



HIST-230 – Canada's Environmental History

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2023

Course Outline Review Date: 2028-04-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This course investigates the long, complex, reciprocal relationship between nature and humans.

To explore it, three areas developed by historians are examined: how Indigenous Peoples and settler Canadians have thought about the natural environment and colonized landscapes, how resource development and industrialization/urbanization have had short- and long- term effects, and how Canada's conservationists and environmentalists have responded to issues that have arisen. From their study, students should be able to place the dynamic interplay between the environment and people into perspective and come to better understand the development of that relationship over time.

Program Information:

This course can be used as either a required course or an elective in several University Studies Programs. Refer to the College Program Calendar for additional information.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Humanities

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

None

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

MacDowell, Laura Sefton. *An Environmental History of Canada*. Vancouver/Toronto: University of British Columbia Press, 2012.

Electronic Reading Package available on course companion site.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- identify and explain the significance of individuals, events, and terms in Canadian environmental history;
 - formulate a critical analysis of the historical forces/processes in Canadian environmental history;
 - locate the significance of changes and continuities by application to current day context;
 - critique the themes and nature of Canadian environmental history, especially by discriminating between the Indigenous and settlers' perspectives on the land; and
 - construct an historical interpretation from researched sources by using sound historical inquiry principles and practices.
-

Course Topics:

- Historiography in the Field of Environmental History
- Canada's Environmental History in:
 - the Indigenous Eras
 - the Contact/Exchange Eras
 - the Realm of the Imagination and Perception
 - the Pre- and Industrial Eras: Fisheries and Fur Trade
 - the Pre- and Industrial Eras: Forestry
 - the Pre- and Industrial Eras: Agriculture
 - the Pre- and Industrial Eras: Water/Hydroelectricity
 - the Industrial Eras: Mining and Energy
 - the Industrialization and (Sub)Urbanization Eras
 - the Eras of Reform and Preservation/Conservation
 - the Eras of Environmentalism
 - the Anthropogenic Eras

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Class Participation	5%
Seminar Presentation	10%
Annotated Bibliography	15%
Thesis Statement	5%
Research Essay	35%
Midterm	15%
Final Exam	15%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
- Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.

