Hybrid Classes: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 8:30 – 9:20, extra class days at the end of the semester to replace Thanksgiving Monday and Tuesday the Fall Study Break Day
Instructor: Laura J. Brown (laura@uoguelph.ca)
Office Hours: Thursday 1:30-3:30 via Zoom
Graduate Teaching Assistant: TBA
GTA Office Hours: by appointment via Microsoft Teams

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
"This course focuses on the ecological basis for resource management through the study of the distribution of plants and animals across the Earth's surface. Biogeography expands upon principles from Ecology, Biology, and Physical Geography. Students in this course will learn about ecosystem processes that impact both fauna and flora. Topics may include succession, disturbance, old-growth forests, biodiversity, island biogeography, habitat fragmentation, species introductions, biological control, and climatic change. For each topic, past and current theories, controversies, empirical evidence and implications for resource management are examined."

Prerequisites: GEOG*2460 or STAT*2040, and 1 of BIOL*2060, BOT*2050, ENVS*2030, or GEOG*2110

REQUIRED TEXT
There is no required text for this course. Required readings will be taken from journal articles, technical reports, and books and made available via CourseLink.

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

- Critically and independently recognize, synthesize and evaluate diverse sources of knowledge, arguments and approaches pertinent to exploring the core biogeographical concepts and basic principles of biogeography
- Develop a comprehensive literacy and breadth of understanding of the core biogeographical concepts as they apply to current environmental issues
  - Investigate complex real-world challenges using basic quantitative techniques and tools for the analysis of biogeographical data.
  - Recognize and identify how geographical knowledge is applied to address environmental issues.
**APPROACH**
Each topic is explored using a combination of in-class lectures and discussions, assigned readings, and individual assignments.

**COURSE NOTES**
I will post the slides I use in my lectures on CourseLink to follow along and take your own notes.

**COURSE EVALUATION**
- Participation/Engagement. Discussion postings on CourseLink. More details about these postings will be provided on CourseLink.
- Short Written Assignments. Students will be required to submit three short (2-3 page) assignments. More details about these assignments and their due dates will be provided on CourseLink.
- Laboratory Exercises. Students will be required to complete two laboratory exercises and submit a report documenting their analyses and discussing the findings. More details about these labs and their due dates will be provided on CourseLink.
- There will be a Final Examination (Dec. 6 8:30-10:30- room TBA) consisting of short answer and essay questions. This is a cumulative final exam.

**GRADING**
- Written Assignments 30 %
- Laboratory Exercises 30 %
- Participation/Engagement 10 %
- Final Examination 30 %

All writing assignments and lab reports must be submitted through Dropbox on CourseLink. Late assignments (without prior approval) will be penalized at a rate of 10% of the value of the assignment per class day. This course uses Turnitin to help encourage academic integrity.

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

All e-mail correspondence will be sent to your University of Guelph e-mail address. I normally respond to student inquiries within 24-36 hours during University Business hours. I also do not reply to messages from off-campus e-mail addresses because they are often spam or phishing scams. Keep in mind this is a professional environment, and
your messages should reflect this. For example, e-mails that begin "Hey," or "Yo Prof" or include texting lingo are inappropriate.

**EXPECTATIONS**

As a University of Guelph student, it is expected that you will be respectful and civil to your instructors, TAs and fellow students. Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. Examples of inappropriate online behaviour are as follows:

- posting inflammatory messages about your instructor or fellow students
- using obscene or offensive language emojis online
- threatening, belittling or harassing a student, instructor or TA
- discriminating against fellow students, instructors and/or TAs
- attempting to compromise the security or functionality of CourseLink or Zoom

**University of Guelph Policy Statements:**

**E-mail Communication**

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

**When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement**

If 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.

**Drop Date**

One semester-long courses must be dropped by the end of the last day of classes; two-semester courses must be dropped by the last day of classes in the second semester. The regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

**Copies of assignments**

Keep paper and/or other reliable backup copies of all 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 is required to 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 7 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 of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting 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 are in any doubt as to 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 which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or 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 GEOG*3110 – Biogeography
procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

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.