

ENVT 262A, Environmental Laws, Guidelines, Regulations, and Land Rights*3 credits, 3 hours lecture*

This course provides an understanding of Acts and Regulations under municipal, provincial and federal jurisdiction as they relate to environmental protection and development of natural resources in Alberta. Key pieces of legislation this course examines include the Alberta Environmental and Protection and Enhancement Act, Alberta Land Stewardship Act, Public Lands Act, the Species At Risk Act, the Fisheries Act, and Treaty 8. Special emphasis is placed on developing skills to independently obtain information, and therefore remain current, on environmental protection standards because legislation and policy is continuously re-examined by legislative bodies.

Prerequisites and/or co-requisites: Entrance into the Environmental Technology program

Instructor

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Office Hours

Tuesday 9:00 – 11:00
Wednesday 9:00 – 11:00
Thursday 10:00 – 11:00

Hours of Instruction

Monday	3:30 – 4:50	Room S110
Wednesday	3:30 – 4:50	Room S110

Required Resources

There is no required textbook. A variety of government and NGO websites, scholarly articles (provided) and videos will be used.

Online resources include (but are not limited to):

Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, Alberta Land Stewardship Act, Public Lands Act: www.qp.alberta.ca/ or Alberta Queen's Printer.

Alberta Energy Regulator: www.aer.ca/

Alberta Government Library: www.thealbertalibrary.ca/

Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012 (under the auspices of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency): www.ceaa.gc.ca/

Federal Acts and Regulations (e.g., Fisheries Act, Migratory Bird Regulations): www.laws.justice.gc.ca/

Wood Buffalo Environmental Association: <http://wbea.org/>

Cumulative Environmental Management Association: <http://cemaonline.ca/>

Environmental Law Centre: <http://www.elc.ab.ca/>

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- Explain the basic structure of Canadian and Alberta law
- Identify relevant local, regional and federal government agencies, and independently locate sources of reliable information from and about those agencies
- Identify relevant non-government organizations (NGO's) and independently locate sources of reliable information from and about those NGO's
- Explain how environmental laws and regulations apply to oil sands related projects within Alberta and use that knowledge to anticipate how those laws apply to other types of projects within Alberta

Other

This course will be given concurrently with Mount Royal University ENVS 4419 Regulatory Management. Instruction will be given by Mount Royal University and Keyano College.

Evaluation for Mount Royal University students will be by Mount Royal University instructors, and Keyano College students will be evaluated by Keyano College instructors.

Assignments, topics and exams will be similar and all timelines will be aligned. Keyano students and Mount Royal University students will participate in class in a telepresence classroom.

Evaluation

Clearly outline what the students must do in order to pass or complete the course.

Professional Development Assignment	10%
Case study – Group Project	15%
Term paper	15%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%
Total	100%

A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.

Grading System

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory Progression	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor Minimum Pass	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

Proposed Schedule of Topics

This course outline may be modified to facilitate unforeseen time constraints. Time allotted to each topic will vary depending on depth and complexity of material. Also note that several pieces of legislation and governing bodies will come up in multiple contexts.

Topic	Discussion
Topic 1	Basic concepts of Environmental Law – types of rules and laws, origin and development of the Canadian Constitution, political structure of federal and provincial government
Topic 2	Division of Powers – Federal vs Provincial environmental responsibilities, overlapping Federal/Provincial Jurisdictions: causes and solutions, overlapping intra-provincial and inter-provincial jurisdictions, cooperation among regulators
Topic 3	Alberta's environmental laws – history and purpose, regulatory hierarchy, agency mandates. Special attention paid to the Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (AEPEA), Alberta Water Act, and Public Lands Act
Topic 4	Federal laws and agencies with special attention paid to Species At Risk Act (SARA), Fisheries Act, Navigable Waters Act
Topic 5	The role of personal responsibility in a compliance system. The role of personal responsibility in safety regulations.
Topic 6	Approvals and applications associated with the life cycle of conventional oil and gas
Topic 7	Approvals and applications associated with the life cycle of an oil sands operation – current oil sands mining operations, joining Alberta/Canada Hearings, processes after hearings

Topic 8	Aboriginal Peoples' roles in oil sands development – treaty making in Canada, the evolution of treaty rights and land claims, and consultation as a constitutional issue
Topic 9	The role of NGO's including hearings, policy development and monitoring, with case studies
Topic 10	International legislation including the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994, NAFTA, and legislation pertaining to World Heritage Sites, endangered species and climate change.

Please Note:

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

Performance Requirements

Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar.

More specific details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

Laboratory Safety

In the science laboratories, safety is important.

Students must complete the *WHMIS for Students* online training course on Moodle before entering the science laboratories.

Students must comply with the mandatory laboratory safety rules for this course as provided in the laboratory manual. Failure to do so will result in progressive discipline such as a verbal warning, refused entry into the laboratory, or suspension from the College.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a students' learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on ilearn.keyano.ca. Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

Specialized Supports**Counselling and Accessibility Services**

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

SKILL Centre

The SKILL Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus at Keyano College where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The SKILL Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to Keyano students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors. Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.

Authorization

This course outline has been reviewed and approved by the Program Chair.

Nancy Serediak, Instructor

Louis Dingley, Chair

Date Authorized

Vincella Thompson, Dean

Date Authorized

Signed copies to be delivered to:

Instructor

Registrar's Office