



## ENCS 307/RRMT 238

### ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRINCIPLES AND

### METHODS/ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

In Winter 2013, RRMT 238, *Environmental Protection and Impact Assessment*, is being offered at Yukon College concurrent with the University of Alberta's ENCS 307, *Environmental Assessment Principles and Methods*, as part of the Northern Environmental and Conservation Sciences, B.Sc. Program. All students registered in RRMT 238 or ENCS 307 must adhere to requirements outlined in this course syllabus. University of Alberta students must also be aware of, and adhere to, the University's Code of Student Behaviour, referenced in the outline; Yukon College students must be aware of, and adhere to, Yukon College's Academic Regulations, also referenced in the outline.

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**INSTRUCTOR:** KEITH MAGUIRE

**OFFICE HOURS:** After class, 5:30-6:30 pm (as requested)

**OFFICE LOCATION:** TBA

**TELEPHONE/E-MAIL:** TBA

**FAX:** 668-8828

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**DAYS & TIMES:** Tuesdays/Thursdays, 4:00-5:30 pm (room A2603)

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Environmental and socio-economic effects assessment ensures that the effects of development activities are considered before they happen and that significant adverse effects will be mitigated.

In taking this course, students will gain an understanding of the following aspects associated with assessments:

- History and continuing evolution of assessment process.
- Reasons for conducting assessments
- Assessment timelines and process.

- Creating an opportunity for public participation and engaging interested persons in the process.
- Understanding what information is required, determining the relevance and validity of information and incorporating information into assessments.
- Creating a recommendation with written reasons.
- Professional ethics, due diligence and other aspects of professionalism associated with assessment.

**DELIVERY METHODS/FORMAT:**

The course consists of two 1.5-hour lectures per week.

**PREREQUISITES:**

*For students taking the course as RRMT 238:* Admission to the second year of the Yukon College Renewable Resources Management Program.

*For students taking the course as ENCS 307:* Registration in Yukon College/University of Alberta B.Sc. in Environmental and Conservation Sciences degree program.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS:**

None.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION:**

**Attendance and Participation**

Attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absences from more than 10% of activities may result in a failing grade.

**Assignments**

Material will be presented in lectures, readings, discussions, case studies and assignments. Emphasis of assignments will be the development of a familiarity with information sources and practical methodologies used to carry out initial development assessments. Assignments will involve review and critique of assessments of typical proposed development projects. Results will be reported in writing and by presentation to the class.

**Exams**

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam. The midterm will be scheduled during class time on Feb 26. The final examination will be held at the end of term, during the scheduled

College exam period.

## Evaluation

The course grade will be determined as follows:

Assignment	Percent
Assignments (2)	20%
Report	20%
Midterm exam (in class Feb 26)	20%
Final exam (during exam period)	25%
Participation	15%

### Assignment of grades

*Grades will NOT be adjusted to fit a predetermined distribution.* The total numerical score will be converted to a grade on the University of Alberta's letter grading system (for students enrolled in ENCS 307) or on Yukon College's letter grading system (for students enrolled in RRMT 238).

## UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

Key components of the code include the following statements regarding Inappropriate Academic Behaviour:

### 30.3.2 Inappropriate Academic Behaviour

#### 30.3.2(1) Plagiarism

No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student's own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

#### 30.3.2(2) Cheating

**30.3.2(2) a** No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt

to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

**30.3.2(2) b** No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6 (4).

**30.3.2(2) c** No student shall represent another's substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student's own work.

**30.3.2(2) d** No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

**30.3.2(2) e** No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known by the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

### **30.3.2(3) Misuse of Confidential Materials**

No Student shall procure, distribute, or receive any confidential academic material such as pending examinations, laboratory results or the contents thereof from any source without prior and express consent of the Instructor.

## **YUKON COLLEGE ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS**

Yukon College students are expected to be familiar with academic standards and regulations as outlined in Yukon College's Academic Regulations, at [http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/downloads/Academic\\_Regulations\\_2004.pdf](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/downloads/Academic_Regulations_2004.pdf).

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism involves representing the words of someone else as your own, without citing the source from which the material is taken. If the words of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to standard procedures. The resubmission of a paper for which you have previously received credit is considered a form of plagiarism. Plagiarism is academic dishonesty, a serious academic offence, and will result in you receiving a mark of zero (F) on the assignment or the course. In certain cases, it can also result in dismissal from the College. Do not underestimate the impact such a situation will have on your reputation.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR CHRONIC CONDITIONS:**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability or chronic condition. It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student has a disability or chronic condition and may need accommodation to fully participate in this class, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or [lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

**EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY:**

RRMT 238 transfers as:

UNBC ENPL 305 (3)

For current information on course transferability see <http://www.bctransferguide.ca>

**LECTURE TOPICS:**

This course is comprised of the following assessment topics:

Module 1: History and overview of YESAA

Module 2: Assessing Valued Environmental and Socio-economic Components

Module 3: YESAA Process and Procedures for Conducting Assessments

Module 4: Scope of Project and Scope of Assessment

Module 5: Effects Characterization and Significance Determination

Module 6: Public Participation in Assessments

Module 7: Mitigations and Follow-up

Module 8: Cumulative Effects

Module 9: Socio-economic Effects

Module 10: Case Studies Focusing on Specific Valued Components

This course will introduce and discuss approaches for the consideration of the following Valued Components:

- Water Resources
- Aquatic Resources
- Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
- Air Quality
- Soils and Vegetation
- Heritage Resources and Traditional Land Use