CLASSES: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:30 – 11:20AM in ROZH 101
LABS: meet in Hutt 240b
INSTRUCTOR: Laura J. Brown (laura@uoguelph.ca)
OFFICE HOURS: by appointment
GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTS: TBA
GTA OFFICE HOURS: by appointment via Microsoft Teams
PREREQUISITES: None
REQUIRED TEXT

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
"This course introduces physical geography, focusing on the principles and processes governing climate, landforms, and vegetation systems and their interrelationships and will examine natural and human-induced changes to environmental systems. Laboratories will address measurement techniques, representation and analysis of environmental systems using maps and satellite imagery, laboratory techniques, and field observation."

OVERVIEW
In this course, you will learn to see the Earth through the eyes of a physical geographer. Our planet's surface is a highly dynamic place where forces and processes driven by internal and external energy sources interact to create our climate, landforms, and landscapes. We will examine the effects of solar energy, climate, tectonic activity, gravity, weathering, erosion and sediment transport within the context of physical geography. While much of the material covered will be descriptive rather than mathematical, Physical Geography is a quantitative science. Some of the material in this course draws upon basic science theory and relationships. We will use primary numerical relationships from time to time. You will be expected to solve simple math problems in lab assignments and on the final exam.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
This course aims to introduce and enhance the learning objectives identified by the University of Guelph and the Department of Geography, Environment & Geomatics. Specifically, in this course, students will:

- Develop a comprehensive depth and breadth of understanding of the core concepts and processes that drive Earth's Systems. Students will evaluate the Earth as an integrated system by examining dynamic energy flows, natural processes and interactions at different spatial and temporal scales that result in our present landscapes.
• Critically and *independently* recognize, synthesize and evaluate diverse sources of knowledge, and approaches pertinent to exploring elements of geoscientific problems
  • Investigate complex real-world challenges using appropriate concepts, methods, and tools from the geographical sub-disciplines.
  • Develop EXCEL and Google Earth skills for geographic analysis

**COURSE EVALUATION**
Your final grade will be assigned based on the online 10 Weekly Review Quizzes, 5 Lab Assignments, a midterm, and the final exam. Quizzes are based on information presented in lectures and discussed in class. The midterm is an online test in week seven and covers the lecture material presented in the first half of the course. The final exam is an in person exam focused primarily on the second half but has some cumulative content and a cumulative lab section.

In summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSESSMENT</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>DATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Weekly Review Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Friday noon – Monday 7:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Start Jan 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Labs</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Start Jan 13</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due in 1 Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Test</td>
<td>25% online</td>
<td>Mar. 1 10:30-11:20 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35% in person</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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*To pass the course, students must obtain an overall average of 50% in the combined mid-term and final exams.*

Students with a *documented conflict* for any tests need to see me *at least two weeks* before to arrange an alternative time. There is no guarantee that this will be accommodated but ensuring that you address the issue several weeks in advance will undoubtedly assist in the process.

**COURSE ORGANIZATION AND PRESENTATION**
Lectures for GEOG*1300 are scheduled for Mon., Wed., and Fri. from 10:30 –11:20AM in ROZH 101.

There is a CourseLink page for this course and there you will find class announcements, lecture notes, assignment information, grades, test information and midterms.

Students are expected to attend class and take notes to supplement the posted lecture material. *If you are unable to attend class for any reason it is your responsibility to*
get the notes from one of your classmates. Lectures may include occasional guest lectures and selected multimedia material.

**PLANNED OVERVIEW OF COURSE CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION**  
subject to change as semester progresses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>TOPICS</th>
<th>TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS</th>
<th>LAB SCHEDULE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 9-13</td>
<td>Welcome to the course; what is Geography? Tools and Concepts used by Geographers</td>
<td>Chapter 1 and Chapter 2</td>
<td>Self-Guided Google Earth and Excel skills development</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 16-20</td>
<td>Solar energy, Earth-atmosphere energy balance</td>
<td>Chapter 3 pgs 47-54 and Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jan 23-27</td>
<td>Global temperatures and Atmospheric Pressure</td>
<td>Chapter 5 and Chapter 6 pgs 111-114</td>
<td>Lab 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jan 30-Feb 3</td>
<td>Wind and Oceanic Circulation</td>
<td>Chapter 6 pgs 116-141</td>
<td>Lab 1 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb 6-10</td>
<td>Water and Precipitation</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td>Lab 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 13-17</td>
<td>Air masses and storms</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
<td>Lab 2 due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Feb 20-24</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Feb 27-Mar 3</td>
<td>MIDTERM – Climate change</td>
<td>Chapter 9 pgs 212 and 230-247</td>
<td>Lab 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mar 6-10</td>
<td>Plate tectonics, earthquakes volcanoes</td>
<td>Chapter 12 pgs 313-331 and Chapter 13</td>
<td>Lab 3 due</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Mar 13-17</td>
<td>Weathering and Mass Movement</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
<td>Lab 4</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Mar 20-24</td>
<td>Fluvial systems and Landforms</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
<td>Lab 4 due</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Mar 27-31</td>
<td>Glacial and Periglacial Landscapes</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
<td>Lab 5 Field Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Apr 3-5</td>
<td>Biogeography</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
<td>Lab 5 due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Apr. 10</td>
<td>Course wrap up</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Final exam TBA</td>
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We will cover each unit using a combination of lectures, textbook readings, and discussions.

There are five 2-hour lab sessions that students must attend. Students must pay a lab fee of $10.00 in the first week of labs to cover the cost of the Lab materials and transportation for the field trip.

Lab assignments are due 1 week after your scheduled lab session before midnight. Late deductions are 20% per day.

**WEEKLY REVIEW QUIZZES – WORTH 10%, COMPLETED ONLINE**
The weekly review quizzes are an incredible opportunity for students to review and ‘test’ themselves on the relevant material relatively frequently. These quizzes are worth 10% of the final grade in the class. They are used partly to incentivize engagement with the course material one more time. So, if you read the assigned readings before participating in lectures, take helpful notes from the reading and class material, and review your notes each week, that is approximately five points of engagement with the material. Adding the quiz makes it six points. I think these points of engagement with the material are vital to an in-depth and comprehensive understanding of complex concepts in GEOG*1300. So, the quizzes might feel like extra work – and they should – because the whole point was to get you to engage with the material one more time.

Furthermore, the quiz questions help me to gauge student comprehension and usually reflect the most important or challenging ideas and concepts covered during that week. Finally, if you need one more reason to pay attention to them, quiz questions also often appear on exams.

The lowest three quiz grades are dropped before the Quiz component of your final grade is calculated. I do this to cover instances where quizzes are missed due to losing track of time and missing the deadline, computer or internet issues, or illness. Therefore, there are no extensions or second attempts.

If you do all your quizzes, then the lowest three scores are dropped, so you have an opportunity to identify concepts or ideas that need further work to understand without it affecting your final grade.

The quizzes are available from Friday at 2PM to the following Monday morning at 9 AM.

**LAB ASSIGNMENTS – 6% EACH, 30% TOTAL**
These assignments are an opportunity for you to demonstrate that you understand key concepts. More details about these assignments will be presented at the beginning of each scheduled lab period by your GTA. Your lab assignments are due in one week’s before the beginning of your scheduled lab time. For example, if you are in Section 103,
your labs are scheduled for Monday’s starting at 10:30AM, and your lab is due the following Tuesday before 10:30 AM.

Your assignments must be submitted through Dropbox on CourseLink in PDF format. Late assignments (without prior approval by your GTA) will be penalized at a rate of 20% of the assignment's value per day. This course uses Turnitin to help encourage academic integrity.

Extensions must be requested in advance and evaluated by the GTAs on a case-by-case basis. Additional detailed information on assignments, midterms, final exam Instructor or Department Policy on Late or Missed Assignments is available in the Undergraduate Calendar

Your GTA handles all lab-related questions and grading.

**MIDTERM EXAM—WORTH 25%, COMPLETED ONLINE**
The midterm is scheduled for Mar. 1, during our regularly scheduled class time. It will be an online exam in the Quizzes section, written anywhere with a stable Internet connection. If you do not have your own laptop, I recommend borrowing one from the library. DO NOT attempt the exam on a cell phone as there will be diagrams to label and past students who disregarded this advice regretted it.

The exam will start promptly at 10:30AM, and you will have 50 minutes. The questions will be a mix of multiple-choice, multi-answer, fill-in-the-blanks, and short answers. The material covered includes all the lectures before reading week and the associated chapters from the textbook. Each exam will be composed of randomized questions drawn from a test bank. For example, from a pool of 5 questions covering heat transfer processes, 1 question is randomly drawn for each exam.

This is not designed as an open book or open internet exam. Therefore, you won't have time to look up the answers. This textbook is used for our class because of the excellent student resources such as the Key Learning Concepts Review sections at the end of each chapter and the Study Area. In the Study Area, you'll find chapter quizzes. Use the questions in these quizzes and the chapter review section as example exam questions.

**FINAL EXAM — WORTH 35%, IN PERSON**
The final exam is TBA. The questions will be a mix of multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blanks, and written answer questions. The material covered on the final exam focuses primarily on the second half of the course. Still, there is a cumulative component because the material from all 5 labs is covered.

**COMMUNICATION**
This course uses CourseLink, Teams and Zoom as the primary tools for communication
and distribution of course materials.

Following university regulations, all e-mail correspondence will be sent to your University of Guelph e-mail address. I usually respond to student inquiries within 48 hours during University Business hours. I also do not reply to messages on weekends or from off-campus e-mail addresses because they are often spam or phishing scams. Remember that this is a professional environment, and your messages should reflect this. For example, I do not typically answer e-mails that begin with “Hey,” or “Yo Prof”.

**LEARNING SERVICES FOR FIRST-YEAR COURSES**

Although many of you may not be first-year students, because this course is designated as a first-year course, you might not be aware of additional resources. Learning resources at the Library and Learning Commons offer free services to help you succeed in first-year courses at the University of Guelph.

These opportunities include:
- meeting with a peer helper to talk about study strategies or your writing assignments
- attending Supported Learning Groups
- getting assistance finding journal articles and books
- registering for academic workshops

Please visit the Library website or ask me to direct you to someone at the Library and Learning Commons. Library website, [www.lib.uoguelph.ca](http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca)

**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH POLICY STATEMENTS:**

**E-mail Communication**

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

**When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement**

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or a designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. [See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.](http://www.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate/calendar/academicconsideration.html)

**Drop Date**

One semester long courses must be dropped by the end of the last day of classes; two-semester courses must be settled by the last day of classes in the second semester. The regulations and procedures for [Dropping Courses](http://www.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate/calendars/dropcourse.html) are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

**Copies of out-of-class assignments**

Keep paper and/or other reliable backup copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.
Accessibility
The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student must first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required, however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least seven days in advance and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

More information: www.uoguelph.ca/sas

Academic Misconduct
The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility to abide by the University’s policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility to support an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who doubt whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Recording of Materials
Presentations related to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or a guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.
Resources
The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies and regulations, which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

Illness
Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or significant assignment).

Safety Protocols
For information on current safety protocols, follow these links: https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/
https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces
Please note that these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health, or government directives.

Disclaimer
Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class e-mail. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website [https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/] and circulated by e-mail.