GEOG*4220: Local Environmental Management
Course Outline - Provisional

Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics | University of Guelph
Winter 2021

Instructor:
Dr. Faisal Moola, PhD
E-mail: fmoola@uoguelph.ca

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Lectures: T, Th: 1:00 - 2:20 (S)

Labs: M 8:30 – 9:20 am (S); M 10:30 – 11:20 am (S)

About the Instructor:

Dr. Faisal Moola is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics at the University of Guelph. Prior to joining Guelph University, he worked for the David Suzuki Foundation for over 15 years, where he was the organization's Director General for Ontario and Northern Canada. Faisal has a PhD in biology from Dalhousie University and has published widely in scientific journals on topics of ecology, conservation biology, and environmental policy. Faisal has contributed to a number of significant conservation and sustainability policy outcomes in Canada, including the protection of over 2 million hectares of temperate rainforest in British Columbia, a ban on trophy hunting of grizzly bears in British Columbia and the creation of Canada's first Urban National Park in the Rouge watershed, on the east-side of Toronto. Faisal has also worked closely with a number of First Nations communities in defence of their lands and Treaty and Indigenous Rights, including the Dunne_za and Cree Treaty 8 First Nations in British Columbia, and Grassy Narrows First Nation in Ontario. Faisal is a regular contributor to the Toronto Star, Vancouver Sun, the Conversation, Globe and Mail, CBC and other media outlets as an opinion writer and political analyst on conservation, Indigenous Rights and other environmental and social issues.

About the Teaching Assistants:

TBD

Course Description and Objectives

Calendar Description: This course explores local environmental management from two perspectives: state-driven (where local government agencies or forums created by governments are used) and non-state driven (where local actors come together in new governance arrangements to undertake environmental management). Through comparing and contrasting these broad perspectives in an experiential learning setting, the course builds understanding of a key trend in environmental governance.

Prerequisite(s): GEOG*3210

Objectives

The objectives of this course are to investigate the diverse and evolving character of how communities incorporate biophysical and social considerations in local environmental management. The course objectives are largely oriented towards highly urbanized geographies in Canada and globally, with a particular focus on planning and policy.

The course objectives are:

1. To consider institutional (e.g., government policy) and non-institutional (e.g., sustainability innovations in the marketplace) approaches to environmental management at the local scales;
2. To explore theoretical and applied dimensions of environmental management;
3. To develop an appreciation for approaches to environmental management that are both biophysically and socially responsive; and
4. To critically examine a number of case studies relevant to local environmental management, such as the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) Greenbelt, Rouge Urban National Park and the integration of green infrastructure (e.g., rain gardens, green roofs) in the built urban environment.

Outline

The course is organized into formal lectures and weekly lab sessions. Lectures will begin with an introductory talk by the course instructor (accompanied by video and audio) followed by a series of questions and a discussion concerning the topic of environmental management in relation to the week's theme.

Students will have an opportunity to participate in group discussions as part of weekly labs, led by the Teaching Assistants and complimented by assigned readings.

At the end of the course, students should:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the theories and concepts covered in class, such as the incorporation of Natural Capital in urban local environmental management and advancing EcoHealth solutions to public health in cities;
- Critique and apply these concepts and theories to different approaches/cases of environmental management in Canada and globally.
- Critically examine and assess different forms and examples of local environmental management, such as smart-growth urban planning;
- Effectively communicate arguments and ideas related to local environmental management in both oral and written form, individually and as a member of a group.

The course is designed to encourage and promote student participation; its success will depend on students engaging with the course material and one another and coming to class prepared.

Course Readings

All required readings (selected journal articles and book chapters) will be available through Courselink or through the library (e-reserves and/or E-journal access). Please refer to CourseLink for detailed information on when the readings should be completed.

Evaluation

- Worth 20%. Written assignment on integrating natural capital into local environmental management. Due Feb 12th in the CourseLink dropbox by 11:59 pm.

- Worth 20 %. Take home mid-term exam. Assigned Feb 22nd. Due Feb 25th in the CourseLink Dropbox by 11:59 pm.

- Worth 20%. Written assignment on urban sustainability solutions. Due March 19th in the CourseLink dropbox by 11:59 pm.

- Worth 40%. Take home final exam. Assigned April 19th. Due April 22nd in the CourseLink Dropbox by 11:59 pm.

LECTURE AND LAB SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic
Week 1		
	Lecture 1	Course Introduction
	Lecture 2	Introduction to Anthromes
Week 2	Lab	The Rise of Urban Mega-Regions
	Lecture 1	Natural Capital
	Lecture 2	Natural Capital
Week 3	Lab	Natural Capital
	Lecture 1	Integrating Natural Capital into Local Decision-Making
	Lecture 2	Integrating Natural Capital into Local Decision-Making
Week 4	Lab	Land Use Planning in the GTHA
	Lecture 1	Land Use Planning in the GTHA
	Lecture 2	Greenbelt
Week 5	Lab	Greenbelt
	Lecture 1	Protection of Agricultural Lands
	Lecture 2	GGH Growth Plan
	Assignment #1 Due	
Week 6	NO CLASSES WINTER BREAK	
Week 7	Lab	GGH Growth Plan
	Lecture 1	GGH Growth Plan
	Lecture 2	Ecosystem Based Management in Urban Areas
	Mid-Term Exam	
Week 8	Lab	Ecosystem Based Management in Urban Areas
	Lecture 1	Garden Cities Movement
	Lecture 2	Ecological Integrity in Urban Systems
Week 9	Lab	Ecological Integrity
	Lecture 1	Ecological Integrity in Urban Areas
	Lecture 2	Rewilding
Week 10	Lab	Public Health
	Lecture 1	Introduction to Public Health
	Lecture 2	Public Health Continued
	Assignment #2 Due	
Week 11	Lab	EcoHealth
	Lecture 1	EcoHealth
	Lecture 2	EcoHealth
Week 12	Lab	Environmental Justice
	Lecture 1	Environmental Justice
	Lecture 2	Environmental Justice
Week 13	Lab	Climate Change
	Lecture 1	Climate Change
	Lecture 2	Climate Change

Lab Guidelines

Labs are important and compliment the formal lectures. Attendance is mandatory. In order to use the lab times effectively, please:

1. Read the assigned article before the lab (available on CourseLink).
2. Come to your assigned lab group with 3 questions and/or critical comments related to the reading. Your comments/questions should explicitly engage with particular aspects of the reading and be substantial.
3. Participate in the discussion, by drawing on your prepared notes/comments and responding to other ideas presented in the lab.
4. Lab sections in weeks 2 – 13 will be devoted to group discussions of the assigned readings.

Social Media

Twitter: I will be tweeting about many of the issues we will be covering in the term. You can follow me at: @faisal_moola. Popular hashtags that I'll be posting to include #topoli #onpoli, #cdnpoli #fnpoli and #bcpoli

Course Policies

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 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
Courses that are one semester long 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 out-of-class assignments
Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up 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 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 book their exams at least 7 days in advance, and not later than the 40th Class Day.

More information: Student Accessibility Services

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 procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.