



MAST-114 – Natural History

Business

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2023
Course Outline Review Date: 2028-03-01

Program Area: Tourism, Recreation, & Hospitality

Description:

This course provides an overview of the natural/cultural history of the Southern Canadian Rocky Mountains and develops interpretation techniques to communicate this information. Lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on field experiences will cover the topics of geology, ecology, botany, biology, human history, ecosystem-based management and heritage interpretation. Students develop skills in classification, identification, interpretive techniques, and stewardship of the environment.

Program Information:

This course is required for completion of the MAST certificate.

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

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	20
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	25

Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

None

Flexible Assessment: No

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:

Gadd, Ben. (2009). *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies*. 2nd Edition. 4th Printing, Jasper, Alberta: Corax Press.

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

- design and deliver an interpretation program for clients based on either a natural or human history topic relating to the South Canadian Rockies;

- Identify ecoregions found within the South Canadian Rockies and determine key indicators within each region;
- label and define identification characteristics of flora and fauna found within the South Canadian Rockies and identify common species within the region;
- describe the process of how the Rocky Mountains were formed, and identify land formations and rock types;
- describe the events and trends within human history of the South Canadian Rockies; and
- assess environmental challenges within the South Canadian Rockies and how these challenges are currently being managed.

Course Topics:

- Interpretation
- Geology
- Ecology
- Flora and Fauna
- Human History
- Ecosystem Management

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
Natural History (Special Place Seasonal Journal)	20%
Student Action Project	10%
Quizzes/Exams	30%
Participation	20%
Final Project	20%
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
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Equivalent Course(s) and Course Code Changes

Equivalent Course: Students who have received COTR credit for MAST 114 may not receive additional credit for ATBO 107.

Prior Course Code: MSTA 114 Natural History A & B

New Course Code: MAST 114 Natural History (MPHIA)

Date changed: March 2009

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.