

GEOG 225 Online: Global Environment and Health Fall 2019

Instructor

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There are no set office hours, but your instructor is happy to set up a time to meet on campus if you would like to discuss any of the course content in person. Your instructor checks email frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24-48 hours, Monday to Friday.

Course Description

Using a global focus, this course addresses a range of environmental issues that affect human health. The course employs a range of case studies from around the globe to address issues of measurement (of exposures and outcomes), evaluation (study designs) and policy responses. Students will be exposed to a range of theoretical perspectives and debates, and engage in innovative assessment activities to illustrate their learnings.

As indicated in the concept map for this course (online), we see a landscape that reveals the intersection of a number of different land uses and the humans who interact with them. We see industrial land uses, residential land uses, commercial land uses, as well as a natural environment which provides the backcloth for this landscape. As we embark on the course, we will first establish our expectations of each other as well as the intended learning outcomes. That will provide a foundation for everything that we do throughout this course. We will then develop a keen understanding of the foundational concepts we need to be able to explore the measurement, evaluation and implications of human health-environment interactions. This will provide us with the knowledge we need to be able to address the more nuanced aspects of these relationships: the challenges to measurement; issues of social/environmental justice and equity; lay epidemiology; and perhaps others that will arise as we move through the course together. The structure of the course is designed to enhance the student's ability to:

- think critically,
- communicate well, and
- see themselves as a global citizen.

We will accomplish this by following a series of steps across 11 modules. You will see these steps identified in each of the 11 learning modules as:

- **Read:** before you start the module, read the assigned materials
- **Review:** listen to the lecture burst(s)

- **Watch:** there will typically be a video or a film that will illustrate the concepts being discussed in the module
- **Do:** there will typically be an exercise or a case study for you to engage in that allows you to see the application of the concepts being discussed in the module
- **Discuss:** we will engage weekly with each other through online discussion forums in order to facilitate peer learning; you should also discuss this material with others in your working and/or social worlds – what do *they* think about what you’re learning?

Finally, throughout the term, there will be a number of assessments that will allow you to display your learnings in a manner that allows me and the teaching assistants to evaluate them for grading purposes. These are outlined in the Grade Breakdown page in this Course Syllabus and much more detail is provided in the Assignments module.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, the successful student should be able to:

- define key terms in environment and health;
- illustrate theoretical framings and understandings of environment and health;
- critically assess the reporting of environment and health relationships in the media as well as the peer-reviewed literature; and
- value their role as a global citizen.

This online course was developed by Susan Elliott, with instructional design and multimedia development support provided by the Centre for Extended Learning. Further media production was provided by Instructional Technologies and Multimedia Services.

Materials and Resources

There are no required or recommended textbooks for this course. Course Reserves can be accessed using the Library Resources widget on the Course Homepage. Students are required to take digital photos for graded assignments for this course. Access to a smartphone, digital camera, or similar photo-taking device is required.

Grade Breakdown

The following table represents the grade breakdown for this course:

Activities and Assignments	Weight (%)
Global Citizen Activity (Initial)	5%
Weekly Discussions	20% (2% x 10)
Photo Voice Essay (Trial)	5% (Pass/Fail)
Photo Voice Essay (Final)	25%
Media Assignment	40%
Global Citizen Activity (Revisit)	5%
Module 5 Bonus Mark	+1% (BONUS)

There is no final examination for this course. Official grades and academic standings are available through Quest. Your access to this course will continue for the duration of the current term. You will not have access to this course once the next term begins.

University Policies

Submission Times

Please be aware that the University of Waterloo is located in the **Eastern Time Zone**(GMT or UTC-5 during standard time and UTC-4 during daylight saving time) and, as such, the time that your activities and/or assignments are due is based on this zone.

Accommodation Due to Illness

If your instructor has provided specific procedures for you to follow if you miss assignment due dates, term tests, or a final examination, adhere to those instructions. Otherwise:

Missed Assignments/Tests/Quizzes

Contact the instructor as soon as you realize there will be a problem, and preferably within 48 hours, but no more than 72 hours, have a medical practitioner complete a Verification of Illness Form.

Email a scanned copy of the Verification of Illness Form to your instructor. In your email to the instructor, provide your name, student ID number, and exactly what course activity you missed.

Further information regarding Management of Requests for Accommodation Due to Illness can be found on the Accommodation due to Illness Form.

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. **If you have not already completed the online tutorial regarding academic integrity you should do so as soon as possible.** Undergraduate students should see the Academic Integrity tutorial and graduate students should see the Graduate Students and Academic Integrity website.

Proper citations are part of academic integrity. Citations in CEL course materials usually follow CEL style, which is based on APA style. Your course may follow a different style. If you are uncertain which style to use for an assignment, please confirm with your instructor or TA.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration, should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 – student discipline. For typical penalties, check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties.

Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 – Student Petitions and Grievances, (other than a petition) or Policy 71 – Student Discipline, may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 – Student Appeals.

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 – Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Final Grades

In accordance with Policy 46 – Information Management, Appendix A - Access to and Release of Student Information, the Centre for Extended Learning does not release final examination grades or final course grades to students. Students must go to Quest to see all final grades. Any grades posted in Waterloo LEARN are unofficial.

Course Schedule

Week	Module	Activities and Assignments	End/Due Date	Weight (%)
Week 1	Module 1: What is Global Health and Why Should We Care?	Groups for Weekly Discussions will be created by Technical Support	Check after Friday, September 6, 2019 at 4:30 PM	
		Introduce Yourself	Friday, September 6, 2019 at 11:55 PM	Ungraded
		Global Citizen Activity (Initial)	Friday, September 6, 2019 at 11:55 PM	5%
Week 2	Module 2: Defining Environment and Defining Health	Module 2 Weekly Discussion	Friday, September 20, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Week 3	Module 3: The Importance of Scale	Module 3 Weekly Discussion	Friday, September 27, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Week 4	Module 4: From Ontology, to Epistemology to Methodology: It's All Greek to Me!	Module 4 Weekly Discussion	Friday, October 4, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Week 5	Module 5: Theories Used to Frame Environment and Health	Photo Voice Essay (Trial)	Friday, October 11, 2019 at 11:55 PM	5%

Week 6	Module 5: Theories Used to Frame Environment and Health (Cont'd)	Module 5 Weekly Discussion	Friday, October 11, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Reading Week (Sunday, October 13, 2019 to Saturday, October 19, 2019)				
Week 7	Module 6: How Do We Understand Global Health Issues?	Module 6 Weekly Discussion	Friday, October 25, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Week 8	Module 7: On Airs, Waters, and Places	Photo Voice Essay (Final)	Friday, November 1, 2019 at 11:55 PM	25%
		Module 7 Weekly Discussion	Friday, November 1, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Week 9	Module 8: Global Environmental Change and Health	Module 8 Weekly Discussion	Friday, November 8, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Week 10	Module 9: Lay Epidemiology – The Second Greatest Story Ever Told	Module 9 Weekly Discussion	Friday, November 15, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Week 11	Module 10: Environmental Justice, Environmental Equity	Media Assignment	Friday, November 22, 2019 at 11:55 PM	40%
		Module 10 Weekly Discussion	Friday, November 22, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
Week 12	Module 11: The Role of Gender in Global Environmental Health	Module 11 Weekly Discussion	Friday, November 29, 2019 at 11:55 PM	2%
		Global Citizen Activity (Revisit)	Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 11:55 PM	5%

**Final
Examination**

There is no final examination for this course.
