app>)

Using Copyrighted Material

Please respect copyright. This course will use copyrighted content. I have ensured that the content I use is appropriately acknowledged and is presented in accordance with copyright laws and University guidelines. Copyrighted works, including those created by me, are available for your private study and research, and you must not distribute them in any format without permission. Do not upload copyrighted works to a learning management system (e.g., U of M Learn), or any website, unless an exception to the *Copyright Act* applies or written permission has been confirmed. For more information, see the University's Copyright Office website at <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/> or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca.

Recording Class Lectures

Dr. McCance and the University of Manitoba hold copyright 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. McCance. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research.

Textbook, Readings, Materials

Required readings and research are a requirement in this course. Required readings will be posted on UofM Learn. Students may be required to use libraries, the media, the internet, and other sources to complete assignments outlined within this course.

Course Technology

It is the general University of Manitoba policy that all technology resources are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Students may use technology in classroom setting only for educational purposes as approved by instructor and/or the University of Manitoba Disability Services. Students should not participate in personal direct electronic messaging / posting activities (e-mail, texting, video or voice chat, wikis, blogs, social networking (e.g., Facebook) online and offline “gaming” during scheduled class time.

Class Communication

The University requires all students to activate an official University email account. For full details of the Electronic Communication with Students please visit:

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Electronic_Communication_with_Students_Policy_-_2014_06_05.pdf

Please note that all communication between me and you as a student must comply with the electronic communication with student policy:

(http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html). You are required to obtain and use your U of M email account for all communication between yourself and the university.

Student Expectations

The lecture material covered each week will be provided on U of M Learn. Since the notes are made available to you, each student should be actively involved in class discussions and participate fully with each exercise. Given this is a course aimed at exposing students to a ‘real-world’ scenario, 25% of your grade is allocated to your participation in the course and successful completion of field skills. Therefore, you are required to attend every class. Please come to class each week prepared to discuss the topics outlined. You may use your computer to take notes during class. Further, each student is asked to:

- Know course and university policies.
- Read and understand the course syllabus.
- Be courteous and respectful. Policies on Respectful Work and Learning Environment (RWLE) and Inappropriate and Disruptive Student Behavior below.
- Remain available for all classes.
- Maintain academic integrity and copyright according to the University of Manitoba guidelines.
- Inform instructor promptly if there is a conflict with the course schedule or course deliverables.

- Consult your *UM* email account regularly. This is how the instructor and university will communicate with you. Since there may be weather that may impact the schedule, please check your U of M Learn and U of M email accounts each week prior to class.

Outdoor Attire: Given this is a field course rooted in experiential learning, students will be spending time outdoors. Students need to ensure that they come prepared in the proper winter outdoor clothing to be comfortable and safe during the outdoor-based learning exercises.

I will treat you with respect and would appreciate the same courtesy in return. See [Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy](#).

Inappropriate and Disruptive Student Behavior:

Inappropriate and disruptive behavior that interferes with the learning of other students, or the instructor's ability to teach will not be tolerated. Such behaviors would include but would not be limited to the following:

- threats to the physical safety of the individuals or others;
- verbal threats to or abuse of students or University personnel;
- recurring and willful damage of University and Parkland Mews property, including equipment;
- inappropriate or disruptive behavior as a result of misuse of drugs or alcohol on University or Parkland Mews property; and
- actions which habitually interfere with the learning environment or requires the inordinate time and attention of faculty and staff.

Other disruptive activities include (but are not limited to) the use of texting in class, wearing headphones, talking during lecture, using technology such as computers, tablets, and mobile devices to view material that is not related to the class.

Please see the Inappropriate or Disruptive Student Behavior Policy: <http://bit.ly/2iRbHKU>

Please see the Student Discipline Bylaw: <http://bit.ly/2b3RL3p>

Academic Integrity:

Students are responsible for ensuring they understand the University of Manitoba's policy on Academic Integrity (plagiarism, cheating, and examination impersonation). These policies are available in the University Catalog 2016-2017, General Academic Regulations

<http://bit.ly/2Dz50DX>. The penalties for plagiarism and cheating are severe and range from receiving a grade of zero on an assignment, to academic suspension. For more information on Cheating, Plagiarism, and Fraud: <http://bit.ly/2b63fBP> & <http://bit.ly/2b63ywR>.

All work is to be completed independently unless otherwise specified.

Participation Check Stops

This is a field-based course designed for experiential learning. Students are exposed to various field skills that are essential for being field ready and safe in remote field locations. Students are provided with the opportunity to practice using equipment and techniques in a controlled, monitored, and safe environment. Each student is asked to participate in the field-based skills taught in each lecture. Students can practice these skills until they feel comfortable in performing the skill. In a "Participation Check Stop" students will be asked to execute the skill one-on-one with a course instructor/teaching assistant to show their ability to perform the skill. Participation

check-stops are outlined on the course syllabus schedule and will contribute to 30% of the student's course participation grade. **Failure to attend class will result in zero participation marks for that module. Students must be present in class to achieve participation marks.**

Students 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 other 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. If you have any concerns with your ability to participate in the physical aspects of this course, please contact student accessibility services and/or your instructor so accommodations can be made for you. **Student Accessibility Services**
<http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/> 520 University Centre 204 474 7423
Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Class Schedule

- Jan. 13 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
Introduction
 Review of course syllabus and course objectives and expectations
 Course scheduling, location offerings, and snow days – waivers
 Review of essential clothing for class and for remote field work
Essential Knots: Knot review from ENVR 3020
Participation Check Stop
- Jan. 20 *Location: Assiniboine Park Zoo*
Epidemiology/Wildlife Disease – Dr. Charlene Berkvens
THEORY Lecture
 Basic anatomy (organs, muscle, tissue)
 Pathology – common Disease considerations
 What is safe to touch and what is not safe
 Techniques – safety, samples, and more
Participation Check Stop
- Jan. 27 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
Field Readiness – “It Starts at Home” - REVIEW
 Field safety (first aid, communication, navigation)
 Top 10 Gear Essentials
Search and Rescue Speaker
 Physical and Psychology of Survival
Essential Knots: Square Lash Knot
Participation Check Stop – shelter builds
- Feb. 3 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
Shelter Building
 Understand the characteristics of an effective shelter

Pros and Con's to approaches
 Understanding the elements (hydrology, wind, thermal energy)
 Mechanics of shelter building
 T-pee, Lean-to, Quinze's, and more!
Essential Knots: Two-half Hitches Knot
Participation Check Stop – shelter builds

Feb. 10 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
Gill Nets
 How to set on the ice
 Auger Operations and Safety Considerations
 Jigger setting
Essential Knots – Double Fisherman's Knot and Fishing line tie
Participation Check Stop

Feb. 17 **Winter Break – No Class**

Feb. 24 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
Navigation GPS – “Know your way” – LEVEL 2
 Advanced features of a GPS unit
 Competing technologies
 Using GPS to find your location on a landscape to map
 Transect track and sign survey
Essential Knots – Square (Reef) Knot
Participation Check Stop

Mar. 2 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
Navigation Compass – “Know your way” – LEVEL 2
 Compass Review
 How to read a map
 Navigate a closed transect using a map and compass
Essential Knots - Butterfly Knot
Participation Check Stop

Mar. 9 *Location: University of Manitoba*
Mid-Term TEST – worth 25% of course grade
Compass Navigation Techniques – In-class test – worth 10% of course grade

Mar. 16 *Location: Assiniboine Park Zoo (OPTIONAL)*
Deer Necropsy – Dr. Charlene Berkvens
 Practical Hands-on
 Basic anatomy (organs, muscle, tissues)
 Pathology – common disease considerations
Participation Check Stop

Mar. 20 **Voluntary Withdrawal**

- Mar. 23 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
“Know the Signs”
Snares – Need to know and how to execute
Track & Sign - Mammal Identification
Mammal trapping, humane standards and techniques
Essential Knots – Barrel Hitch
Participation Check Stop
- Mar. 30 **NO CLASS - EASTER**
- April 6 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
“Life on Land”
Camp Setup
Setting up camp – prospector tent
Application of accumulated knowledge to set up camp/stoves/fire
ATV- Safety & Operation
Common breakdown issues/small engine repair
Safe transport and use of equipment
Essential Knots – Prusik Knot & Ratchet Straps
Participation Check Stop
- April 13 *Location: Parkland Mews Education Centre*
“On the Water”
Safety Gear and Equipment
Boat Safety
Canoe
How to safely get in and out
How to respond if capsized
Essential Knots – TEST – execute all knots learned for instructor
Participation Check Stop
- April Exam Period **TBA – Final Exam (Worth 35% of course Grade)**

Course Evaluation Methods

Students will be evaluated in this course based on attendance and practical execution of a skill, as well as a written test and written assignment submissions and oral presentations. Practical skill testing will be completed vis-a-vis one-on-one sessions with the instructor. Students will be required to demonstrate the ability to complete the activities learned within course modules (noted in the course syllabus as Participation Check Stops). The course evaluation will be as follows:

Evaluation Metric	Due Date/Time	Grade Allocation
Participation Check Stops	As allocated in Course Schedule	30%
Mid-Term Test	March 9, 2024	35%
Final Exam	April TBA	35%
TOTAL		100%

Grading

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

Test/Examinations

A mid-term Test will be held on March 9, 2024, at the University of Manitoba. It will be worth 35% of the overall course grade comprised of a written test and a compass/GPS navigation test.

There is also a final exam in this course that will take place during the April examination period. The date of the exam is to be announced and will be communicated to all students in class, on the course U of M Learn announcements page as well as via the general exam calendar for the U of M examination period April 2024.

If a student is unable to write the final exam on the scheduled exam date due to medical or compassionate reasons, you **may** qualify for a deferred examination. Applications for a deferred exam must be completed within 48 hours of the date of the missed exam and are submitted to your academic advising office. If you are unable to attend an oral presentation date, you must email the instructor (from your U of M email account) **PRIOR** to the presentation date including a medical note, or a self-declaration of a medical or compassionate circumstance. Failure to do so will result in a zero grade. There will be no exceptions to the above standard.

Academic Supports: 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. For more information on these see Schedule "A" found at the end of the course syllabus.

Schedule "A"

Section (a) Academic Supports

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 U of M students. For more information, please visit the Academic Learning Centre website at: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>

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

Section (b) 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 or 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>