

CONSERVATION/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT WINTER 2023

GEOG 368 / PLAN 341

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CLASS SCHEDULE

Section	Location	Time	Instructor(s)
GEOG 368 001 [LEC]	HH 1101	Mondays & Wednesdays 4 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.	Jeremy Pittman jpittman@uwaterloo.ca
PLAN 341 001 [LEC]		Mondays & Wednesdays 4 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.	

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INSTRUCTOR / TA INFORMATION

Instructor:	Graduate TAs:	
Jeremy Pittman jpittman@uwaterloo.ca (mailto:jpittman@uwaterloo.ca) Office hours: Mondays from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm EV3 3308		

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Calendar Description for GEOG 368

Consideration of the constraints and guidelines that an application of the principles of ecology places on the planning and management of resources within urban spaces and the implications for urban design. The theory and history of this subject will be discussed together with urban ecomanagement, the management of waste, urban open space and parks, rehabilitated sites, and environmentally sensitive areas.

Prereq: ENVS 200

Calendar Description for PLAN 341

Consideration of the constraints and guidelines that an application of the principles of ecology places on the planning and management of resources within urban spaces and the implications for urban design. The theory and history of this subject will be discussed together with urban ecomanagement, the management of waste, urban open space and parks, rehabilitated sites, and environmentally sensitive areas.

Prereq: ENVS 200

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course students should be able to:

understand biophysical and ecological processes in urban areas

plan for biophysical and ecological process when developing and managing the built environment

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Theme	Text book chapter	Additional readings
Week 1	Jan 9	Overview of syllabus and foundational concepts	1	
	Jan 11	No class	None	None
Week 2	Jan 16	Spatial patterns and mosaics	2	(Schell et al. 2020)
	Jan 18	Flows, movement, change	3	
Week 3	Jan 23	Urban soil and chemicals	4	
	Jan 25	Urban air	5	
Week 4	Jan 30	Urban water systems	6	
	Feb 1	Urban water bodies	7	
Week 5	Feb 6	Urban habitat and vegetation	8	
	Feb 8	Urban wildlife	9	
Week 6	Feb 13	Human structures	10	
	Feb 15	Residential, commercial, industrial	11	

Week 7	Feb 20	No class – Reading week	None	
	Feb 22	No class – Reading week	None	
Week 8	Feb 27	No class	None	
	Mar 1	Green spaces, corridors	12	
Week 9	Mar 6	Case study exercises	None	
	Mar 8	Case study exercises	None	
Week 10	Mar 13	Case study exercises	None	
	Mar 15	Case study exercises	None	
Week 11	Mar 20	In class presentations	None	
	Mar 22	In class presentations	None	
Week 12	Mar 27	In class presentations	None	
	Mar 29	In class presentations	None	
Week 13	Apr 3	In class presentations	None	
	Apr 5	In class presentations	None	

TEXTS / MATERIALS

Title / Name	Notes / Comments	Required
Laptop		Yes

Required textbook

Title / Name	Notes / Comments	Required
Forman, R. (2014) Urban Ecology: Science of Cities. Cambridge University Press.		Yes

Readings

Title / Name	Notes / Comments	Required
Schell, C. J., K. Dyson, T. L. Fuentes, S. Des Roches, N. C. Harris, D. S. Miller, C. A. Woelfle-Erskine, and M. R. Lambert. 2020. The ecological and evolutionary consequences of systemic racism in urban environments. <i>Science</i> 369(6509):1–19.		Yes

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Component	Value
Ability to meet deadlines	10%
Weekly quizzes (due each week; 10 X 3% each)	30%
Reflection paper (due Feb 6)	15%
Case study presentation (Mar 20 to Apr 5)	15%
Case study report (due Apr 5)	30%

Ability to meet deadlines

Rather than applying late penalties, students will be marked on their ability to meet deadlines. They will receive 0.5 marks for completing each weekly quiz on time, 2.5 marks each for completing the reflection paper on time, and 2.5 marks for completing case study report on time. No assignments or quizzes will be accepted after April 10 at 11:59 pm. Assignments or quizzes completed after April 10 will be graded as 0%.

Weekly quizzes

There will be 10 weekly quizzes throughout the semester. Quizzes will be based on weekly course content and they will be due on the Friday of each week. Each quiz will be worth 3% of the final grade.

Reflection paper

The Reflection Paper assignment is design to encourage reflection on critical issues affecting urban ecology and the way we develop and plan cities. The Reflection Paper will critically engage with a recent and important contribution from Schell et al. (2020) (see Additional Readings listed above) on the ways that systematic racism have shaped urban ecology. The Reflection Paper should be approximately 1,000 to 1,500 words and should answer the following questions:

1. What are the main points or arguments made by the authors?
2. Which of these points stand out to you? Are they new to you or did you know them before?
3. How does the paper challenge what you knew about urban ecology previously?

4. How can the ideas, concepts or methods be applied to improve the ways we plan and develop cities and urban environments?

The Reflection Paper is due Feb 6 and worth 15% of the final grade.

Case study

The case study assignment involves working in a group to prepare a baseline assessment or descriptive overview of the main ecological components in a Canadian or international city. Students choose the city that they want to focus on. The case study should describe each of the ecological components that we cover in class in the chosen city.

The assignment is broken into two parts.

1) The Case Study Presentation should be 10 minutes with an additional 5 minutes for questions. These presentations will take place between Mar 20 and Apr 5. Groups will sign up for the time they want to present on a first come, first serve basis. The slides for the presentation should be handed in to LEARN at 11:59 pm on the day before the presentation. The presentation is worth 15% of the final grade.

2) The Case Study Report should be between 3,000 and 4,000 words in total (excluding tables, figures, and references). It is worth 30% of the final grade and due on April 5 at 11:59 pm. Further instructions will be provided during class.

ASSIGNMENT SCREENING

No assignment screening will be used in this course.

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

Mental Health: The University of Waterloo, the Faculty of Environment and our Departments/Schools consider students' well-being to be extremely important. We recognize that throughout the term students may face health challenges - physical and / or emotional. **Please note that help is available.** Mental health is a serious issue for everyone and can affect your ability to do your best work. Counselling Services <https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/> (<https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/>) is an inclusive, non-judgmental, and confidential space for anyone to seek support. They offer confidential counselling for a variety of areas including anxiety, stress management, depression, grief, substance use, sexuality, relationship issues, and much more.

All students are encouraged to download the WatSAFE app which is available free through the google and iOS app stores. The WatSAFE app provides on- and off-campus contacts for students in distress, including international students, and other information related to campus safety and security.

Religious Observances: Students need to inform the instructor at the beginning of term if special accommodation needs to be made for religious observances that are not otherwise accounted for in the scheduling of classes and assignments.

Communications with Instructor and Teaching Assistants: All communication with students must be through either the student's University of Waterloo email account or via LEARN. If a student emails the instructor or TA from a personal account they will be requested to resend the email using their personal University of Waterloo email account.

Recording lecture: Use of recording devices during lectures is only allowed with explicit permission of the instructor of the course. If allowed, video recordings may only include images of the instructor and not fellow classmates. Posting

of videos or links to the video to any website, including but not limited to social media sites such as: facebook, twitter, etc., is strictly prohibited.

UNIVERSITY POLICY

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. [Check [the Office of Academic Integrity](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>) for more information.]

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>) . When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. [Check [the Office of Academic Integrity](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>) for more information.] 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](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>) . For typical penalties, check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties>) .

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under [Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>) (other than a petition) or [Policy 71, Student Discipline](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72, Student Appeals](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>) .

Note for students with disabilities: [AccessAbility Services](https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services/) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services/>) , located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

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 alternate assignment.