

University of Toronto Scarborough
Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences
EESB02H3 S – Principles of Geomorphology
2015 Outline

Instructor: Mandy Meriano
Office: SW627C Telephone: 416-208-2775
Office hours: Tuesday 11 am - 2 pm
Email: mmeriano@utsc.utoronto.ca

Lecture time: Tuesday 9 am to 11 am
Location: HW215

Practical times: Thursday 11:00 –13:00; 13:00 – 15:00; 15:00 – 17:00
Location: SW313 and computer lab (location TBA)
Field component of the practicals will be carried out in Highland Creek
Emphasis is placed on practical work in this course, which will involve some time commitment. However, this is reflected positively in your final grade.

Teaching Assistant: Carlos Paulo and Veronika Shirokova
Office and office hours: TBA on the course Portal
Lab coordinators: Chai Chen and Tom Meulendyk, PO103, Room 122

INDEX OF OUTLINE TOPICS

Course Textbook
Course Description
Learning objectives
Marking Scheme
Lecture Topics
Absences, Missed Term Work, and Student Services

TEXTBOOK: Bierman, P.R. and Montgomery, D.R. 2014. *Key Concepts in Geomorphology*, W.H. Freeman and Company, New York, NY. pp.494

The course textbook is available from the UTSC Bookstore.

DESCRIPTION: The earth's surface form and its dynamic behavior at range of spatial and temporal scales is an integral part of the physical, biological and human environment. It is strongly influenced by human activity, while at the same time imposing severe constraints upon that activity. The study of the earth's surface forms and their morphodynamic behavior, both naturally and under the impact of human habitation, is the field of Geomorphology. It is the human interaction with the surface of the earth that gives rise to a number of environmental concerns: e.g., surface erosion, catastrophic floods, sea-level rise, landslides, water resources and water extraction, etc. This introductory course combines aspects of geology, climatology, hydrology, and soil science to present a coherent introduction to the surface of the Earth, with emphasis on

both fundamental concepts and practical applications, as a basis for understanding and intelligent management of the Earth's physical and chemical environment.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: By the end of the course students will have developed a coherent understanding of the various aspects of geology, climatology, hydrology, and soil science that shape the surface of the Earth, with emphasis on both fundamental concepts and practical applications, as a basis for understanding and intelligent management of the Earth's physical and chemical environment.

MARKING SCHEME (tentative): Four practicals; value 40% (4 x 10%); a midterm exam: value 25%; and a final exam: value 35%.

The *midterm* is based on material covered in lectures and readings up to and including the class before the midterm exam. Readings will be from your course textbook: Bierman and Montgomery (2014). The format is multiple choice and short answer questions.

The *final exam* will be based on all term material (including readings and lectures). Readings will be from your course textbook: Bierman and Montgomery (2014). The format is multiple choice and short answer questions.

TENTATIVE LECTURES

Week 1: January 06	Physics and chemistry of the Earth's surface
Week 2: January 13	The solid materials of the Earth's surface
Week 3: January 20	Topography
Week 4: January 27	Rivers
Week 5: February 03	Groundwater
Week 6: February 11	Mid-term exam held during class time
<i>February 17 – 20</i>	<i>Reading Week</i>
Week 7: February 24	Lakes
Week 8: March 03	Glaciers
Week 9: March 10	TBA (I have a medical appointment but Carlos will carry on for me – this will be a good opportunity to work on problem sets associated with the practicals)
Week 10: March 17	Mass Wasting and deserts
Week 11: March 24	Coasts
Week 12: March 31	Landscapes and/or Physical and chemical cycles

PLAGIARISM: Assignments are checked for plagiarism. Please consult the University Calendar for a discussion and outline of the policy on plagiarism and academic integrity (also see proceeding section below). The sanctions can be severe. If, after reviewing the University policy, you are uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism, talk to your course instructor.

ACADAMIC INTEGRITY: Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
- Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
- Misrepresenting your identity.

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources (see <http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/>).

Please consult the University Calendar for information about grade distribution and academic conduct.

ABSENCES: If you need to miss a practical or term test for any legitimate reason, you must submit appropriate documentation within **three** business days of your absence. If the reason for your absence is medical, an official UTSC medical note must be completed

by a doctor who examined you while you were ill/injured (i.e. not after the fact). The medical note can be downloaded at:

http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/resources/pdf_general/UTSCmedicalcertificate.pdf. Note that conditions ranked as mild or negligible will not be considered a valid excuse.

MISSED TERM WORK: If a legitimate reason prevents you from submitting a piece of term work by its posted deadline, you must submit appropriate documentation within **three** business days of your absence. If the reason is medical, an official UTSC medical note must be completed by a doctor who examined you while you were ill/injured (i.e. not after the fact). The medical note can be downloaded at:

http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/resources/pdf_general/UTSCmedicalcertificate.pdf. Note that conditions ranked as mild or negligible will not be considered a valid excuse.

HANDING IN ASSIGNMENT: You are responsible for making sure that your TA receives your work. Students who mail assignments in, place work on the floor outside an office, or slip assignments under a door, do so at their own risk.

LOST OR MISPLACED ASSIGNMENT: It is your responsibility to keep a photocopy of your work, and to make more than one copy of your work. Excuses are not accepted in the case of lost or misplaced work.

ACCESSABILITY: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodation, please feel free to approach me and/or the *AccessAbility* Services Office as soon as possible. I will work with you and *AccessAbility* Services to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The UTSC *AccessAbility* Services staff (located in S302) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca.

Students are encouraged to review the Calendar for information regarding all services available on campus.