

**Department of Environment and Geography, University of Manitoba**  
**Environmental Field Investigations**  
**ENVR 4020 (3 ch)**  
**Winter 2020**

Instructor: Rick Baydack ([Rick.Baydack@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Rick.Baydack@umanitoba.ca)) 255 Wallace 474-6776  
Classes: Workshops generally off-campus on dates/times listed in schedule

### **A. Goals:**

Environmental Field Investigations is a 3 credit hour field course in the Department of Environment and Geography that will be offered over the Winter 2020 term. The intent is to provide students with an understanding of, observational experience with, and adaptive management opportunities for, a wide range of field-oriented topics related to the environment and its management. The course will draw upon the expertise of various environmental specialists from government agencies, the private sector, and non-government organizations.

### **B. Objectives:**

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

1. Understand and participate in the design and delivery of field investigations for various environmental issues.
2. Assess and summarize perspectives about various environmental field investigations using an adaptive management approach.
3. Present a detailed oral description and adaptive strategies for an environmental field investigation of particular interest to you.

### **C. Course Content:**

The course will consist of visits to a number of optional ‘field’ activities in which students will take an active role in observing, examining, and assessing various approaches and strategies being used to investigate environmental parameters and issues. The schedule for these field activities will be dependent upon the availability of personnel from cooperating agencies and interest from students, and additional details or cancellations of activities will be updated throughout the term. Students should therefore become familiar with the UM Learn website (<https://universityofmanitoba.desire2learn.com>) in order to determine the most up-to-date information on activities. **Sign-up for each activity is to be provided by email to the Instructor, with a minimum of 3 days advance notice of attendance.** In addition, note that each activity in the course outline has a website to which students are directed for additional information and in some cases, for personal registration, especially if the activity is organized by a non-University agency. Students are encouraged to try to attend as many activities as possible that do not conflict with their other academic and personal commitments (note that attendance at any activity is optional, but that students must submit reports on at least 6 activities). In addition, students are encouraged to locate and/or plan and attend other field-related environmental activities, and email the Instructor with details. Students should provide notice of their transportation requirements and/or details of their personal vehicle availability to/from various activities outside of the City of Winnipeg. For any on-campus or public events off campus (e.g. Fort Whyte, Nature Manitoba, Oak Hammock, etc.), students are able to register, and then simply attend and participate in the activity. You will not receive confirmation of your registration in such a case. However, for field-related events where there are

logistical considerations (e.g., transportation, meals, accommodations), students who have registered will receive details roughly 3 days prior to the event. Therefore, do not be alarmed if you have registered for an event, and have not received any feedback. You will receive information in due course. Note that some events may require a registration fee that students are responsible for paying.

The course will emphasize observational experience with various environmental field investigations generally in a field workshop format, although some activities will be seminar or conference-based. Students will learn how to consider possible alternative management approaches by using an ‘adaptive assessment process.’ Discussion on the adaptive assessment process will take place in the first class, and also will be available on videos listed on the UM Learn website. In particular, students are required to determine if (more effective) alternative strategies might be applied to the various field situations under study, and also to explain why the current approach is likely used. Students are expected to locate (peer-reviewed) background literature and/or web-based sources of information for each field investigation that will be summarized in their reports. Students will be evaluated through participation, reports, and an oral presentation. Electronic submission of all reports and Powerpoints for the oral presentation should be done using the UM Learn site, and all reports are due by April 8, 2020.

Note that the University of Manitoba Animal Care Committee requires that for any activity involving live animals, students are only to observe the activity and not participate in the handling, capture, killing, or pursuit of live animals in any way.

The organizational meeting of the class will be held on Monday January 6 at 400 pm in 217 Wallace. If students are unable to attend, the Instructor should be contacted.

## **D. Evaluation**

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| • Participation   | 10% |
| • Summary and adaptive assessment of activities (1 ‘free’ Mar 17/Apr 8) | 60% |
| • Oral Presentation on 1 activity (Apr 7 or 8)                          | 30% |

Evaluative feedback will be provided upon request of the individual student before the voluntary withdrawal deadline date of March 17.

## **E. Academic Regulations and Expectations (additional information in Schedule A)**

- **Recording Class Seminars:** Dr. Rick Baydack of the University of Manitoba holds copyright over the course materials and lectures that form the components of this course. No audio or video recording of lectures is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission of the Instructor. Course materials are for the participant’s private study and research.
- **Academic Dishonesty:** Plagiarism, cheating or impersonation in the completion of assignments are very serious offences. Students caught doing so may be debarred from class with further risk of academic penalty and possible expulsion. All graded work must be independent.

- **Academic Supports:** The University of Manitoba provides many services and supports to encourage good scholarship and encourage 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 attached and available on the UM Learn site.
- **Department Policies** <http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/environment/departments/geography/index.html>
- **Student Advocacy** - <http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy/>; 520 University Centre; 204 474 7423; [student\\_advocacy@umanitoba.ca](mailto:student_advocacy@umanitoba.ca)
- **Communication with Students** - The University of Manitoba has a policy on electronic contact with students that requires **all email contact on university business to use students' official University email addresses**. The policy is at: [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing\\_documents/community/electronic\\_communication\\_with\\_students\\_policy.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html)

## F. Grading Scale

The grading scale to be used in this course is:

<b>A+</b>	<b>90-100</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>65-69</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>80-89</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>60-64</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>75-79</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>50-59</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>70-74</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>0-49</b>

## **G. Winter 2019 Field Activities Schedule:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Agency Rep</u>	<u>UM Rep</u>
Jan. 6 (4-530pm)	Course Introduction	217 Wallace		Baydack

NOTE: The schedule for additional field activities will be available at the first class meeting.

## SCHEDULE 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](http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries)

### Mental Health

- **For 24/7 mental health support, contact the Mobile Crisis Service at 204-940-1781.**
- **Student Counseling 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. <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. <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. <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. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health-wellness/welcome.html>; 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>

**Copyright Information** - All students are required to respect copyright as per Canada's *Copyright Act*. Staff and students play a key role in the University's copyright compliance as we balance user rights for educational purposes with the rights of content creators from around the world. The Copyright Office provides copyright resources and support for all members of the University of Manitoba community. For more information: <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright>

### Rights and Responsibilities

- **Your rights and responsibilities:** As a student of the University of Manitoba you have rights and responsibilities. It is important for you to know what you can expect from the University as a student and to understand what the University expects from you. Become familiar with the policies and procedures of the University and the regulations that are specific to your faculty, college or school.
- The [Academic Calendar](http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/academiccalendar.html) <http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/academiccalendar.html> is one important source of information. View the sections *University Policies and Procedures* and *General Academic Regulations*.
- While all of the information contained in these two sections is important, the following information is highlighted.
- If you have questions about your grades, talk to your instructor. There is a process for term work and final **grade appeals**. Note that you have the right to access your final examination scripts. See the Registrar's Office website for more information including appeal deadline dates and the appeal form: <http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/>

- You are expected to view the General Academic Regulation section within the Academic Calendar and specifically read the **Academic Integrity** regulation. Consult the course syllabus or ask your instructor for additional information about demonstrating academic integrity in your academic work. Visit the Academic Integrity Site for tools and support <http://umanitoba.ca/academicintegrity/> View the **Student Academic Misconduct** procedure for more information.
- The University is committed to a respectful work and learning environment. You have the right to be treated with respect and you are expected to conduct yourself in an appropriate respectful manner. Policies governing behavior are included in the next section.

**Policies and Services Information**

- **Respectful Work and Learning Environment:** [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing\\_documents/community/230.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/230.html)
- **Student Discipline** [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing\\_documents/students/student\\_discipline.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/student_discipline.html) and,
- **Violent or Threatening Behaviour** [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing\\_documents/community/669.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/669.html)
  - If you experience **Sexual Assault** or know a member of the University community who has, it is important to know there is a policy that provides information about the supports available to those who disclose and outlines a process for reporting. The **Sexual Assault** policy may be found at: [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing\\_documents/community/230.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/230.html) More information and resources can be found by reviewing the Sexual Assault site <http://umanitoba.ca/student/sexual-assault/>

**Intellectual Property** - For information about rights and responsibilities regarding **Intellectual Property** view the policy: [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Intellectual\\_Property\\_Policy\\_-\\_2013\\_10\\_01.pdf](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Intellectual_Property_Policy_-_2013_10_01.pdf)