

GGR 390H1F - Field Camp 2017 - Information

GGR390H1F (Fall 2017 course) is an introduction to field methods in vegetation/forest mapping/analysis, soils, hydrology, climatology and geomorphology. The course includes exercises and a group project during a five-day field camp just before the start of fall classes. There is a small amount of preparation during the summer of 2017 (readings) and complementary practical/lab work and meetings during the Fall Term.

- Each student is required to pay the costs of transportation, accommodation and meals (\$300 per student), in addition to the regular course tuition fee for a fall course.
- Prerequisite: one FCE from any of GGR100H1, GGR201H1, GGR203H1, GGR205H1, GGR206H1, GGR305H1, ESS102H1, ENV234H1 or permission of instructor (note that Majors and Specialists in Physical Geography have first priority for spaces).
- Recommended Preparation: at least 8.0 FCE's
- Distribution Requirement Status: This is a Science course

The location of field camp this year will be at the UofT Koffler Scientific Reserve on the Oak Ridges Moraine (ORM). This is one of the few opportunities we have in Physical Geography for a concentrated period of more than just one day in which to conduct field work. It is usually a very positive learning experience for students and instructors alike.

The dates for field camp are:

Depart: **Monday August 28th, 2017**
meet at **07:45 AM** (no later) at 22 Russell St. (south end of Earth Sciences)

Return: **Friday September 1, 2017**
around 15:30 (but will very much depend on traffic coming back into Toronto on a Friday before the long weekend)

Travel will be in a group bus to and from KSR.

Accommodation is in 3 separate houses on the property. Each house has bedrooms mostly with bunk-bed style sleeping (2-4 persons per bedroom). You need to bring your own sleeping bag (easiest option), pillow and toiletries. It should be warm so you do not need anything substantial to sleep in/on. We will use the largest house as a group gathering place for meetings and meals. Food for all 3 meals will be provided. From the food supplied, you can make your lunch each day for while you are out at your field sites. If you have food allergies or special dietary requirements, please make sure you specify in the section on the attached form.

Required Gear

- Good footwear for hiking in open fields and forests. It can be very wet, and in places, muddy, so make sure your footwear has good soles. Running shoes **will not** be sufficient. There are plenty of inexpensive good hiking trail boots (light to moderate level of trail/off-trail difficulty).
- Pencils, pens and marker, metric ruler, pocket calculator.

- Many students bring along their laptop (although not required) as there is WiFi access in a conference/classroom where plotting, calculations and some reading can be done in the evening.
- Water resistant field note book (clip boards are okay in good weather, but not in rainy conditions).
- If you already own a pair of rubber boots consider bringing them along for work around stream edges and in shallow water. We will have a limited number of pairs to use in a few different sizes.
- Complete rain gear.
- A leak-proof water bottle or two (1 L minimum capacity) for hikes to field sites.
- A tupper-ware like container to hold lunch so that it is not “crushed” in your day pack.
- Clothing for cold and rainy days; hiking shorts, hat, sunscreen for warm days. Insect repellent (although by August they are much reduced). It can vary from quite cool (especially in the evening) to very hot. Come prepared with layers that you can take off and put on to adjust to changing conditions.
- A camera is useful for documenting field evidence (if your hands are muddy your favorite cell phone-camera can get messy or accidentally dropped in mud/water).
- If it is not windy, an umbrella makes ideal cover for writing and recording observations in your field note book while it is raining.
- You will need a day pack to lug this and your lunch around. Come prepared to spend each day outdoors **regardless of weather!**
- Sleeping bag, pillow and personal toiletries.

There are **4** things you must do to register for the course.

- 1) You cannot register for GGR390H1F using ROSI. The enrolment indicator for GGR390H1F is “E”, meaning that the department will enrol only those whose ballots were approved! Once you are enrolled by the department, you must pay your tuition fees as you would for any other fall course. Please note that students who fill all their available slots for courses to the maximum allowed, and do not leave room for GGR390F during the course selection period, will have to contact the department to make room for GGR390H1F. You must be registered to participate.
- 2) Provide your payment of \$300. Please make cheques payable to “University of Toronto” and send to:

Ms. Kathy Giesbrecht
 Dept. of Geography
 University of Toronto
 Toronto, ON M5S 3G3 (Attn. GGR390H1F)

or bring it in person to the department (5th floor SSH Rm 5044). You can also make your payment with cash.

Field Trip Costs: \$300 to cover accommodation, meals, and travel expenses. A first deposit of \$150 is due by May 1, 2017. The \$150 balance is due no later than June 19, 2017.

- 3) Complete the attached information form and return with your first payment.
- 4) Once you are in the course, you will be asked to fill-out and sign a **field-work participation form** in advance of our departure.

Field work can be an enjoyable experience if you are adequately prepared. Part of this preparation is being aware of risks involved. Although we are working in the GTA region and mostly on UofT property, it is still important to be aware of your limitations and to make these known to an instructor at any time. More details on this will follow.

If you have any questions please contact us during the summer.

Prof. Jing Chen, 416-978-7085, jing.chen@utoronto.ca

Prof. Joe Desloges, 416-978-3709, joseph.desloges@utoronto.ca

Kathy Geisbrecht, 416-978-6455, giesbrecht@geog.utoronto.ca