

University of Toronto Scarborough
Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences
EESA05H3 F - Environmental Hazards
2013 Outline

Professor: Mandy Meriano
Office: SW627C Telephone: 416-208-2775
Office hours: Thursday 1pm to 3pm
Email: mmeriano@utsc.utoronto.ca

Lecture time: Tuesday 7 pm to 10 pm

Assignments
General Information about the Assignments
Student Services

Required textbook: Abbott, P.L. and Samson, C. 2012. Natural Disasters, 2nd Canadian Edition. McGraw-

The course textbook is available from the UTSC Bookstore.

Description: This course is an investigation of the geological background and possible solutions to major hazards in the environment. Environmental hazards

The midterm is based on material covered in lectures and readings up to and including the class before the midterm exam. The midterm will be multiple choice.

The final exam will be based on all term material (including readings and lectures). The final exam will be multiple choice.

Grade Distribution Summary (percentage of total)	
Assignments (4 @ 10% each)	40
Midterm Exam	25
Final Exam	35
Total Grade Possible	100

Tentative Course Schedule and Readings: Readings are from your course textbook: Abbott and Samson (2012).

Students should note that topics may span more than one lecture period.

Week 1: September 03

An overview of the course, expectations, and objectives
A quick look at the textbook

Assignment 1 posted on Blackboard
Due: Tuesday September 24 before 5pm

Introduction to Natural Disasters
Ch.1

Week 2: September 10

Plate Tectonics
Ch.s 2 and 3

Week 3: September 17

Earthquakes
Chs. 4 and 5

Week 4: September 24

Volcanoes and Tectonics
Chs.6, and 7

Assignment 2 posted on Blackboard
Due: Tuesday October 8th before 5pm

Week 5: October 01

Mass Wasting
Ch. 13

Week 6: October 08

Subsidence and soil expansion/contraction
Ch.13

Assignment 3 posted on Blackboard
Due: Tuesday November 5th before 5pm

October 15: Reading Week – No Class

Week 7: October 22

Midterm Test during class time

Week 8: October 29

Tsunamis
Ch.8

Week 9: November 05

Floods
Ch. 11

Assignment 4 posted on Blackboard
Due: Tuesday November 26 before 5pm

Week 10: November 12

Coastal erosion
Ch.s 8, 10, and 11

Group Presentations

Week 11: November 19

Climate change
Ch.9

Week 12: November 26

Asteroids and mass extinction
Ch.14

Assignments:

General Information about Assignments

Google Earth will be introduced and used as a tool in 3/4 of the assignments.
The first assignment will include an introduction to Google earth for those unfamiliar with it.

Grading: Evaluation of assignments takes into account correctness, organization and structure, as well as research and content. You will be graded on the quality of your work and your ability to meet the desired learning targets. Your work will be graded by teaching assistants (TA). If you have a question or problem with the grade you receive, consult the TA. Your grade may be revised up or down based on the review.

Your assignments must have the title of your assignment, your name, course number, the date, your student number, and the professor's name. Staple your assignment in the upper left corner; do not use folders, cover slips, or binders.

Due Dates: The assignments have specifically defined due dates as noted in the Course Schedule. It is your responsibility to consult the Lecture Schedule for all the Assignment and midterm due dates. The instructor will not assume the responsibility of reminding you that an assignment is due or that an exam will be given.

Grade Posting: All grades will be posted on Blackboard. *You have 7 days after a grade has been posted to dispute an entry.* After the 7-day period, the grade stands as entered. Do not wait until the end of the semester to check your grades.

Late assignments: The late penalty is as follows:
1 day 10%, 2 day 20%, 3 day 30%, 4 day 40%, 5 day 50%, 6 day and after 100%

Please make sure to submit your assignments before the due time to avoid late penalty.

Extensions: Requests for an extension on an assignment must be tendered in writing in advance of the due date. In instances of illness, a supporting medical certificate must be completed by a physician at the University Student Health Centre. Other notes are not acceptable. Extensions are granted at the discretion of the Professor (and the TAs), and may be granted for other significant emergencies.

Handing In Assignments: You are responsible for making sure that your TAs receive your work. Students who mail assignments in, place work on the floor outside an office, or slip assignments under a door, do so at their own risk.

Lost or misplaced assignments: It is your responsibility to keep a photocopy of your work, and to make more than one disk copy of your work. Excuses are not accepted in the case of lost or misplaced work.

Class Attendance and Participation: Students are encouraged to attend class. i>Clicker will be used during lectures to answer multiple choice questions.

i>clicker User Guides: <http://www.iclicker.com/support/userguides/>

Academic Misconduct and Academic Dishonesty

appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources (see <http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/>).

Please consult the University Calendar for information about grade distribution and academic conduct.

Help Along the Way: Many students enter this class with a bit of anxiety. Other students may have various disabilities, including test anxiety, which may make traditional classroom environments very difficult. Fear not, almost all such students before you have actually passed this course. Consideration with disabilities is not a barrier to success! The success of many of these students, though, was in part because they attended class regularly, took advantage of my office hours, or obtained help from the teaching assistants. If you are having difficulty understanding the course work, please contact me or the teaching assistant immediately. Also, the university has learning centre, accessibility resource centre, and counselling centre to address the various needs of students.

Accessibility: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodation, please feel free to approach me and/or the *AccessAbility*