

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY**  
**University of Toronto**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**GGR 321 “ABORIGINAL PEOPLES AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN CANADA”**  
**Spring 2014**

**Instructor:** Deborah McGregor  
**Room:** SS 1073, St. George Campus,  
**Times:** Tuesday and Thursday 2-4 p.m.  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday 1:30 p.m- 3:00 p.m. or by appointment  
**Office:** SS 5037, St. George Campus  
**Contact:** [d.mcgregor@utoronto.ca](mailto:d.mcgregor@utoronto.ca)  
**Phone:** (416) 978-2234

**TA:** Anne-Laure Bouvier

**Course Description**

This course will explore a variety of topics relating to Aboriginal views of environment and resource management from pre-European contact times through to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the currently emerging role of Aboriginal people in environmental and resource management and governance in Canada through such mechanisms as self-government, land claims settlements, application of Aboriginal and treaty rights and co-management regimes. Case examples will be utilized from areas such as sustainable development, social justice, waste management, traditional knowledge, forestry, water quality and wildlife management.

**Course Objectives**

- Gain an understanding of the theoretical and practical concepts, diverse perspectives and histories of Indigenous and environmental issues in Canada.
- Introduce students to key challenges, opportunities and successes experienced by Aboriginal peoples and their intersection with environmental, political, legal and economic developments.
- Understand the integration of historical, ecological, cultural, social, political, economic and institutional dimensions within contemporary resource management strategies and environmental governance structures by Aboriginal Peoples.
- Develop an appreciation for Indigenous environmental and ecological perspectives, knowledge systems, values and spirituality related to environmental governance
- Gain an understanding of the spectrum of environmental issues and governance arrangements in Canada
- Relate concepts and ideas in the course with student’s academic and personal interests.

## Recommended Preparation

Recommended Preparation: 8 FCE's including 1.0 in Geography and/or Aboriginal Studies

Distribution Status: This is social science course

Breadth requirement: Society and its institutions (3)

## Communication, Office Hours & Course Management

Use blackboard. I send announcements out on a regular basis. Please check your U of T e-mail daily and check blackboard for announcements. Office hours will be held Wednesday afternoons (1:30 to 3:00 p.m.). If you cannot make this time please contact me and another mutually agreeable time can be arranged.

Taking photos and video recordings of lectures are not permitted. Audio recording require permission of the instructor. Any activities on the laptop computers, tablets, cell phones and other devices not related to note taking are disrespectful to the instructor and classmates. **No cell phone use is permitted in the classroom, including texting.** Please leave the classroom to engage in these activities. Lectures will cover some aspects of the readings, but will differ in content. You are responsible for all material covered in the course (lectures, readings, videos, guest lecturers). Lecture presentations will provide the conceptual and theoretical frameworks for understanding issues and themes related to Indigenous and environmental issues in Canada.

## Course Assignments and Evaluation

Term Test	20%
Literature Review	15%
Research Paper	25%
Final Exam	40%

### Term Test (20%)

Each student will be required to write a term test based on course readings, lectures, audio-visual materials, and information presented by guest speakers. The test will normally consist of terminology related and short answer type questions. The term test is worth 20% of the final grade and will be held on **Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014.**

### Research Proposal & Literature Review (15%)

Students will be required to prepare a literature review and annotated bibliography of a topic related to the course material. This review will form the basis of the final research paper. This assignment is worth 15% of the final grade and is due **Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014.**

### Research Paper (25%)

Each student will prepare a 10-12 page research paper (double spaced) on a topic related to course material. This paper is worth 25% of the final grade and is due **June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014.**

### Final Exam (40%)

Students will write a final exam worth 40% of their total grade for the course. The exam will be two hours in

length and will normally be comprised terminology, short answer and essay-type questions. The exam will be scheduled during the exam period June 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Late Assignments**

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned date, in hard copy. Assignments handed in after the due date will receive 5% off the grade for every day late to a maximum of 7 days. After 7 days assignments will no longer be accepted.

### **Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism is an academic offense at the University of Toronto. Plagiarism is quoting (or paraphrasing) the work of an author (including the work of fellow students) without proper use of citation. Quotation marks are required when using an author's words. Students also should not be submitting any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought, without first discussing with the instructor. Please consult the "Rules and Regulations" section of the Arts and Science Calendar ([http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/Rules\\_&\\_Regulations.html](http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/Rules_&_Regulations.html)) for further information and check the 'How not to plagiarize' website at: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

Plagiarism from the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters states:

It shall be an offence for a student knowingly:

(d) to represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism. Wherever in the Code an offence is described as depending on "knowing", the offence shall likewise be deemed to have been committed if the person ought reasonably to have known.

Quite simply don't do it. Bad idea.

### **Accessibility Needs**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: [disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

### **Required Readings and Course Materials**

- Course Readings Package (available from the UofT bookstore).
- Readings assigned in Course Outline (you can obtain these on-line)
- Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (various chapters and sections).
- Additional information may be assigned from time to time (e.g. YouTube clip).

### **May 13th: Introduction - Terminology & Understanding Indigenous perspectives**

Salmon, E. 2000. Kincentric Ecology: Indigenous Perceptions of the Human-Nature Relationships. *Ecological Applications*. 10 (5). p 1327-1332.

Mitchell, H. 2005. Nehithawak of Reindeer Lake Canada: Worldview, Epistemology and Relationship to the Natural World. *Australian Journal of Indigenous Education* **34**: 33-43.

Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. Volume 4: Perspectives and Realities: *Elders Perspectives*. Chapter 3, Sections 2, 3, 4, 5.6, 5.9, 6.0 (only).  
<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100014597>

### **May 15th: Indigenous Geographies and Snap Shot of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada**

Coombes, B, Johnson, J, Howitt, R. 2011. Indigenous Geographies 1: Mere resource Conflicts? The Complexities in Indigenous land and environment claims. *Progress in Human Geography*.

Johnson, J., Cant, G., Howitt, R., Peters, E. 2007. Creating Anti-colonial Geographies: Embracing Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights. *Geographical Research*. 45(2), p. 117-120. (Guest Editorial).

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.  
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/declaration.html>

### **May 20th : Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Relations – Nation to Nation**

Borrows, J. 1997. Wampum at Niagara: The Royal Proclamation, Canadian Legal History, and Self Government. In: Asch, M. (ed.). *Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in Canada: Essays on Law, Equity, and Respect for Difference*. UBC Press, Vancouver, BC. p. 155-172.

Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. Highlights from the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples: People to People Nation to Nation. *Looking Forward Looking Back* (only).  
<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100014597>

### **Video: Time Immemorial**

### **May 22nd: Aboriginal Environmental Issues in the Canadian Context**

Metis Nation of Ontario: Special Impacts Report. *Preserving The Metis Way of Life*.  
[http://www.metisnation.org/media/354499/special\\_impacts\\_report-screen.pdf](http://www.metisnation.org/media/354499/special_impacts_report-screen.pdf)

CIER.2005.Environmental Issues Report. Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources. p. 19.  
<http://www.cier.ca/information-and-resources/publications-and-products>.

Assembly of First Nations (AFN). 1993. Environment. **In:** Assembly of First Nations. Reclaiming Our Nationhood: Strengthening Our Heritage. Report to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. AFN, Ottawa, ON. pp. 39-50.

### **May 27th: Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Environmental Management**

Walken, A. 2007. The Land is Dry: Indigenous Peoples, Water, and Environmental Justice. **In** Eau Canada: The Future of Canada's Water. Ed. Karen Bakker. UBC Press. Vancouver, B.C. p. 303-320

Doyle-Bedwell, P., and Cohen, F. 2001. Aboriginal People in Canada: Their Role in Shaping Environmental Trends in the Twenty First Century. **In:** Parson, E. (ed.). Governing the Environment: Persistent Challenges, Uncertain Innovations. University of Toronto Press, Toronto, ON. pp. 169-206.

Edgar, L. & Graham, J. 2008. Environmental Protection: Challenges and Prospects for First Nations under the First Nations Land Management Act. Institute on Governance.  
[http://iog.ca/sites/iog/files/2008\\_fn\\_land\\_mgt\\_act.pdf](http://iog.ca/sites/iog/files/2008_fn_land_mgt_act.pdf)

### **Video: Self Government**

**May 29<sup>th</sup>:** Term Test: 45 minutes (20%)

### **June 3rd: Environmental Challenges: Environmental Justice**

Dhillon C. & Young, M. 2010. Environmental Racism and First Nations: A Call for Socially Just Public Policy Development. Canadian Journal of Humanities and Social Science. Vol. 1, No. 1, 25-39.  
[http://cjhss.org/\\_cjhss/pubData/v\\_1/i\\_1/contentsFrame.php](http://cjhss.org/_cjhss/pubData/v_1/i_1/contentsFrame.php)

Stanley, A. 2008. Citizenship and the production of landscape and knowledge in contemporary Canadian nuclear fuel management. The Canadian geographer. No. 1, Vol. 52, p. 64-82.  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1541-0064.2008.00201.x/pdf>

McGregor, D. 2009. Honouring Our Relations: An Anishinabe Perspective on Environmental Justice. In: Agyeman, J., Haluza-Delay, R., Peter, C., and O'Riley, P. (eds.). Speaking for Ourselves: Constructions of Environmental Justice in Canada. University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, BC. pp. 27-41

Harden, A., and Levalliant, H. 2008. Boiling Point! Six Community Profiles of the Water Crisis Facing First Nations Within Canada. Polaris Institute, Ottawa, ON. 31 pp.  
[http://www.polarisinstitute.org/boiling\\_point\\_0](http://www.polarisinstitute.org/boiling_point_0)

### **June 5th: Environmental Challenges**

McGregor, D. 2012. Traditional Knowledge: Considerations for Protecting Water in Ontario. Special Issue on Water and Indigenous Peoples. The International Indigenous Policy Journal. 3 (3). <http://www.iipj.org/>.

Blackstock, M. 2001. Water: A First Nations' Spiritual and Ecological Perspective. B.C. Journal of Ecosystems and Management 1 (1). [http://www.forrex.org/publications/jem/ISS1/vol1\\_no1\\_art7.pdf](http://www.forrex.org/publications/jem/ISS1/vol1_no1_art7.pdf). (accessed June 26, 2008).

Anderson, A., Clow B. and Haworth-Brockman, M. 2011. Carriers of water: aboriginal women's experiences, relationships, and reflections. Journal of Cleaner Production. 60, 11-17.

FILM: Water Journey

### Literature Review Due (15%)

#### **June 10th: Working Cooperatively with Aboriginal People**

Ransom, R., and Ettenger, K. 2001. Polishing the Kaswentha': A Haudenosaunee View of Environmental Cooperation. Environmental Science and Policy 4:219-228.

McGregor, D. 2004. Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Sustainable Development: Towards Co-existence. **In**: Blaser, M., Feit, H., and McRae, G. (eds). **In** the Way of Development: Indigenous Peoples, Life Projects and Globalization. Zed Books, New York, NY; International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, ON. pp. 72-91.

Turner, N., Boelscher, I., and Ignace, R. 2000. Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Wisdom of Aboriginal People in British Columbia. Ecological Applications 10(5):1275-1287.

Kimmerer, R. 2012. Searching for Synergy: Integrating traditional and scientific ecological knowledge in environmental science education. J.Environmental Studies Sci

#### **June 12th: World View and Environmental Philosophy: Challenges and Opportunities Traditional Ecological Knowledge**

Houde, N. 2007. The Six Faces of Traditional Ecological Knowledge: Challenges and Opportunities for Canadian Co-Management Arrangements. Ecology and Society 12 (2): 34 [www.ecologyandsociety.org](http://www.ecologyandsociety.org)

Shackeroff, J. & Campbell, L. 2007. Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Conservation Research: Problems and Prospects for Constructive Engagement. Conservation and Society, Vol. 5 (3), p 343-360.

Whyte. K. 2013. On the Role of traditional ecological knowledge as a collaborative concept: a philosophical study. Ecological Processes. 2:7.

#### **June 20th Indigenous Environmental Governance**

White, G. 2006. Cultures in Collision: Traditional Knowledge and Euro-Canadian Governance Processes in Northern Land-Claim Boards. Arctic. Vol. 59 (4). P. 401-414.

Feit, H. 2010. Neoliberal Governance and James Bay Cree Governance: Negotiated Agreements, Oppositional Struggles, and Co-Governance. **In** Blaser, M., Ravi de Costa, D. McGregor and W. Coleman (eds.). *Indigenous Peoples and Autonomy: Insights for a Global Age*. UBC Press, Vancouver, BC. P. 49-79

## **VIDEO: Indigenous Environmental Governance (CIER)**

### **June 22nd: Future Directions in Environmental Governance & Review**

Wyatt, S., Fortier, JP., Hebert, M. 2009. "Multiple Forms of Engagement: Classifying Aboriginal Roles in Contemporary Canadian Forestry. **In**. Stevenson, M. & Natcher, D. 2009. *Changing the Culture of Forestry in Canada: Building Effective Institutions for Aboriginal Engagement in Sustainable Forest Management*. CCI Press and Sustainable Forest Management Network. P. 163-180.

Bowie, R. 2013. Indigenous Self Governance and the Deployment of Knowledge In Collaborative Environmental Management in Canada. *Journal of Canadian Studies*. 47:1, p 91-121.

**Research Paper Due (25%)**