



**University
of Manitoba**

**Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources
Department of Environment and Geography
Geography of Natural Resources
GEOG 2520 A01
Fall 2023**

Table of Contents

Course Details	3
Instructor Contact Information	3
General Course Information	4
Textbook, Readings, Materials	4
Course Technology	4
Class Communication	4
Student Guidelines	5
Student Accessibility Services	5
Class Schedule	6
Course Evaluation Methods	8
Grading	9
Quiz/ Test Grading Times	9
Quiz Make-Up and Late Policy	9
Traditional Territories Acknowledgement	9
Access	10
COVID-19	10

Course Details

Course Title & Number:	Geography of Natural Resources, GEOG 2520 A01
Number of Credit Hours:	3
Class Times & Days of Week:	Sept 06, 2023 – Dec 11, 2023 Mon, Wed and Friday 9:30am – 10:20am
Location for classes:	245 Wallace

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor(s) Name:	Mohammad Alam
Preferred Form of Address:	Alam
Office Hours or Availability:	Please email me at any point with questions or requests to meet. Ensure your subject line starts with ' GEOG2520: '
Email:	mohammad.alam@umanitoba.ca E-mails will be answered within 24 hours Mon-Fri.
Contact:	I look forward to meeting every student. Some correspondence will require documentation and therefore is best done by e-mail (such as requesting special permission).

General Course Information

Course Description: The goal of this course is to address environmental issues from an interdisciplinary perspective, drawing on concepts from both the social and natural sciences. Throughout the course, we will consider general concepts and analytical techniques related to environmental management and sustainability and use these to reflect on conflicts that emerge out of the project of environmental governance. We focus on six resources that are fundamental to debates about how best to use the environment: agriculture, fisheries, forestry, energy, minerals and fresh water. These resources are framed within larger ecological, climatic and socio-natural systems. We will also examine key themes in natural resource management including indigenous knowledge, co-management etc. Topics to be considered in our examination of environment and sustainability include: resilience, resistance, risk and uncertainty, ecological perspectives, governance and regulation, and human impacts on the environment.

Course Goals

1. To consider the scientific, socio-cultural, and environmental issues that frame the management of resources in contemporary society.
2. To consider the political implications of the process and practice of environmental management for ecosystems and the social systems that exist as part of them.
3. To think critically about environmental issues and to think broadly about the integration of scientific, environmental and socio-cultural perspectives.
4. To consider how conflict over resources, both their definition and management, has shaped societies.

Textbook, Readings, Materials

Weekly readings are available online, through the U of M e-journal and e-book database [<http://umanitoba.ca/libraries/>] or elsewhere on the world wide web. You can simply download each article/book and read it before you come to class. The instructor will provide more information about accessing weekly readings in class.

Course Technology

Course Resources: Course notes, detailed instruction on assignments and general course communications are posted on UM Learn (Announcements). All assignments and exams unless otherwise noted are submitted in person.

Class Communication

The University requires all students to activate an official University email account. You are required to obtain and use your U of M email account for all communication between yourself and the university:

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

Please note that all communication between myself and you as a student must comply with the electronic communication with student policy. For full details of the Electronic Communication with Students please visit:

https://umanitoba.ca/governance/sites/governance/files/2021-06/Electronic%20Communication%20with%20Students%20Policy%20-%202013_09_01%20RF.pdf

Student Guidelines

Attending Class: Class attendance is mandatory, as this course is not designed for correspondence learning. Lectures engage with course readings, but not all lecture material is contained in the assigned readings. Repeated unexcused absences may result in disbarment.

Online learning: In the event that in-person learning is suspended due to University of Manitoba regulations related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, course delivery will move to online learning via UM Zoom. Please make sure you have working access to your student UM Zoom account by visiting:

<https://umanitoba.ca/about-um/tools-working-remotely/zoom>

VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL DATE: Tuesday, Nov 21, 2023

Academic Integrity: Please refer to “Schedule A” policies and resources for students as posted on UM Learn. In addition, please note that;

- (i) group projects are subject to the rules of academic dishonesty;
- (ii) group members must ensure that a group project adheres to the principles of academic integrity;
- (iii) if a group member is not acting with academic integrity or not performing their duties as agreed, please advise the instructor as soon as possible to resolve any potential problems as early as possible;
- (iv) collaboration between students is encouraged for understanding material, proof-reading a peer’s work, making suggestions on approach, etc.; however,
- (v) all work is to be completed independently unless otherwise specified.

Student Accessibility Services

Student Accessibility Services (SAS)

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

Class Schedule

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor but such changes are subject to Section 2.8 of the – [ROASS](#)- Procedure. The subject matter will be any combination of the following topics (or additional topics), dependent on time.

Class	Lecture Topic	Readings
Week 1 (Sept 6 to 8)	Introduction	Syllabus review Gavin Bridge. 2009. Material Worlds: Natural Resources, Resource Geography and the Material Economy. <i>Geography Compass</i> 3(3): 1217-1244.
Week 2 (Sept 11 to 15)	Knowing Natural Resources	Pedynowski, Dena. 2003. Science(s) – which, when, and whose? Probing the metanarrative of scientific knowledge in the social construction of nature. <i>Progress in Human Geography</i> 27(6): 735-752. Moffatt, Ian. 2000. Ecological footprints and sustainable development. <i>Ecological Economics</i> 32 359– 362.
Week 3 (Sept 18 to 22)	Natural Resources and the Global Economy	Humphreys, Macartan, Sachs, Jeffrey, and Stiglitz, Joseph. (eds) (2007). <i>Escaping the Resource Curse</i> . Columbia University Press. [UM E-BOOK] • Introduction: What is the Problem of Natural Resource Wealth?
Week 4 (Sept 25 to 29)	Food and Agriculture	Alkon, Alison H. 2013. The Socio-Nature of Local Organic Food. <i>Antipode</i> 45(3): 663:680 Agriculture Canada. (2018). “The Three Sisters: Optimizing the value and food potential of an ancestral indigenous crop system”. [www5.agr.gc.ca]
Week 5 (Oct 2 to 6)	Forestry	Maureen, Reed. 2000. Taking Stands: A feminist perspective on ‘other’ women’s activism in forestry communities of northern Vancouver Island. <i>Gender, Place & Culture</i> 7(4): 363-387 October 02 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - University Closed October 04 – Midterm test 1
Week 6 (Oct 9 to 13)	Fisheries	Jacquet, Jennifer. 2009. Silent Water: A Brief Examination of the Marine Fisheries Crisis. <i>Environment, Development and Sustainability</i> 11: 255-263. Hamilton, L. & Butler, M. (2001). “Outport Adaptations: Social Indicators Through Newfoundland’s Cod Crisis”. <i>Research in Human Ecology</i> . 8(2): 1- October 09 – Thanksgiving Day - University Closed
Week 7 (Oct 16 to 20)	Socionatural Worlds and Contested	Li, F. (2013). Relating Divergent Worlds: Mines, Aquifers and Sacred Mountains in Peru. <i>Anthropologica</i> , 55(2), 399-411.

	Place	
Week 8 (Oct 23 to 27)	Energy	<p>Bocking, S. (2011). Our Wicked Addiction: Any intelligent discussion about the tar sands must explore the murky implications of ending their growth. <i>Alternatives Journal</i>, 37(5), 16-19. http://www.alternativesjournal.ca/energy-and-resources/our-wicked-addiction</p> <p>Campbell, C.J., & Laherrere, J.H. (1998). The end of cheap oil. <i>Scientific American</i>, 278(3), 78-83.</p>
Week 9 (Oct 30 to Nov 03)	Water	<p>Desbiens, C. (2004). Producing North and South: a political geography of hydro development in Québec. <i>The Canadian Geographer</i> 48, 101–118.</p>
Week 10 (Nov 6 to 10)	Mining	<p>Reece, E. (2005, April). Death of a mountain: Radical strip mining and the leveling of Appalachia. <i>Harpers</i>, April 41-60. November 06 - Midterm test 2</p>
Nov 13 to 17	Fall Term Break	No classes
Week 11 (Nov 20 to 24)	Consumption and extractive	<p>Costanza, R., et al. (1997). The value of the world's ecosystem services and natural capital. <i>Nature</i>, 387, 253- 260.</p> <p>Heffernan, T. (2013, July 8). The New Bronze Age. <i>Pacific Standard</i>, July 2013. http://www.psmag.com/navigation/nature-and-technology/the-new-bronze-age-entering-the-era-of-tough-ore-60868/</p>
Week 12 (Nov 27 to Dec 01)	People and Knowledge as Resources	<p>Goyes, David R. & South, Nigel. 2015. Land-Grabs, Biopiracy, and the Inversion of Justice in Colombia. <i>The British Journal of Criminology</i>. Advanced online publication. doi:10.1093/bjc/azv082</p> <p>Gadgil, Madhav, Berkes, Fikret, & Folke, Carl. 1993. Indigenous Knowledge for Biodiversity Conservation. <i>Ambio</i> 22(2): 151–156.</p>
Week 13 (Dec 4 to 8)	Resource Management: Co-Management	<p>Berkes, F. (2009) "Evolution of Co- Management: Role of knowledge generation, bridging organizations, and social learning". <i>Journal of Environmental Management</i>. 90(5) November 27 - Term paper due</p>
Week 14 Dec 11	Course Recap	Final exam review

Course Evaluation Methods

In many cases there is a grader-marker to assist with the marking load. In each case, you will receive a grade posted on UM Learn. The grade may also have constructive comments intended to assist you in your academic performance in this course. If you have any questions about the grading, please bring them to my attention and arrange a time to meet with me.

Students will be evaluated through the following assignments:

Evaluation	Date	Percentage
Class participation	Throughout	10%
Midterm 1	04-Oct	15%
Midterm 2	06-Nov	15%
Term Paper	27-Nov	25%
Final exam (cumulative)	TBA	35%
Total:		100%

Class participation, Tests, and Exam information

Student participation is central to a dynamic learning environment, allowing us all to learn something from each other. Students are expected, therefore, to attend discussion sessions having completed the readings beforehand, and to engage with the instructor and fellow students in a respectful manner. Students will be assessed on a combination of both the quantity and, more importantly, the quality of their participation. Students should also strive to focus on the central themes and concepts of each reading and attempt to place the various readings in dialogue with one another – that is, think about the course in a holistic way.

Two midterm tests will be based on material from lectures, readings, and films from the class. It will include a combination of short answer, definition, and long (essay) answer questions. One week prior to the test, the instructor will briefly review course material to help students prepare.

Term Paper discusses, and provides a critical analysis of one of the abovementioned topics/themes using the terminology from the readings. Papers should be type written and approximately 6-8 (not including title page, abstract, references, maps, tables and figures) pages in length. You are welcome to explore a topic of your choosing as long as it relates to the concepts covered in the readings from semester. Please confirm (before or after class, by appointment, or by email) your topic with the instructor.

Final Exam will be based on lectures, readings, and films from the entire course. It will include a combination of short answer, definition, and long (essay) answer questions. On the final day of class, the instructor will briefly review course material to help students prepare for the exam.

Grading

Letter Grade	Percentage out of 100
A+	90-100
A	80-89
B+	75-79
B	70-74
C+	65-69
C	60-64
D	50-59
F	0-49

Quiz/ Test Grading Times

Marks on graded quizzes and tests will be available within ~10 days after the submission date whenever possible. We will go over tests in class.

Quiz Make-Up and Late Policy

From the University of Manitoba (UM) Provost and Vice-President Academic:

“Students who are unable to meet a course requirement due to medical circumstances are not required to submit medical notes. However, students are required to contact their instructor or academic advisor by email to inform of the missed work and to make arrangements for extensions, deferrals, or make-up assignments. Please follow these guidelines if you are unable to meet an academic requirement for your courses:

- Contact your instructor (me) for term work such as quizzes, midterms and assignments no later than 24 hours before.
- Contact an advisor in your faculty/college/school of registration for a missed final exam (scheduled in the final examination period).
- Inform your instructor/advisor as soon as possible do not delay. Note for final exams, students must contact within 48 hours of the date of the final exam.
- Email your instructor/advisor from a U of M email address and include your full name, student number, course number, and academic work that was missed.”

Traditional Territories Acknowledgement

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration. Where I teach from, the water comes from Treaty 3, the shores of Shoal Lake First Nations, and the electricity comes from generating stations on rivers in Treaty Areas 1, 3 and 5.

Because this land acknowledgement does not constitute reconciliation by virtue of its inclusion here, we will intentionally work towards reconciliation in this course by identifying and questioning the ways in which climate change disproportionately affects those who suffer from socioeconomic inequalities, including many people of color.

Access

If you are facing any challenges related to food or housing and feel that it may be affecting your learning in this course, please reach out to me if you are comfortable doing so. I will do my best to help you access available resources and we can work together to ensure you finish the course successfully.

COVID-19

As mentioned above, campus operations are subject to change. Should the instructor be required to stay at home for an extended period and an alternate instructor not be available, the course may move temporarily to a remote delivery format.

PPE and Mask Wearing: When on campus, be sure to remain physically distanced (2 meters) and wear personal protective equipment (PPE) following the guidelines set by the University (see <https://umanitoba.ca/coronavirus>). Students who fail to comply with current requirements are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Discipline Bylaw and Non-Academic Misconduct and Concerning Behaviour Procedure. If you become sick or are required to self-isolate, notify your instructor by email so you can develop a plan to complete the course learning outcomes while you are absent. If you have symptoms, do not come to campus or any UM facilities. Complete the self assessment on the Manitoba Public Health site and follow the guidelines, which may include booking a COVID-19 test.