



REN307 / RRMT238

Environmental Assessment Principles and Methods / Environmental Protection and Impact Assessment

In Winter 2021, RRMT238, *Environmental Protection and Impact Assessment* is being offered at Yukon University concurrent with the University of Alberta's REN307, *Environmental Assessment Principles and Methods*, as part of the Northern Environmental and Conservation Sciences, B.Sc. Program. All students registered in RRMT238 or REN307 must adhere to requirements outlined in this course outline. University of Alberta students must also be aware of, and adhere to, the University's Code of Student Behaviour, referenced in the outline; Yukon University students must be aware of, and adhere to, YukonU's Academic Regulations, also referenced in the outline.

INSTRUCTOR: Bobbie Milnes, BA, MSc

OFFICE HOURS: by appointment

OFFICE LOCATION: N/A

TELEPHONE/E-MAIL: bmilnes@yukonu.ca

CLASS DAYS & TIMES: Mon/Wed, 3:30-5:00 pm

CLASS LOCATION: Online via Zoom on Mondays and via Panopto recordings on Moodle or other online delivery on Wednesdays

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an overview of environmental protection in Canada and focuses on the assessment and mitigation of impact through environmental impact assessments. It is a second-year course and expectations are set accordingly. Students are assumed to have taken other university-level courses in addition to prerequisites.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to do the following:

- understand the history and continuing evolution of assessment process,
- understand the reasons for conducting assessments,
- understand assessment timelines and process,
- be aware of opportunities for public participation and public engagement in the process and

- understand what information is required, determining the relevance and validity of information and incorporating information into assessments.

COURSE FORMAT:

The course consists of two 1.5-hour lectures per week.

Due to public health measures of Covid-19 to prevent the spread of the SARS-Cov2 virus, this course will be taught online using Zoom and Moodle platforms for the Winter 2021 offering.

Students planning to take this course are required to have access to a computer with internet. It is the student's responsibility to be able to access course materials via YukonU's Moodle system and be able to use Zoom video conferencing platform. YukonU's Information Technology Services website contains information on support for how to use Moodle and Zoom platforms (<https://www.yukonu.ca/student-life/technical-resources>).

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND/OR CO-REQUISITES:

For students taking the course as RRMT 238 at Yukon U: ENGL 100

For students taking the course as RENR 307: Registration in University of Alberta B.Sc. in Environmental and Conservation Sciences degree program.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS:

No required textbooks, students will be supplied with reading materials and other resources.

COURSE WEBSITE

Please check regularly for updates on the Yukon University's Moodle site <https://www.yukonu.ca/> under "My Courses"

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

Academic Integrity

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students at the University of Alberta are subject to the **Code of Student Behaviour**, as outlined:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/governance/resources/policies-standards-and-codes-of-conduct/code-of-student-behaviour>.

Please familiarize yourself with it and ensure that you do not participate in any inappropriate behavior as defined by the Code.

Key components of the code include the following statements:

30.3.2(1) No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student's own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

30.3.2(2) No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2) b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6 (4).

30.3.2(2) c No student shall represent another's substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student's own work.

YUKON UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/Admissions & Registration web page (section 4.0 on Academic conduct)

https://www.yukonu.ca/sites/default/files/policies/Academic%20Regulations_Effective%20Jul%201%202020%20-%20Dec%2031%202020.pdf

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the University.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon University recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon University program, students are required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations. It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): lac@yukonu.ca.

EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY

For current information on course transferability see <http://www.bctransferguide.ca> or the Yukon University Website: <https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit>.

PROFESSIONALISM AND CLASSROOM RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

Students are expected to attend all lectures and labs, be engaged and courteous in all course activities, and to be on time for class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION:

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absences from more than 10% of activities may result in a failing grade.

Assignments

Questions to invited speakers

Students are expected to be prepared to attend the presentation by the invited speakers by preparing a question for the invited speaker. The question should be submitted on Moodle prior to the lecture.

Summary

The student will prepare a summary of one lecture by an invited speaker (to be allocated in January) including a brief presentation of the role of the organization represented by the invited speakers in environmental assessments in Yukon and a discussion of the benefits and challenges faced by this organization.

Exams

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam. The midterm will be scheduled during class time TBA. The final examination will be held at the end of term, during the scheduled College exam period (see below).

Evaluation

The course grade will be determined as follows:

	Percent
Assignment	20%
Midterm exam (in class)	25%
Participation	25%
Final Exam (April 23 rd)	30%

Due Dates

In case of late submissions, 5% of the mark will be deducted per day.

Assignment of grades

The total numerical score will be converted to a letter grade on Yukon University's letter grading system.

TOPIC OUTLINE (*subject to change*):

Date	Main topics
4-Jan	Why conduct an EA?
10-Jan	The Canadian EA Context
12-Jan	The Yukon EA Context
17-Jan	YESAB
19-Jan	What is an Assessor?
24-Jan	Know your Bias
26-Jan	Know the Legislation
31-Jan	Scoping Environmental Assessments
2-Feb	Writing Environmental Assessments
7-Feb	Valued Environmental and Socio-economic Components
9-Feb	Valued Environmental and Socio-economic Components
14-Feb	EXAM
16-Feb-	Environmental Receptors
22-Feb-21	READING WEEK
23-Feb-21	READING WEEK
2-Mar-	Socio-economic Receptors
7-Mar	Traditional Knowledge vs. Local Knowledge
9-Mar	Public Participation
14-Mar	First Nation Participation
16-Mar	Cumulative Effects
21-Mar	Proponent Commitments and Project Design
23-Mar	Determining Significance
28-Mar	Determining Significance
30-Mar	Creating Mitigations
4-Apr	Creating Mitigations
6-Apr	Continual Improvement