



**University of Manitoba
Clayton Riddell Faculty
Department of Environment and Geography**

**Environmental Responsibilities and the Law
Course Syllabus
ENVR 3160
Fall 2018**

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COURSE DETAILS

Course Title & Number: Environmental Responsibilities and the Law (ENVR 3160)

Number of Credit Hours: 3 Credit Hours

Class Times & Days of Week: Wed, 5:30-8:15 pm, from Sept 7 – Dec 7, 2018

Location for classes/labs/tutorials: 221 Wallace Building

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor(s) Name: Dr. Erin McCance

Preferred Form of Address: Dr. McCance

Office Location: 309 Sinnott Building

Office Hours or Availability: Tuesday/Thursday 12:00-1:00pm (By appointment only)

Office Phone No. (204) 232-2941

Email: E-mail: erin.mccance@cc.umanitoba.ca
Communication with students is only conducted only through @myumanitoba.ca email accounts
All email communication will be responded to within 48 hours

Contact: Students should contact me by email

Course Description

The issue of environmental responsibility has been growing in importance and complexity over the past decade. This course explores the ideas of environmental responsibility and liability at a conceptual level and how these concepts are being applied in Canadian society as well as internationally.

General Course Information

This course investigates the concept of environmental responsibility, the sources of that responsibility within Canadian society, and the tools available to manage it. It is intended to provide students with an understanding of environmental responsibilities within a 21st century context. Responsibilities derived from the Canadian legal system and key pieces of legislation are explored. The concepts of environmental liability and due diligence are reviewed in relation to the responsibilities of organizations (government/non-government), corporations, and individuals. The topic is investigated through lectures, case studies, assignments, and class discussion.

Course Goals

Environmental Responsibilities and the Law considers several key questions:

- What is environmental responsibility?
- What does environmental responsibility mean to society as a whole and how is it being interpreted by government, corporations, non-government organizations, environmental practitioners and others?
- What are the sources of environmental responsibility?
- What forces are influencing environmental responsibility and what is the nature of those forces?
- What tools are available to manage responsibility, how are they being applied, and what are the benefits and limitations of each?

In the process of exploring the concept of environmental responsibility, the course provides basic awareness of environmental issues, legislation, policies and guidelines, liabilities, due diligence, enforcement, and environmental management. Sources of environmental responsibility and liability are discussed through examples drawn from legislation, standards and guidelines, codes of conduct, and policy. Other sources of responsibility such as professional ethics are considered. Strategies and mechanisms to manage environmental liabilities such as risk assessment, environmental impact assessment, audits, site assessment, management systems, and triple bottom line reporting are reviewed. Case studies are reviewed to show the implications of non-compliance and other risks, how environmental issues are managed, and the benefits of environmental management strategies.

Using Copyrighted Material

Please respect copyright. We will use copyrighted content in this course. I have ensured that the content I use is appropriately acknowledged and is copied in accordance with copyright laws and University guidelines. Copyrighted works, including those created by me, are made available for private study and research and must not be distributed in any format without permission. Do not upload copyrighted works to a learning management system (such as UM Learn), or any website, unless an exception to the *Copyright Act* applies or written permission has been confirmed. For more information, see the University's Copyright Office website at <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/> or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca.

Recording Class Lectures

Dr. McCance and the University of Manitoba hold copyright over the course materials, presentations and lectures which form part of this course. No audio or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission of Dr. Erin McCance. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research.

Textbook, Readings, Materials

Required Text Book:

Meinhard Doelle and Chris Tollefson. *Environmental Law: Cases and Materials*. 2nd Edition. Toronto, Ontario: Carswell, 2013.

Optional Text Books:

Bram F. Noble. *Introduction to Environmental Assessment*. 3rd Edition. Toronto, Ontario: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Jamie Benidickson. *Environmental Law: Essentials of Canadian Law*. 4th Edition. Ontario, Canada: Irwin Law, 2015

Various references materials and handouts will be provided from time to time. Students are expected to use libraries, the media, the Internet and other sources to obtain materials for use during the course.

Course Technology

It is the general University of Manitoba policy that all technology resources are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Student may use all technology in classroom setting only for educational purposes as approved by instructor and/or the University of Manitoba Disability Services. Students should not participate in personal direct electronic messaging / posting activities (e-mail, texting, video or voice chat, wikis, blogs, social networking (e.g.

Facebook) online and offline “gaming” during scheduled class time. If student is on call (emergency) the student should switch his/her cell phone on vibrate mode and leave the classroom before using it.

Class Communication

The University requires all students to activate an official University email account. For full details of the Electronic Communication with Students please visit: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Electronic_Communication_with_Students_Policy_-_2014_06_05.pdf

Please note that all communication between myself and you as a student must comply with the electronic communication with student policy (http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html). You are required to obtain and use your U of M email account for all communication between yourself and the university.

Expectations: I Expect You To

The lecture material covered in each class is provided on UM Learn. Since the notes are made available to you, I expect each student to be actively involved in class discussions. You are required to attend every class. I expect you to come to class each week having read the outlined chapter in the text book and be prepared to discuss the topics outlined. You may use your computer to take notes during class. I will treat you with respect and would appreciate the same courtesy in return. See [Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy](#).

Academic Integrity:

In addition to the general information about academic integrity and student discipline that you provide (Schedule “A” Policies and Resources), references to specific course requirements for individual work and group work, such as:

- (i) Group projects are subject to the rules of academic dishonesty;
- (ii) Group members must ensure that a group project adheres to the principles of academic integrity.
- (iii) Students should also be made aware of any specific instructions concerning study groups and individual assignments;
- (iv) The limits of collaboration on assignments should be defined as explicitly as possible; and
- (v) All work is to be completed independently unless otherwise specified.

Students Accessibility Services

Student Accessibility Services (SAS)

If you are a student with a disability, please contact SAS for academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness,

learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services <http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/>

520 University Centre

204 474 7423 Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Expectations: You Can Expect Me To

I will be in class for 10 minutes prior to and after the class time. I will ensure that course grade requirements are clearly articulated and repeated several times throughout the course. I will be very responsive to student emails and phone calls and will return those messages within 48 hours. Should the student wish to discuss course materials in more detail, I will arrange a time with the student to meet. I will be consistent with all of my marking and constructive feedback and I ask that in return, students meet the deadlines that are clearly defined within this syllabus. I will treat each of you with respect and ask that you do the same toward me in return.

Class Schedule

Sept. 5	<p>Introduction Biological production and environmental considerations Landscape management, concepts of scale Environmental Ethics, Cognitive Hierarchy Sustainable Development, Precautionary Principle, Adaptive Management Environmental Responsibilities - Core Concepts: Responsibility, Liability, Due Diligence</p>
Sept. 12	<p>Federal and Provincial Legislation Chapter 2 & 3 (Doelle & Tollefson) Environmental Laws in Canada - Federal Indigenous Engagement Guest Speaker: Brenda Gunn, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, U of M</p>
Sept. 19	<p>Federal and Provincial Legislation Chapter 4 & 5 (Doelle & Tollefson) Environmental Laws in Manitoba Compliance and Enforcement Guest Speaker: Bruce Webb, P. Eng. Water Development & Control Assessment</p>
Sept. 26	<p>Tools for Environmental Management Chapter 7 & 9 (Doelle & Tollefson) Environmental Impact Assessment Tools supporting EIAs Baseline Assessments, Managing Project Impacts, Significance of Impacts Monitoring</p>

Oct. 3	Further Environmental Legislation Animal Liberation and Legislation Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Invasive Species Legislation Life Production, Cloning, Synthetic Biology	
Oct. 10	In-Class Test #1 Film: “Worst Case Scenario” Documentary	
Oct. 17	Concepts of “False News” Parks and Protected Areas Liability and Due Diligence	Chapter 8 (Doelle & Tollefson)
Oct. 24	Social Corporate Responsibility Corporate Sustainability Reporting Guest Speaker: Leanne Shewchuk, Director, Office of Sustainability, University of Manitoba	
Oct. 31	Public Participation/Stakeholder Engagement (Reading Materials on UMLearn) Keys to Engagement Types of Engagement Considerations to effective Engagement Professional Ethics Professional Certifications and Responsibilities	
Nov. 7	In-Class Test #2 International Law Harmonization	Chapter 1 (Doelle & Tollefson)
Nov. 14	U of M Fall Break – No Classes	
Nov. 19	Voluntary Withdrawal Date	
Nov. 21	Green Buildings, LEED, the Evolution of Cities Guest Speaker: Alyssa Schwann, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Architecture	
Nov. 28	Municipal Environmental Legislation Case Study: Parker Wetland Redevelopment Project Film: “Directly Affected, Pipelines Under Pressure”	
Dec. 5	Wrap up & Review	
Dec. 10-21	Exam (date to be determined)	

Course Evaluation Methods

A variety of methods are used to evaluate students within the course. In doing so, there is an opportunity given to all types of learners to excel. Student evaluation in this course is based on a combination of in-class testing, in-class and field assignments, essay/plan writing, and oral presentation skills.

In-Class Test #1	30%
In-Class Test #2	30%
Final Test	40%
TOTAL	100%

Grading

The grading scale used by the Department of Environment and Geography is:

Letter Grade	Percentage out of 100	Grade Point Range	Final Grade Point
A+	90-100	4.25-4.5	4.5
A	80-89	3.75-4.24	4.0
B+	75-79	3.25-3.74	3.5
B	70-74	2.75-3.24	3.0
C+	65-69	2.25-2.74	2.5
C	60-64	2.0-2.24	2.0
D	50-59	Less than 2.0	1.0
F	Less than 50		0

In-Class Tests/Exam

Should student not attend the in-class tests or the final exam, they will receive a zero. In accordance with the University of Manitoba Policy for Assignments, Reports, Tests, and Presentations: Without permission of the instructor and supporting documentation (e.g. medical certificate) or reasons provided, acquired **PRIOR TO THE TEST DATE**, will result in a grade of "F". Students will not be permitted to miss tests or exams, except for documented medical or compassionate reasons.

Academic Supports: The University of Manitoba provides many services and supports to encourage good scholarship and overall health and wellness including: instruction to improve writing skills, best use practices for copyrighted materials, and supports for studying for examinations etc., personal health (both mental and physical) including: student advocacy, student counseling and health services, etc. and supports for assaults (both verbal and physical). These are designed to make each student's experience positive, safe and assist in successful completion of courses and programs of study. The University provides and encourages all members and students to maintain a respectful work and learning environment. Policies have been developed regarding

threatening behavior, or assaults whether verbal or physical to support victims and discipline offenders. For more information on these see Schedule “A” found at the end of the course syllabus.

Schedule “A”

Section (a) Academic Supports

Writing and Learning Support: The Academic Learning Centre (ALC) offers services that may be helpful to you throughout your academic program. Through the ALC, you can meet with a learning specialist to discuss concerns such as time management, learning strategies, and test-taking strategies. The ALC also offers peer supported study groups called Supplemental Instruction (SI) for certain courses that students have typically found difficult. In these study groups, students have opportunities to ask questions, compare notes, discuss content, solve practice problems, and develop new study strategies in a group-learning format.

You can also meet one-to-one with a writing tutor who can give you feedback at any stage of the writing process, whether you are just beginning to work on a written assignment or already have a draft. If you are interested in meeting with a writing tutor, reserve your appointment two to three days in advance of the time you would like to meet. Also, plan to meet with a writing tutor a few days before your paper is due so that you have time to work with the tutor’s feedback.

These Academic Learning Centre services are free for U of M students. For more information, please visit the Academic Learning Centre website at: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>

You can also contact the Academic Learning Centre by calling 204-480-1481 or by visiting 201 Tier Building.

University of Manitoba Libraries (UML): As the primary contact for all research needs, your liaison librarian (if they weren’t recently fired by Central Administration) can play a vital role when completing academic papers and assignments. Liaisons can answer questions about managing citations, or locating appropriate resources, and will address any other concerns you may have, regarding the research process. Liaisons can be contacted by email or phone, and are also available to meet with you in-person. A complete list of liaison librarians can be found by subject: <http://bit.ly/WcEbA1> or name: <http://bit.ly/1tJ0bB4>

In addition, general library assistance is provided in person at 19 University Libraries, located on both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses, as well as in many Winnipeg hospitals. For a listing of all libraries, please consult the following: <http://bit.ly/1sXe6RA>. When working remotely, students can also receive help online, via the Ask-a-Librarian chat found on the Libraries’ homepage: www.umanitoba.ca/libraries

Section (b) Mental Health

For 24/7 mental health support, contact the Mobile Crisis Service at 204-940-1781.

Student Counselling Centre: Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns.

SCC offers crisis services as well as individual, couple, and group counselling. Student Counselling Centre: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/> 474 University Centre S207 Medical Services (204) 474-8592

Student Support Case Management: Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. Student Support Intake Assistant <http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html> 520 University Centre (204) 474-7423

University Health Service: Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. University Health Service <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/> 104 University Centre, Fort Garry Campus (204) 474-8411 (Business hours or after hours/urgent calls)

Health and Wellness: Contact our Health and Wellness Educator if you are interested in information on a broad range of health topics, including physical and mental health concerns, alcohol and substance use harms, and sexual assault. Health and Wellness Educator <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health-wellness/welcome.html> Katie.Kutryk@umanitoba.ca 469 University Centre (204) 295-9032

Live Well @ UofM: For comprehensive information about the full range of health and wellness resources available on campus, visit the Live Well @ UofM site: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/livewell/index.html>