



## Independent Study in Environmental Science – ENSC 208 University Studies Program

### Course Outline

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	January 2024
OUTLINE EFFECTIVE DATE:	January 2024
COURSE OUTLINE REVIEW DATE:	September 2029

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#### GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed for focused, self-guided learning in the field of environmental science. Students will undertake a directed study project as designed in consultation with their instructor. Students gain a deeper understanding of a selected topic of research related to environmental issues from social, scientific, cultural, philosophical, and/or economic perspectives.

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**Program Information:** This course is an elective course for the Environmental Studies Certificate (ESC) and can be used as an elective course in the Associate of Science Environmental Sciences (ASCES) program.

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**Delivery:** This course is delivered by directed studies

**COTR Credits:** 3

**Hours for this course:** 90 hours

**Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:**

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	
Practicum / Field Experience	
Other Contact Hours	90
<b>Total</b>	90

**Practicum Hours (if applicable):**

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-Job Experience	
Formal Work Experience	
Other	90
<b>Total</b>	90

**Course Outline Author or Contact:**

Andrena Heigh, BSc, MSc

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Signature

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**APPROVAL SIGNATURES:**

Department Head

Erin Aasland Hall

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Dean of Business and University Studies

Stephanie Wells

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Department Head Signature

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Valid from: January 2024- September 2029

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Education Council Approval Date

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**COURSE PREREQUISITES AND TRANSFER CREDIT:**

**Prerequisites:** Instructor permission required

**Corequisites:** None

**Flexible Assessment (FA):**

Credit can be awarded for this course through FA

☒ Yes

☐ No

Learners may request formal recognition for flexible assessment at the College of the Rockies through one or more of the following processes: External Evaluation, Worksite Assessment, Demonstration, Standardized Test, Self-assessment, Interview, Products/Portfolio, Challenge Exam. Contact an Education Advisor for more information.

**Transfer Credit:** For transfer information within British Columbia, Alberta and other institutions, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>.

Student should also contact an academic advisor at the institution where they want transfer credit.

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**Textbooks and Required Resources:**

No specific textbook is assigned for this course. All required resources will be provided.

*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.*

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**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

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

- Develop and pursue a focused study plan for researching a selected topic of interest related to environmental sciences.
  - Investigate, through scientific inquiry, an environmental issue via social, scientific, cultural, philosophical, and/or economic perspectives.
  - Collect and analyze secondary data and/or information pertaining to the field-related topic.
  - Draw meaningful conclusions and communicate insights through a written report.
  - Use presentation skills to effectively communicate scientific information to identified stakeholders.
  - Reflect on personal growth in knowledge, skills, and attitudes related to research and environmental sciences competencies.
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**COURSE TOPICS:**

- Social, scientific, cultural, philosophical, and/or economic perspectives on environmental issues.
- Planning a research project
- Quantitative and/or qualitative data collection and analysis from secondary sources
- Science communication
- Science writing
- Collaborating with stakeholders/experts in the field

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

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## EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT:

Assignments	% of Total Grade
Project Plan	30%
Project Report	30%
Presentation	20%
Report of learning (journal)	<u>20%</u>
Total:	100%

*Please see the instructor's syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments and use of electronic aids.*

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## EXAM POLICY:

Students must attend all required scheduled exams that make up a final grade at the appointed time and place.

Individual instructors may accommodate for illness or personal crisis. Additional accommodation will not be made unless a written request is sent to and approved by the appropriate Department Head prior to the scheduled exam.

Any student who misses a scheduled exam without approval will be given a grade of "0" for the exam.

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## COURSE GRADE:

Course grades are assigned as follows:

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
Mark (Percent)	≥ 90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	< 50

A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

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## ACADEMIC POLICIES:

See [www.cotr.bc.ca/policies](http://www.cotr.bc.ca/policies) for general college policies related to course activities, including grade appeals, cheating and plagiarism.

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## COURSE CHANGES:

Information contained in course outlines is correct at the time of publication. Content of the courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor endeavours to provide notice of changes to students as soon as possible. The

instructor reserves the right to add or delete material from courses.