SOILS 210 Introduction to Soil Science and Soil Resources  
3 credits. 3 hours lecture and 3 hours lab per week

An examination of the elementary aspects of soil formation, soil occurrence in natural landscapes, soil classification, soil resource inventory, basic morphological, biological, chemical and physical characteristics employed in the identification of soils and predictions of their performance in both managed and natural landscapes.

Must have completed a university-level course in life or natural sciences. A university-level chemistry course is strongly recommended.

Instructor

Dr. David Smith  
S209B  
780-791-4997  
david.smith@keyano.ca

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 12:00 PM – 12:50 PM  
Friday 11:00 AM – 11:50 AM

Hours of Instruction

Lecture: Tuesday 1:00 PM – 1:50 PM  
Thursday 10:00 AM – 10:50 PM  
Friday 12:00 PM – 12:50 PM  
Laboratory: Wednesday 2:00 PM – 4:50 PM

Required Resources

13:9780135014332

Thien and Graveel. Laboratory manual for Soil Science. Kendall/Hunt. 9780757550102

Full outdoor apparel for fall and winter weather including suitable footwear

Course Outcomes

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

- Recognize physical properties and functions of soils in relation to other components of the environment.
- Analyze the factors of soil formation and processes of soil development that lead to differences in soils in our environment.
- Use techniques of soil sampling, identification and measurement of soil properties.
- Classify soils using the Canadian System of Soil Classification.
- Apply the knowledge gained in sustainable soil management.
Evaluation

Assignments - 25% due one week after each lab
Written report and oral presentation 15% due week of November 20
Midterm Exam - 25% week of October 9
Final Exam - 35%
Total 100%

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

Grading System

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

**LECTURES AND LABORATORIES, SOILS 210, FALL 2017**

All lab assignments will be due 1 week after the lab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of Sep 4</th>
<th>Introduction, Chapter 1</th>
<th>NO LAB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week of Sep 11| Soil formation, Chapter 2| Introduction – LAB 1  
Soil as a natural resource |
| Week of Sep 18| Soil classification, Chapter 3 | Field Lab – Regosolic Soil Order |
| Week of Sep 25| Soil classification, Chapter 3 | Field Lab – Luvisolic Soil Order |
| Week of Oct 2 | Soil architecture, Chapter 4 | Field Lab – Brunisolic Soil Order |
| Week of Oct 9 | Soil architecture, Chapter 4 | Field Lab – Organic Soil Order |
| Week of Oct 16| Soil water, Chapter 5 | LAB 2 – Soil texture |
| Week of Oct 23| Soil aeration and temperature, Chapter 7 | LAB 3  
Particle size distribution |
| Week of Oct 30| Soil colloids, Chapter 8 | LAB 4  
Bulk density and soil porosity |
| Week of Nov 6 | Soil chemistry, Chapter 9 | NO LAB, Holiday |
| Week of Nov 13| Soil ecology, Chapter 10 | LAB 5  
Soil water content |
| Week of Nov 20| Organic matter and fertility, Chapters 11 and 12 | LAB review session |
| Week of Nov 27| Erosion, Chapter 14 | Oral presentations, written reports due |
| Week of Dec 4 | Soil quality and pollution, Chapter 15 | NO LAB |

**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 Disability 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.

__________________________
Dr. David Smith, Instructor

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Louis Dingley, Chair                        Date Authorized

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Dr. Vincella Thompson, Dean                Date Authorized

Signed copies to be delivered to:
Instructor
Registrar’s Office