



BIOL*2060 Ecology

Fall 2022

Section: DE01

Department of Integrative Biology

Credit Weight: 0.50

Course Details

Calendar Description

This course discusses the ecology of plants, animals, fungi and bacteria as individual organisms, interacting populations, communities and ecosystems. Lectures and discussion groups are used to demonstrate the difficulty of interpreting ecological data derived from field studies. The value of laboratory-based research in ecology will also be discussed. The course will be important for anyone who wishes to understand what we know and need to know about the way ecological systems work.

Pre-Requisite(s): 4.00 credits including BIOL*1070

Co-Requisite(s): None

Restriction(s): None

Method of Delivery: Online

Final Exam

Take-Home Final Exam

Available Date: Friday, December 2, 2022 at 12:01 am ET

Due Date: Friday, December 9, 2022 by 11:59 pm ET

Location: Take-home final exam to be submitted via the **Quizzes** and the **Dropbox** tool in CourseLink

Instructional Support

Instructor

Dr. Timothy Bartley

Email: tbartley@uoguelph.ca

Please see **Communicating with Your Instructor** below.

Teaching Assistant(s)

Name: TBD

Name: TBD

Name: TBD

Course Email: biol2060de@uoguelph.ca

Learning Resources

Required Textbook

Title: Ecology: Concepts & Applications

Author(s): Manuel C. Molles Jr and Andrew Laursen

Edition / Year: 5th Canadian Edition / 2020

Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Note: The required course resource is Molles and Laursen's *Ecology: Concepts & Applications*. There are different purchase options. You must ensure that you have access to the required textbook, but you are **not required** to have access to the supplementary online materials available through the Connect learning platform.

You may choose to purchase the textbook as a standalone printed product, as a printed product with access to the **Connect** e-book and online courseware, or as the Connect eBook and online supplementary materials.

ISBN (print textbook): 9781260065817

This option includes access to the print textbook.

ISBN (Connect with eBook and online courseware): 9781260328684

This option includes access to the eBook and online supplementary materials (see Note below).

Note: Connect is McGraw-Hill's online learning platform that contains supplementary materials, such as learning activities and practice quizzes, designed to help you to consolidate your understanding of the textbook content.

You may purchase the textbook at the [Guelph Campus Co-op Bookstore](#) or the [University of Guelph Bookstore](#). Please note that DE textbooks are located in the Distance Education section of the University of Guelph Bookstore.

<https://bookstore.coop/>

<http://www.bookstore.uoguelph.ca/>

Spreadsheet and Word Processing Software

The assignments and review questions will involve handling and analyzing data, as well as writing reports. You will need access to spreadsheet and word processing software that is compatible with Microsoft Word and Excel. Consult [Computing and Communication Services](#) (CCS) for available software for students.

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/>

Course Website

[CourseLink](#) (powered by D2L's Brightspace) is the course website and will act as your classroom. It is recommended that you log in to your course website every day to check for announcements, access course materials, and review the weekly schedule and assignment requirements.

<https://courselink.uoguelph.ca>

Ares

For this course, you may be required to access course reserve materials through the University of Guelph McLaughlin Library. To access these items, select **Ares** on the navbar in CourseLink. Note that you will need your Central Login ID and password in order to access items on reserve.

For further instructions on accessing reserve resources, visit [How to Get Course Reserve Materials](#).

If at any point during the course you have difficulty accessing reserve materials, please contact the e-Learning Operations and Reserve Services staff at:

Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 53621

Email: libres2@uoguelph.ca

Location: McLaughlin Library, First Floor, University of Guelph

Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Explain patterns observed in nature by applying the scientific method and fundamental ecological theories
2. Communicate clearly about ecological systems and processes by applying appropriate ecological terminology.
3. Appreciate the historical development of the discipline and the contributions of influential scientists to our understanding of contemporary ecological issues.
4. Begin to formulate investigation of conservation and management issues related to the distribution and abundance of species by applying ecological theory.
5. Develop and present a case study research proposal (including a review of literature, statement of hypothesis and predictions, appropriate research methodology) on an ecological topic selected from recent Canadian news articles.
6. Critically evaluate and synthesize a set of selected primary ecological literature, in the context of ecological principles and practices described in this course.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Method of Learning

This course will introduce you to the basic concepts, theories, and evidence about ecological processes that determine the distribution and abundance of organisms. Our approach will include a mix of theory and virtual field/laboratory techniques as presented in the six units and discussed in tutorials. We will also apply the principles you have been learning about to recent Canadian topics related to conservation, resource use, and human effects on the biosphere.

Emphasis will be placed on how ecologists use the scientific method. You will have an opportunity to practice formulating hypotheses and designing experiments to test predictions in your tutorials and in the case study.

We will also emphasize peer assistance and interactivity in the course. You will participate in online discussions and peer review in the tutorials assignments.

Course Structure

This course is comprised of six units, with major topics as follows:

- Unit 1 – Science of Ecology
 - What is Ecology
 - Science and the Scientific Method
 - Sampling Ecological Research
- Unit 2 – Natural History and Evolutionary Ecology
 - Life on Land
 - Life in Water
 - Evolution and Speciation
- Unit 3 – Individual Ecology
 - Temperature Relations
 - Water Relations
 - Energy and Nutrient Relations
 - Life Histories and the Niche
- Unit 4 – Population Ecology
 - Distribution and Abundance of Populations and Species
 - Population Structure
 - Population Dynamics and Growth
 - Intraspecific Competition
- Unit 5 – Community Ecology
 - Interspecific Competition
 - Herbivory and Predation
 - Mutualism, Parasitism and Disease
 - Community Structure and Function
 - Disturbance, Succession, and Stability
- Unit 6 – Ecosystem+ Ecology
 - Production and Energy Flow
 - Nutrient and Elemental Cycling
 - Macroecology
 - Global Ecology

Schedule

It is strongly recommended that you follow the course schedule provided below. The schedule outlines what you should be working on each week of the course and lists the important due dates for the assessments. By following the schedule, you will be better prepared to complete the assessments and succeed in this course.

Unit 1 – Science of Ecology

Weeks 1 and 2 - Thursday, September 8 to Sunday, September 25

Readings

- **Course website Unit 1:**
 - 1.1. What is Ecology?
 - 1.2. Science and the Scientific Method
 - 1.3. Principles of Sampling Design
 - 1.4. Principles for Evaluating Hypotheses
 - 1.5. How Scientific Ideas are Communicated
 - 1.6. Encouraging Plainspeak, Discouraging Hyperbole in Ecology
- **Textbook: Chapter 1 Introduction to Ecology**
 - 1.1 Overview of Ecology
 - 1.2 Sampling Ecological Research
- **Tutorial 1 Readings**

Activities

- Familiarize yourself with the course website by selecting **Start Here** on the navbar.
- Review **Outline** and **Assessments** on the course website to learn about course expectations, assessments, and due dates.
- Confirm your access to the course reserve materials by selecting **Ares** on the navbar.

Assessments

- Submit **Tutorial 1 Assignment**
Due Friday, September 23 at 11:59 pm ET

Important Note: Tutorials will be open for two weeks, we recommend starting the readings and assignments early.

- Take **Unit 1 Quiz**
Opens: Thursday, September 8 at 12:00 am ET
Closes: Sunday, September 25 at 11:59 pm ET

Unit 2 – Natural History and Evolutionary Ecology

Weeks 3 and 4 – Monday, September 26 to Sunday, October 9

Readings

- **Textbook: Chapter 2 Life on Land**
 - 2.1 Large-Scale Patterns of Climatic Variation
 - 2.2 Soil: Foundation of Terrestrial Biomes
Ecology in Action: Diversity of Soil Organisms
 - 2.3 Terrestrial Biomes
 - 2.4 Human Dominated Systems
Ecological Tools and Approaches: Biomes of Canada and Winter Ecology
- **Textbook: Chapter 3 Life in Water**
 - 3.1 The Hydrologic Cycle
 - 3.2 Life in Water and the Aquatic Environments
Ecology in Action: What Lies Below?
- **Textbook: Chapter 4 Evolution and Speciation**
 - 4.1 Variation Within Populations
 - 4.2 Evolution [NOT Ecology in Action: Human-Induced Evolution]
- **Tutorial 2 Readings**

Assessments

- Submit **Tutorial 2 Assignment**
Due: Friday, October 7 at 11:59 pm ET
- Take **Unit 2 Quiz**
Opens: Monday, September 26 at 12:00 am ET
Closes: Sunday, October 9 at 11:59 pm ET

Unit 3 – Individual Ecology

Weeks 5 and 6 – Monday, October 10 to Sunday, October 23

Readings

- **Textbook: Chapter 5 Temperature Relations**
 - 5.1 Microclimates
 - 5.3 Temperature and Performance of Organisms
Ecology in Action: Impacts of Stream Temperature on Salmon Recruitment
 - 5.4 Regulating Body Temperature
 - 5.5 Surviving Extreme Temperature [NOT Ecological Tools and Approaches: Climatic Warming and the Local Extinction of a Land Snail]
- **Textbook: Chapter 6 Water Relations**
 - 6.1 Water Availability
 - 6.2 Water Regulation on Land
Ecology in Action: Dams, Flows, and Cottonwoods

6.3 Water and Salt Balance in Aquatic Environments
Ecological Tools and Approaches: Using Stable Isotopes to Study Water Uptake by Plants

- **Textbook: Chapter 7 Energy and Nutrient Relations**
 - 7.1 Energy Sources
 - 7.2 Energy and Nutrient Limitation
- **Textbook: Chapter 9 Life Histories and the Niche**
 - 9.1 Trade-Offs
 - Ecology in Action: How Life Histories Influence Extinction Risk
 - 9.2 Life History Classification
 - 9.3 Fundamental and Realized Niches [NOT Ecological Tools and Approaches: Using Life History Information as Indicators of Biological Effects of Climate Change]
- **Tutorial 3 Readings**

Assessments

- Submit **Tutorial 3 Assignment**
Due: Friday, October 21 at 11:59 pm ET
- Take **Unit 3 Quiz**
Opens: Monday, October 10 at 12:00 am ET
Closes: Sunday, October 23 at 11:59 pm ET

Unit 4 – Population Ecology

Weeks 7 and 8 – Monday, October 24 to Sunday, November 6

Readings

- **Textbook: Chapter 10 Distribution and Abundance of Populations and Species**
 - 10.1 Distribution Limits
 - 10.2 Dispersal
 - 10.3 Metapopulations
 - 10.4 Distribution Patterns
 - Ecology in Action: Using Ecology to Protect Threatened Species
 - 10.5 Organism Size and Population Density
 - 10.6 Commonness and Rarity
 - Ecological Tools and Approaches: Estimating Abundance
- **Textbook: Chapter 11 Population Structure**
 - 11.1 Patterns of Survival [NOT Ecology in Action: Conservation of Sex Ratios]
 - 11.2 Age Distribution
- **Textbook: Chapter 12 Population Dynamics and Growth**
 - 12.1 BIDE (Birth, Immigration, Death, Emigration) Dynamics

12.2 Rates of Population Change
12.3 Geometric and Exponential Population Growth
12.4 Logistic Population Growth
Ecology in Action: Fisheries
Ecological Tools and Approaches: The Human Population

- **Textbook: Chapter 13 Competition**
13.2 Evidence of Competition in Natural Systems [Intraspecific ONLY: Plant and Grasshopper-Exploitative; Song Sparrows-Interference]
- **Tutorial 4 Readings**

Assessments

- Submit **Tutorial 4 Assignment**
Due: Friday, November 4 at 11:59 pm ET
- Take **Unit 4 Quiz**
Opens: Monday, October 24 at 12:00 am ET
Closes: Sunday, November 6 at 11:59 pm ET

Unit 5 – Community Ecology

Weeks 9 and 10 – Monday, November 7 to Sunday, November 20

Readings

- **Textbook: Chapter 13 Competition**
13.1 Forms of Competition
13.2 Evidence of Competition in Natural Systems [Interspecific ONLY: Small Rodents; Common Ecological Interaction?]
13.3 Mathematical and Laboratory Models
13.4 Competition and Niches
Ecology in Action: The Role of Competition in Forest Management
[NOT Ecological Tools and Approaches: Identifying the Mechanisms By Which Plants Compete]
- **Textbook: Chapter 14 Herbivory and Predation**
14.1 Herbivory and Plant Defence
Ecology in Action: Invasive Species and Exploitative Relationships
14.2 Impacts of Predators on Prey Populations
14.3 Predator-Prey Dynamics in a Mathematical Model
- **Textbook: Chapter 15 Mutualism, Parasitism, and Disease**
15.1 Complex Interactions
15.2 Ecology of Disease
15.3 Mutualist-Exploiter Continuum
Ecology in Action: Impacts of Mycorrhizae on Forest Sustainability

- **Textbook: Chapter 16 Community Structure and Function**
16.1 Species Abundance and Diversity
16.2 Environmental Complexity and Species Diversity
- **Textbook: Chapter 17 Species Interactions and Community Structure**
17.1 Ecological Networks Across Trophic Boundaries: Food Webs
17.2 Community Assembly: Competitive Asymmetries
17.3 Community Assembly: Keystone Species
Ecology in Action: Keystone Species, Ecosystem Engineers, and Conservation Biology

Assessments

- Submit **Case Study Project – Report Outline** via **Dropbox**
Due: Friday, November 11 at 11:59 pm ET
- Take **Unit 5 Quiz**
Opens: Monday November 7 at 12:00 am ET
Closes: Sunday, November 20 at 11:59 pm ET

Unit 6 – Ecosystem+ Ecology

Weeks 11 and 12 – Monday, November 21 to Friday, December 2

Readings

- **Textbook: Chapter 18 Disturbance, Succession, and Stability**
18.1 Disturbance and Diversity
Ecology in Action: Using Disturbances for Conservation
18.2 Community and Ecosystem Stability
18.3 Community Changes During Succession
- **Textbook: Chapter 19 Production and Energy Flow**
19.1 Ecosystem Processes: Flow of Energy and Nutrients
19.2 Patterns of Terrestrial Primary Production
Ecology in Action: Interactions Across Community Boundaries
19.3 Patterns of Aquatic Primary Production
19.4 Trophic Levels
19.5 Biotic Influences
Ecological Tools and Approaches: Using Stable Isotope Analysis to Trace Energy Flow Through Ecosystems
- **Textbook: Chapter 20 Nutrient and Elemental Cycling**
20.1 Nutrient Cycles
- **Textbook: Chapter 22 Macroecology**
22.1 Ecological Niche Modelling
22.2 Area, Isolation, and Species Richness

22.3 The Equilibrium Model of Island Biogeography
22.4 Latitudinal Gradients in Species Richness

- **Textbook: Chapter 23 Global Ecology**

23.1 Global-Scale Phenomena Drive Distribution of Species

23.2 Human Activity Transforms the World

Ecology in Action: Being an Ecologist

Assessments

- Submit **Case Study Project – Final Draft** via **Dropbox**

Due: Friday, December 2 at 11:59 pm

- Take **Unit 6 Quiz**

Opens: Monday November 21 at 12:00 am ET

Closes: Friday, December 2 at 11:59 pm ET

Assessments

The grade determination for this course is indicated in the following table. A brief description of each assessment is provided below. Select **Content** on the navbar to locate **Assessments** in the table of contents panel to review further details of each assessment. Due dates can be found under the Schedule heading of this outline.

Table 1: Course Assessments

Assessment Item	Weight
Online Unit Quizzes (6)	30%
Tutorials (4)	20%
Case Study Project <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outline (5%)• Final Report (15%)	20%
Take Home Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Assessment Descriptions

Online Unit Quizzes

Online quizzes should be **done on an individual basis**. Each quiz attempt will be graded electronically when it is submitted, and the questions answered incorrectly will be shown. You can repeat the quiz as many times as you wish within the open and close quiz periods, and the highest score will be recorded as the grade for that quiz. The more you repeat the quizzes, the more experience you will have with the course material and the better prepared you will be for the final exam. Please note, late submissions will not be graded.

Tutorials

The tutorials are designed to take you through the skills critically think about ecology and the scientific method as well as the skills needed to complete the final case study project. For each tutorial you will complete a tutorial assignment, on an individual basis, with feedback provided by your group members and TA. You will submit the Tutorial Worksheets in .docx or PDF file format in the correct **Dropbox** folder by the due dates identified in the schedule above. Your TA will grade the Tutorial Worksheets and provide feedback on your submissions. Please note, it is the student's responsibility to ensure the file is submitted in the correct format.

Case Study Project

This course requires you to submit a case study project to the **Dropbox** tool in CourseLink. to review further details of this assessment, select **Content** on the navbar to locate the **Case Study Project** page in the Assessments module in the table of contents panel.

Take Home Final Exam

This course requires you to submit a take-home final exam via the **Quizzes** and the **Dropbox** tool in CourseLink. The multiple-choice question portion will be submitted using the **Quizzes** tool, and the written responses (short answers) questions portion will be submitted to the **Dropbox** tool in CourseLink.

Select **Content** on the navbar to locate **Assessments** in the table of contents panel to review further details of the final exam.

Course Technology Requirements and Technical Support

CourseLink System Requirements

You are responsible for ensuring that your computer system meets the necessary [system requirements](#). Use the [browser check](#) tool to ensure your browser settings are compatible and up to date. (Results will be displayed in a new browser window).

<https://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/system-and-software-requirements>

<https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/d2l/systemCheck>

McGraw-Hill Connect

This course may use **McGraw-Hill Connect**. Connect is a digital learning environment administered by McGraw-Hill Education. Visit their website to complete a check that ensures your computer meets the [Connect system requirements](#).

Microsoft Teams Requirements

This course may use **Microsoft Teams** as a video communication tool. A Webcam, a microphone, and headphones/speakers may be needed. Review [System requirements for Teams for personal use \(microsoft.com\)](#) to ensure that your computer meets the technical requirements.

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/system-requirements-for-teams-for-personal-use-dae0234b-839c-4f85-ae75-d14ad2baa978>

Technical Skills

As part of your online experience, you are expected to use a variety of technology as part of your learning:

- Manage files and folders on your computer (e.g., save, name, copy, backup, rename, delete, and check properties);
- Install software, security, and virus protection;
- Use office applications (e.g., Word, PowerPoint, Excel, or similar) to create documents;
- Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files;
- Communicate using email (e.g., create, receive, reply, print, send, download, and open attachments);
- Navigate the CourseLink learning environment and use the essential tools, such as **Dropbox**, **Quizzes**, **Discussions**, and **Grades** (the instructions for this are given in your course);
- Access, navigate, and search the Internet using a web browser (e.g., Firefox, Internet Explorer); and
- Perform online research using various search engines (e.g., Google) and library databases.

Technical Support

If you need any assistance with the software tools or the CourseLink website, contact CourseLink Support.

CourseLink Support

University of Guelph
Day Hall, Room 211
Email: courselink@uoguelph.ca
Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 56939
Toll-Free (CAN/USA): 1-866-275-1478

Walk-In Hours (Eastern Time):
Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am–4:30 pm

Phone/Email Hours (Eastern Time):
Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am–8:30 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am–4:00 pm
Sunday: 12:00 pm–6:00 pm

Course Specific Standard Statements

Acceptable Use

The University of Guelph has an [Acceptable Use Policy](#), which you are expected to adhere to.

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/infosec/aup>

Communicating with Your Instructor

During the course, your instructors will interact with you on various course matters on the course website using the following ways of communication:

- **Announcements:** The instructors will use **Announcements** on the Course Home page to provide you with course reminders and updates. Please check this section frequently for course updates from your instructor.
- **Ask Your Instructor Discussion:** Use this discussion forum to ask questions of your instructor about content or course-related issues with which you are unfamiliar. If you encounter difficulties, the instructor is here to help you. Please post general course-related questions to the discussion forum so that all students have an opportunity to review the response. To access this discussion forum, select **Discussions** from the **Tools** dropdown menu.
- **Email:** If you have a conflict that prevents you from completing course requirements, or have a question concerning a personal matter, you can send your instructors a professional message by email. The instructors will try to respond to your email within 48 to 72 hours. Please include the course code in the subject of your email and full name/ID number in the body of your email. Please email the course email: biol2060de@uoguelph.ca . Non-personal course related matters will be addressed using the course Discussion Board.
- **Online meeting:** If you have a complex question you would like to discuss with your instructors, you may book an online meeting. Online meetings depend on

the availability of you and the instructor, and are booked on a first come first served basis.

Netiquette Expectations

For distance education courses, the course website is considered the classroom and the same protections, expectations, guidelines, and regulations used in face-to-face settings apply, plus other policies and considerations that come into play specifically because these courses are online.

Inappropriate online behaviour will not be tolerated. Examples of inappropriate online behaviour include:

- Posting inflammatory messages about your instructor or fellow students;
- Using obscene or offensive language online;
- Copying or presenting someone else's work as your own;
- Adapting information from the Internet without using proper citations or references;
- Buying or selling term papers or assignments;
- Posting or selling course materials to course notes websites;
- Having someone else complete your quiz or completing a quiz for/with another student;
- Stating false claims about lost quiz answers or other assignment submissions;
- Threatening or harassing a student or instructor online;
- Discriminating against fellow students, instructors, and/or TAs;
- Using the course website to promote profit-driven products or services;
- Attempting to compromise the security or functionality of the learning management system;
- Sharing your username and password; and
- Recording lectures without the permission of the instructor.

Submission of Assessments to Dropbox

All tutorials and both assignments for this course should be submitted electronically via the online **Dropbox** tool. When submitting your file using the **Dropbox** tool, do not leave the page until your file has successfully uploaded. To verify that your submission was complete, you can view the submission history immediately after the upload to see which files uploaded successfully. The system will also email you a receipt. Save this email receipt as proof of submission.

Be sure to keep a back-up copy of all of your files in the event that they are lost in transition. In order to avoid any last-minute computer problems, your instructor strongly

recommend you save your files to a cloud-based file storage (e.g., Google Docs), or send to your email account, so that should something happen to your computer, the file could still be submitted on time or re-submitted.

It is your responsibility to submit your tutorials and assignments on time as specified on the Schedule. Be sure to check the technical requirements and make sure you have the proper computer, that you have a supported browser, and that you have reliable Internet access. Remember that **technical difficulty is not an excuse not to turn in your assignment on time**. Don't wait until the last minute as you may get behind in your work.

If, for some reason, you have a technical difficulty when submitting your assignment electronically, please contact your instructor or [CourseLink Support](#).

<https://support.opened.uoguelph.ca/contact>

Late Policy

Late quizzes will not be accepted.

Late Tutorial Assignments: If you choose to submit your assignment to the **Dropbox** tool late, the full allocated mark will be reduced by 10% for each 24-hour period from the due date and time.

Case Study Project: The full allocated mark will be reduced by 10% for each 24-hour period from the due date and time. This applies to both the Report Outline and the Final Report individually.

If you encounter technical problems when submitting your assessment, please contact CourseLink Support in advance of the deadline to avoid late penalties.

Extensions may be considered for medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances. Requests to the instructors for extensions may be considered but only if they are made **at least 36 hours before the submission deadline**.

Barring exceptional circumstances, extensions will not be granted once the due date has passed. These rules are not designed to be arbitrary, nor are they inflexible. They are designed to keep you organized, to ensure that all students have the same amount of time to work on assignments, and to help to return marked materials to you in the shortest possible time.

24-Hour Extension Pass

Each student will have a one-time, 24-hour extension pass to be used for any of the four tutorial assignments. These passes remain separate from regular Academic Consideration requests on medical, psychological, and compassionate grounds based on the Undergraduate Calendar for which you will still need to contact your instructors to request.

Your extension pass will be automatically "used" if you submit your assignment late but within 24-hours of the deadline.

Obtaining Grades and Feedback

Unofficial assessment marks will be available in the **Grades** tool of the course website.

Your instructor will usually have grades posted online within 2 weeks of the submission deadline, if the assignment was submitted on time. Once your assignments are marked you can view your grades on the course website by selecting **Grades** from the **Tools** dropdown menu on the navbar. Your course will remain open to you for seven days following the last day of the final exam period.

University of Guelph degree students can access their final grade by logging into [WebAdvisor](#) (using your U of G central ID). Open Learning program students should log in to the [OpenEd Student Portal](#) to view their final grade (using the same username and password you have been using for your courses).

<https://webadvisor.uoguelph.ca>

<https://courses.opened.uoguelph.ca/portal/logon.do?method=load>

Rights and Responsibilities When Learning Online

For distance education (DE) courses, the course website is considered the classroom and the same protections, expectations, guidelines, and regulations used in face-to-face settings apply, plus other policies and considerations that come into play specifically because these courses are online.

For more information on your rights and responsibilities when learning in the online environment, visit [Rights and Responsibilities](#).

<http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/rights-and-responsibilities>

Turnitin Originality Check

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin, integrated with the CourseLink **Dropbox** tool, to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to maintain academic integrity at the University of Guelph.

All individual assignments submitted to the **Dropbox** tool will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that you will be able to educate and empower yourself in preventing academic misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.

University Standard Statements

University of Guelph: Undergraduate Policies

As a student of the University of Guelph, it is important for you to understand your rights and responsibilities and the academic rules and regulations that you must abide by.

If you are a registered **University of Guelph Degree Student**, consult the [Undergraduate Calendar](#) for the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for current and previous academic years.

If you are an **Open Learning Program Student**, consult the [Open Learning Program Calendar](#) for information about University of Guelph administrative policies, procedures and services.

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/>

<http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/open-learning-program-calendar>

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their uoguelph.ca e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet Course Requirements

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement due to illness or compassionate reasons, please advise your course instructor **in writing**, with your name, ID number and email contact.

University of Guelph Degree Students

Consult the [Undergraduate Calendar](#) for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Open Learning Program Students

Please refer to the [Open Learning Program Calendar](#) for information on regulations and procedures for requesting Academic Consideration.

<http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/open-learning-program-calendar>

Drop Date

University of Guelph Degree Students

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. [Review the Undergraduate Calendar for regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses.](#)

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Open Learning Program Students

Please refer to the [Open Learning Program Calendar.](#)

<http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/open-learning-program-calendar>

Copies of Tutorials and Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all tutorials and assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

University of Guelph Degree Students

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

For more information, contact Accessibility Services at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208, [email Accessibility Services](#) or visit the [Accessibility Services website](#).

accessibility@uoguelph.ca

<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/>

Open Learning Program Students

If you are an Open Learning program student who requires academic accommodation, please [contact the Academic Assistant to the Executive Director](#). Please ensure that you contact us before the end of the first week of your course (every semester) in order to avoid any delays in support. Documentation from a health professional is required for all academic accommodations. Please note that all information provided will be held in confidence.

If you require textbooks produced in an alternate format (e.g., DAISY, Braille, large print or eText), please [contact the Academic Assistant to the Executive Director](#) at least two months prior to the course start date. If contact is not made within the suggested time frame, support may be delayed. It is recommended that you refer to the course outline before beginning your course in order to determine the required readings.

The provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between OpenEd and the student requesting accommodation. It is recognized that academic accommodations are intended to “level the playing field” for students with disabilities.

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Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Copyright Notice

Content within this course is copyright protected. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters and articles) have either been licensed for use in this course, or have been copied under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

The fair dealing exemption in Canada's Copyright Act permits students to reproduce short excerpts from copyright-protected materials for purposes such as research, education, private study, criticism and review, with proper attribution. Any other copying, communicating, or distribution of any content provided in this course, except as permitted by law, may be an infringement of copyright if done without proper license or the consent of the copyright owner. Examples of infringing uses of copyrighted works would include uploading materials to a commercial third party web site, or making paper or electronic reproductions of all, or a substantial part, of works such as textbooks for commercial purposes.

Students who upload to CourseLink copyrighted materials such as book chapters, journal articles, or materials taken from the Internet, must ensure that they comply with Canadian Copyright law or with the terms of the University's electronic resource licenses.

For more information about students' rights and obligations with respect to copyrighted works, review [Fair Dealing Guidance for Students](#).

http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/sites/default/files/fair_dealing_policy_0.pdf

Plagiarism Detection Software

Students should be aware that faculty have the right to use software to aid in the detection of plagiarism or copying and to examine students orally on submitted work. For students found guilty of academic misconduct, serious penalties, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University can be imposed.

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the [COVID-19 website](#) and circulated by email.

<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation

for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

Covid-19 Safety Protocols

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

[How U of G Is Preparing for Your Safe Return](#)

[Guidelines to Safely Navigate U of G Spaces](#)

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.

<https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>

<https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>