



REN307 / RRMT238

Environmental Assessment Principles and Methods / Environmental Protection and Impact Assessment

In Fall 2019, RRMT238, *Environmental Protection and Impact Assessment* is being offered at Yukon College 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 syllabus. University of Alberta students must also be aware of, and adhere to, the University's Code of Student Behaviour, referenced in the outline; Yukon College students must be aware of, and adhere to, Yukon College's Academic Regulations, also referenced in the outline.

INSTRUCTOR: Amelie Janin
Senior Scientist – Water Quality; Yukon Environment

OFFICE HOURS: Weekdays

OFFICE LOCATION: 419 Range Road

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FAX:

CLASS DAYS & TIMES: Fridays, 1:00-4:00 pm

CLASS LOCATION: Room A2603

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Environmental and socio-economic effects assessment ensures that the effects of development activities are considered before they happen and that significant adverse effects will be mitigated.

This course is comprised of the following assessment topics:

- Environmental assessment in Yukon, YESAB & YESAA
- Impact assessment methodology, VESEC selection and significance determination
- Socio Economic Effects Assessment
- Assessment of impacts to 'Water'
- Assessment of impacts to 'Aquatic Systems'
- Assessment of impacts to 'Soils and Vegetation'
- Assessment of impacts to 'Wildlife and Habitat'

- Cumulative Effects Assessment
- Assessment of remediation projects
- Adaptive Management

During the course, the students will look through a number of case studies to understand how environmental and socio-economic impact assessments are conducted. Multiple guest speakers will be coming to the classroom and the students will engage with our guests in discussions related to environmental assessment in Yukon and the implementation of YESAA. Finally, the students will have to present one assessment and its conclusion for a project of their choice.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

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

- Understand the history and reasons for conducting assessments
- Understand assessment timelines and process.
- Understand who participate in assessments, why and in which capacity
- Be aware of opportunities for public participation and public engagement in the process.
- Understand what information is required and incorporating information into assessments
- Understand how assessments are conducted using the available information and how the final impact significance determination are made

COURSE FORMAT:

The course consists of one 3-hour lecture per week.

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND/OR CO-REQUISITES:

For students taking the course as RRMT 238: Admission to the second year of the Yukon College Renewable Resources Management Program.

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

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS:

No textbook are required. The students will be using the YESAB Online Registry regularly throughout the course.

COURSE WEBSITE

Course materials will be available on Yukon College Moodle website at www.yukoncollege.me

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 (www.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm) 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.” (GFC 2003)

Code of Student Behaviour

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

<http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx> 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) c. No Student shall represent another’s substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student’s own work.”

YUKON COLLEGE ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Yukon College students are expected to be familiar with academic standards and regulations as outlined in Yukon College’s Academic Regulations, which can be found on the Admissions page.

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 College.

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. Please do not use cellular phones during class. Laptops are permitted for note taking and in-class work; however, please do not use laptops in class for non-class-related activities. While in computer labs, students are expected to refrain from using the computers to engage in non-class-related activities (e.g. Facebook, etc.).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION:

Participation in class

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

Questions to invited speakers

Students will be asked to prepare questions in advance of the lectures by guest speakers. After the guest speaker presentation, the students will ask their question to the invited speakers. The purpose of this exercise is to encourage discussion and dialogue with practitioners. The questions should be submitted on Moodle prior to the lecture. Submission of all questions will count as 10% of the final grade.

Assignment #1 and #2

Instructions for Assignment #1 and #2 will be made available on Moodle during the term and will be discussed in class with the instructor. Students will be required to submit their assignment on Moodle on or before the deadline. There will be two assignments, Assignment #1 (15% of final grade) and Assignment #2 (15% of final grade).

Presentation

Students will be required to study and present to the class the significance determination made on a project submitted to YESAB. The instructions, requirement and format required for the presentation will be presented by the instructor. Students will have to choose one project to study from the YESAB Online Registry. The purpose of this exercise is to compare significance determination from numerous case studies and to learn from each other in class. The students won't be marked on their presentation skills but rather will be marked on their understanding of the determination of significance made on the project they present.

Exams

There will be one midterm exam and a take-home exam. The midterm will be scheduled during class time TBA and will count for 15% of the final grade. Student will be asked to review and mark their own exam on the class following the exam.

The take-home exam will be distributed on Moodle and students will have one week to submit their work. This take-home exam will count as 20% of the final mark.

Evaluation

The course grade will be determined as follows:

	Percent
Participation in class	10%
Questions to invited speakers	10%
Assignment #1	15%
Assignment #2	15%
Midterm exam	15%
Presentation	15%
Take-home Exam	20%

Due Dates & late submissions

Assignments, questions to invited speakers and take-home exams are expected on or before the deadline. Late submissions might be accepted in special circumstances, but the grade will be lowered by 5% per late day.

All assignments and take-home exams must be submitted on Moodle.

Assignment of grades

Grades will NOT be adjusted to fit a predetermined distribution. The total numerical score will be converted to a grade on the University of Alberta's letter grading system (for students enrolled in RENR 307) or on Yukon College's letter grading system (for students enrolled in RRMT 238).

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY:

Yukon College 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 College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukoncollege.yk.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 College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, they should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): lac@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

YUKON COLLEGE LORENE ROBERTSON WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. The Writing Centre offers half-hour writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. Coaching sessions are available in person and through distance technologies (e.g., email plus Skype or phone). For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website: www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/student_info/pages/writing_centre or email writingcentre@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY:

For current information on course transferability see <http://www.bctransferguide.ca>

CLASS SCHEDULE AND TOPIC OUTLINE:

See Class Schedule Excel document on Moodle for an up-to-date schedule