

# Course Syllabus - EESD13H3 - Environmental Law and Ethics

University of Toronto at Scarborough - Physical and Environmental Sciences

**Environmental Law and Ethics: EESD13H3F**

Fall Term, 2017 (Thursday 7:00-9:00), Classroom IC 208

## **Instructor**

Graham Rempe, BSc, LLB, CS

## **Contact information**

UTSC email address = [graham.rempe@utoronto.ca](mailto:graham.rempe@utoronto.ca). My office is EV402 in the Environmental Science and Chemistry Building at 1065 Military Trail. I can be available for office hours ahead of class time if you make a prior appointment by email. My office phone number is (416) 287 7224

Your primary contact for assignment work should be the course TA (contact details will be announced)

## **Course description**

**Law, policy and ethics are key in understanding how we use and manage our environment. This course will introduce students to basic principles of environmental regulation. What is it? How did it evolve? Does it deal fairly with resource use and allocation? Can it deal with complex emerging problems such as accumulation of toxics, urban sprawl and climate change?**

**We will review the state of the law, with an emphasis on topical issues. Throughout the course, students will be asked to consider the ethical foundations for environmental law, and their capability of addressing today's challenges.**

## **Marking Scheme**

There will be a forty minute, 15% test in class on each of October 5, and November 9. These tests will be based on cumulative knowledge but will stress recent material.

The final exam will be worth 30%.

All test and exam questions will be multiple choice, true/false, short answers, essay, or any combination of these.

Students may choose a different topic, subject to my written approval in advance. The assignment is marked as follows:

1. Part 1 due Sep 21. Worth 5%. Each student will individually outline topic/issue and

4. The Environmental Bill of Rights allows citizens to request a review of environmental laws and policies. Lo and behold, someone has requested just such a review of the EBR itself. You-11(e)(4)(w)88(4)(b)(i) group w se



[https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/content/about.jsp?f0=aboutTheRegistry.info&menuIndex=0\\_1](https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/content/about.jsp?f0=aboutTheRegistry.info&menuIndex=0_1)

### **Lecture 2 \_ Sep 14, 2017**

Sources of Law: From the Constitution to Judge Judy

The Constitution

Legislation

The Courts (and Tribunals)

#### Reading:

Muldoon et al, pp 33 - 83

#### Exercise:

Presenting technical information in a legal setting. The rules.

### **Lecture 3 – Sep 21, 2017**

Survey of Canadian Environmental Law

Key federal legislation

Key Ontario legislation

Key municipal legislation

#### Reading:

Muldoon et al, pp 87 - 99

#### Exercise:

Sorting out jurisdiction. Who has the power? The Constitution game: challenges to jurisdiction and the outcome in the courts

**Student Assignment Part 1 (5%) must be submitted in class and posted on Blackboard**

### **Lecture 4 – Sep 28, 2017**

Courts and Tribunals

What are they?

What do they do?

How do they work?

#### Reading:

Muldoon et al, review pp. 1 - 99





Can we make it work?  
Corporate social responsibility and social license

Reading:

Muldoon et al, pp. 117 – 125, and 297 - 314

**Student presentation (20%) to be scheduled with me in advance**

**Lecture 11 – Nov 23, 2017**

**Student presentation (20%) to be scheduled with me in advance. If time is available, we will use this slot for “catching up” and exam review.**

**Lecture 12 – Nov 30, 2017**

Where are we headed?

Modern trends

Can we avoid the Tragedy of the Commons?

Reading:

Review entire Muldoon text

Review the Hardin and DeMarco items from lecture 1

Exercise:

Course **review** and questions

**The Fine Print**

***Absences:***

If you need to miss a term test for any legitimate reason, you must submit an original copy of any appropriate documentation within **three** business days of your absence. If the reason for your absence is medical, an official UTSC medical note must be completed by a doctor who examined you while you were ill/injured (i.e. not after the fact). The medical note can be downloaded at: [http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/resources/pdf\\_general/UTSCmedicalcertificate.pdf](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/resources/pdf_general/UTSCmedicalcertificate.pdf). Note that conditions ranked as mild or negligible will not be considered a valid excuse.

***Missed term work:***





Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in