School of Science

RRMT 241
Introduction to Land Management

Fall 2026

3 credits

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR: Melanie Harding
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OFFICE LOCATION: N/A **OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment
CLASSROOM: A2202
DATES: Tuesdays 6:00 – 8:50 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will explore many of the aspects of land and water management in Yukon including historic factors that have influenced how land management has developed. A large component of the course will deal with existing laws and policies that deal with land management and planning including relevant chapters of the Yukon Umbrella Final Agreement and individual land claim agreements with Yukon First Nations. Understanding these agreements is necessary to understand and appreciate the management of natural resources in Yukon.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Admission to second-year of the Renewable Resource Management Program (or permission from the instructor).

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Receiving institutions determine course transferability. Find further information at:
https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. explain what land management is and list its main components. Specific focus will be on how land is categorized and managed in the Yukon, and
2. list the main historic factors and events that have affected land management in the Yukon and explain how these have influenced the current land management regime,
3. identify the different categories of land in the Yukon and know the steps involved in determining who has jurisdiction for:
    a. categories of private land (e.g. fee simple, settlement lands); and,
    b. categories of public lands,

4. explain how different lands are managed in the Yukon. Students will work with different case studies to learn about the role of policy, planning, regulation and legislation in land management and the specific regulatory framework that is in place to deal with different types of activities on Yukon lands and
5. describe the process established by the land claim agreements to manage land and how these processes fit together

COURSE FORMAT

Weekly breakdown of instructional hours

The course will include 3 hours of lecture per week, with assigned readings, lectures, discussions, examinations, and written assignments. There will also be guest speakers that may be scheduled outside of class time (if needed). Students should expect to spend about 4 hours outside of class time on assignments, studying, or listening to guest speakers.

Delivery format

Lectures will be present in a face-to-face format, however, they may also be attended remotely upon request.

EVALUATION

Participation (based on participation in class, including attendance and questions to invited speakers)	15%
Assignments	45%
Assignment #1 (5%)	
Assignment #2 (10%)	
Assignment #3 (20%)	
Exams	40%
Mid-term (10%)	
Final exam (30%)	
TOTAL	**100%**

Opportunities to make-up work or testing events that have been missed as a result of excused absences will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Missed work that results from unexcused absences cannot be made up.

Participation

Students are expected to participate in the in-class and online discussions in order to receive full-value from the information provided in the readings and lecture.

Assignments

There will be three assignments based on the lectures, class readings and case studies. The assignments will make up 45% of the final mark.

Projects

One semester-long independent project (Assignment #3) will be assigned at the beginning of the semester with completion at the end of the semester and include an oral presentation.

Examinations

There will be a mid-term exam (10% of the final mark) and a final exam (30% of the final mark).

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates.

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

There are no textbooks required for this course. Course material including required readings and case study materials will be provided during the course and be made available on Moodle.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

This course is designed to develop your critical thinking and writing skills to help ensure your success in the future. The use of generative AI such as ChatGPT, Gemini, Lumo, etc. for your assignments is not allowed. While students may use generative AI to brainstorm or explore the course topics and themes, assignments should only reflect the student's own original understandings and insights. I encourage you to think critically about the use of AI and its impact on the land and waters, as we consider other uses of land and water in this course.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Yukon University is committed to providing a positive, supportive, and barrier-free academic environment for all its students. Students experiencing barriers to full participation due to a visible or hidden disability (including hearing, vision, mobility, learning disability, mental health, chronic or temporary medical condition), should contact Accessibility Services for resources or to arrange academic accommodations: access@yukonu.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE and Important Dates

Date	Topic or event
Sept 1	First day of class - Introduction and Opening Circle What is Land? What is Management? What is Land Management? What is a relationship to land?

	Yukon's History and Devolution – Understanding our colonial history
	Devolution and Ecological Principles of Land Management
	The Umbrella Final Agreement
	Together Today for our Children Tomorrow (CH. 4, 5, and 10)
Oct 5	Assignment #1 DUE 11:59pm (Take home midterm exam assigned)
	Land Relationship Planning
	Regional Land Use Planning
	Yukon Parks and Park Strategies
Oct 12	*Reading Week – no classes*
Oct 20	Mid-Term Exam due Global Pressures and Climate Change
	Municipal Lands and Development Assessment
Nov 2	Assignment #2 DUE 11:59pm
	Water and Fisheries; water management
	Two-Eyed Seeing, Braiding Knowledge, Land Back
	Tourism, Ecotourism, Mining and Forestry - Ethical considerations
Nov 23	Assignment #3 DUE 11:59pm + In Class Presentations
Dec. 1	Last day of class
Final Exam	*December 15 2026, 6:00 – 9:00 pm*