



COURSE OUTLINE

RRMT 200

FIELD METHODS

45 HOURS

3 CREDITS

PREPARED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Gilbert, Instructor

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Dumke, Dean

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: (date)

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: (date)



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APPLIED SCIENCE & MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
Field Methods  
3 Credits  
Spring/Summer, 2016

## FIELD METHODS

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|  |   |
|--|---|
| INSTRUCTOR: Scott Gilbert, B.Sc., Ph. D.   | OFFICE HOURS: By appointment  |
| OFFICE LOCATION: A2515   | CLASSROOM: A2402 - (Aug 22 9:00 AM)   |
| E-MAIL: <a href="mailto:sgilbert@yukoncollege.yk.ca">sgilbert@yukoncollege.yk.ca</a> | TIME: all day   |
| TELEPHONE: (867) 668-8776  | DATES: August 22, 9am-5pm, Rm A2402<br>Aug 23-27 - Field work in Kluane area<br>Aug 29- Sept 2 - Field work in the<br>Carmacks- Mayo area |

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will visit actual or proposed sites of natural resource use and will practice field skills relevant to the management of renewable resources. Techniques practiced will vary according to sites visited but will encompass a wide range of inventory and assessment tasks related to the management of fish, wildlife, water, forest and land resources and may include the analysis of past and current management practices and problem solving exercises.

## PREREQUISITES

Registered in the second year of the Renewable Resources Management Program or have permission of an instructor.

## RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A list of personal gear and camping equipment required or suggested for the field course is attached. In addition to the tuition fee there will be an activity fee of \$200 which will be used to help defray vehicle rental and fuel costs. Students will be responsible for bringing and preparing their own food during the trip. On most nights we will be staying in government campgrounds. Students may wish to bring some pocket money to buy the occasional meal from a restaurant if our journey takes us

through a community at supper time.

### **EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY**

TRU-OL ENVS 2XX1 (3)

UNBC NREM 333 (3)

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

On successful completion of this course students will:

- gain knowledge of how natural resources are used, harvested or extracted and of the resultant environmental impacts;
- be able to carry out basic ecosystem inventory, analysis and assessment tasks;
- develop an attitude that recognizes the importance of conservation and sustainable development of natural resources while respecting community needs and aspirations.

### **DELIVERY METHODS/FORMAT:**

This course will pursue an experiential approach to learning by taking students to visit areas where different resources are used or managed. These sites will include visits to locations where resources are extracted (e.g. a hard rock mine, placer mine, logging operations), managed (e.g. a salmon enumeration, protected areas, landfills, soil remediation facility) or used for commercial purposes (e.g. agricultural operation, hydro dam, various types of right of ways for utilities). Students will prepare a final report that summarizes the types of activities they have observed, the potential impacts of those activities as well as best management practices that could foster sustainability.

After some visits students will be given short assignments to help focus their observations. At most sites local experts or resource people will share their knowledge and experience.

Although the course is scheduled to run from 0900 to 1700 hours daily there may be times when the class is on site, attending a presentation or traveling outside of these times. Evenings will typically be taken up with completing assignments. The course will be flexible to accommodate weather and the schedules of local resource people we will be meeting.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### ASSESSMENTS

#### Attendance

Attendance and participation is mandatory given the experiential focus of the course.

### ASSIGNMENTS & TESTS

|                     | <u>Marks</u> |   |
|---------------------|--------------|---|
| Participation       | 20%          |   |
| Journal             | 15%          |   |
| Quizzes on readings | 5%           |   |
| Assignments         | 35%          |   |
| Final report        | 25%          | Due Sept 9, one week after the field trip ends. |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>100 %</b> |   |

Marks for participation may include demonstrating competence in practical techniques. Participation marks may be deducted for serious errors in data collecting (e.g. missing data sets, illegible field notes, and unlabelled samples).

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS

There is no required text for this course although students will need a 3-ring binder to hold the set of background readings and handouts. Please bring a field guide for birds and for plants (e.g. *Plants of the Western Boreal Forest and Aspen Parkland*. 1995. Derek Johnson, Linda Kershaw, Andy MacKinnon and Jim Pojar Lone Pine Press).

### ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

In this field course no consumption of alcohol or non-prescription drugs will be permitted. College regulations restrict smoking and it is important to note that smoking while a guest resource person is giving a presentation is not allowed. Smoking will be restricted to non-instructional situations, downwind from food preparation and eating areas and where it is safe to do so.

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper 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.

## **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](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr).

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

This course involves experiential learning and students should be capable of hiking 5 km on rough trails carrying their personal daypack, using chest waders to work in waterways collecting samples, using a compass and binoculars to carry out bird transects and helping with camp chores such as hauling firewood and water during a 10 day wilderness camping trip.

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, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or [lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

## TOPIC OUTLINE/SYLLABUS

A detailed syllabus and schedule will be provided at the start of the course.

## RRMT 200 - Suggested Gear and Personal Equipment

Anything can happen with weather in late August and it is essential you have clothing that will keep you warm and dry in any conditions. Clothing in layers is more adaptable than heavy outer garments and it is advisable to have some clothes which provide insulation when wet; such as polypropylene, fleece or wool.

Minimum requirements are:

- PPE - you must have a *pair of safety boots* (buy or borrow) that you can wear when we visit mine sites; please bring safety vest, hard hat and protective lenses if you have them.
- 2 prs. sturdy pants & shirts
- 3 prs. wool socks and 3 lighter pairs
- pile or fleece jacket, or a thick wool sweater
- windproof jacket or shell
- hat or toque
- work gloves
- Underwear and sleepwear. Jogging pants and sweat shirts are good for sleeping in, for wear around camp and can be used for layering if the weather turns cold.
- chest waders, if possible, the best quality you can afford (or borrow)
- hiking boots, rubber boots (a must!!) and running shoes
- rain gear: good quality with pants and a hood - absolute requirement!!
- personal toiletry kit, towel
- personal whistle and first aid kit for minor cuts and blisters, insect repellent
- headlamp and spare batteries - it gets dark by 10 PM

### CAMPING GEAR

- tent (can be borrowed from the College with advanced notice)
- sleeping bag (a liner is recommended)
- sleeping pad (ensolite or Thermarest type )
- backpack for day hikes with 1 litre water bottle, emergency firestarter, snacks
- plastic bags for storage, keeping stuff dry
- cooking pot, eating utensils, food for several days - grocery resupply uncertain

### REFERENCE AND STUDY MATERIAL

- waterproof pocket notebook and pencil
- digital camera with backup power (required for *Final Report Assignment!*)
- separate notebook suitable for use as a journal

- 3-ringed binder to hold handouts with loose-leaf paper you can use for assignments

#### OPTIONAL

- shorts and /or bathing suit
- GPS, compass, bear spray,
- binoculars - highly recommended - try and borrow a pair if you can
- sunglasses and sun block (depending on your susceptibility)
- relaxing reading, art supplies, personal music source