



Physical & Environmental Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
S C A R B O R O U G H

Applied Conservation Biology
EES3000H
Winter 2021

Instructor

Nicholas E. Mandrak, Ph.D.

Office Hours: By appointment, email me.

E-mail: nicholas.mandrak@utoronto.ca

Note: I will only respond to course-related e-mails sent from an official University of Toronto e-mail address.

Lectures: Mondays 2-5, online

Teaching Assistant

Menilek Beyene menilek.beyene@mail.utoronto.ca

Prerequisite: BIOC63H3 (Conservation Biology) or equivalent.

Course Description

Canada has a complex conservation landscape. Through lectures and interactive discussions with leading Canadian conservation practitioners, this course will examine how conservation theory is put into practice in Canada from our international obligations to federal and provincial legislation and policies.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will have the information required:

- To understand the role of science in government.
- To understand how conservation theory is put into practice to protect terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity.
- To understand the science behind COSEWIC and SARA.

Required Readings and Lecture Notes

Chris Turner. 2013. Chapter 3. *The War on Science*. Greystone Books. Available on Quercus.

Electronic versions of required readings and lecture notes will be placed on the Quercus course website before, or immediately after, the lecture. In the case of primary literature, a link to the library electronic version will be provided. Posting of the presentations of guest lectures will be at the discretion of the guest. **It is highly recommended that you take additional notes during lectures and tutorials. All assigned readings and material covered during lectures and tutorials will form the subject matter for the examinations.**

Evaluation

4 Primer Assignments (60%) - **Due 1 week after assigned. Submitted via Quercus**
Final Assignment (20%) - **Due 1 week after assigned. Submitted via Quercus**
Independent Assignment (10%) - **Due April 2, 2021**
Participation (10%)

Participation

Student participation will be evaluated based on in-class participation (oral or via chat) and on weekly discussion board.

Attendance

Students are REQUIRED to VIEW all activities outlined in the schedule below. To maximum the learning experience, students are STRONGLY encouraged attend and participate in synchronous activities in real time.

Verification of Illness

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the University is temporarily suspending the need for a doctor's note or a verification of illness for absences from academic participation. Students should use the Absence Declaration tool on ACORN to declare an absence if they require consideration for missed academic work. Students are responsible for contacting instructors to request the academic consideration they are seeking. Students should record each day of their absence as soon as it begins, up until the day before they return to classes or other academic activities.

Emergency Planning

Students are advised to consult the university's preparedness site (<http://www.preparedness.utoronto.ca>) for information and regular updates regarding procedures relating to emergency planning.

Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact The UTSC Accessibility Services as soon as possible: <http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~ability/>.

We also suggest you also refer to the following University of Toronto Scarborough Library link: <http://utsc.library.utoronto.ca/services-persons-disabilities>

Plagiarism

University of Toronto code of Behaviour on Academic Matters states that "it shall be an offense for a student knowingly: to represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e., to commit plagiarism."

For accepted methods of standard documentation formats, including electronic citation of internet sources please see the UofT writing website at:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/documentation>

The full Code of Behaviour regulations could be found from consulting <http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/facultyandstaff/Pages/Academic-Integrity.aspx>

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Writing and English Language

As well as the faculty writing support, please see English Language and writing support at University of Toronto: <http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/English-Language-and-Writing-Support.aspx>

Schedule

Date	2:00-3:00	3:00-4:00	4:00-5:00
Jan 11	*Assignment TBC by 3:00	**Introduction Guest: Rick Taylor, UBC	
Jan 18	**The Role of Science in Government – NEM Guest: John Reynolds, SFU		
Jan 25	**Detection Probability Primer - Rowshyra Castaneda, DFO		**+Primer Assignment
Feb 1	**COSEWIC Designatable Unit Primer - NEM Guest: Arne Mooers, SFU		
Feb 8	**COSEWIC Spatial Criteria Primer - NEM		**+Primer Assignment
Feb 15	Reading Week		
Feb 22	**Conservation Genetics Primer - Thais Bernos, UT		
Mar 1	**PVA Primer - Peter Molnar, UTSC		**+Primer Assignment
Mar 8	**Critical Habitat Primer - Andrew Drake, DFO		**+Primer Assignment
Mar 15	**Allowable Harm Primer - Marten Koops, DFO		
Mar 22	**Invasion Biology Primer - Sarah Bailey, DFO		
Mar 29	**Invasive Species Risk Assessment Primer - NEM		**+Final Assignment

Note: 10 min breaks will be taken approximately every hour

* Asynchronous

** Synchronous

+ Primer assignment due one week later @2:00 pm