

University of Toronto Scarborough
Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences
EESB02H3 S – Principles of Geomorphology
2016 Outline

Instructor: Mandy Meriano
Office: EV362 Telephone: 416-208-2775
Office hours: Tuesdays following lecture: 11:30 am - 2 pm
Email: mmeriano@utsc.utoronto.ca

Lecture time: Tuesday 9 am to 11 am
Location: MW120

Practical times: Thursday 11:00 –13:00; 13:00 – 15:00; 15:00 – 17:00
Location: EV224 (Chem and Env Sci Building) and computer lab (location TBA)
Field component of the practicals will be carried out in Highland Creek
Emphasis is placed on practical work in this course, which will involve some time commitment. However, this is reflected positively in your final grade.

Teaching Assistant: Carlos Paulo
Office and office hours: TBA on Blackboard
Lab coordinators: Chai Chen and Tom Meulendyk, EV304 and EV225

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TEXTBOOK: Bierman, P.R. and Montgomery, D.R. 2014. *Key Concepts in Geomorphology*, W.H. Freeman and Company, New York, NY. pp.494

The course textbook is available from the UTSC Bookstore.

DESCRIPTION: The earth's surface form and its dynamic behavior at range of spatial and temporal scales is an integral part of the physical, biological and human environment. It is strongly influenced by human activity, while at the same time imposing severe constraints upon that activity. The study of the earth's surface forms and their morphodynamic behavior, both naturally and under the impact of human habitation, is the field of Geomorphology. It is the human interaction with the surface of the earth that gives rise to a number of environmental concerns: e.g., surface erosion, catastrophic floods, sea-level rise, landslides, water resources and water extraction, etc. This introductory course combines aspects of geology, climatology, hydrology, and soil science to present a coherent introduction to the surface of the Earth, with emphasis on

both fundamental concepts and practical applications, as a basis for understanding and intelligent management of the Earth's physical and chemical environment.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: By the end of the course students will have developed a coherent understanding of the various aspects of geology, climatology, hydrology, and soil science that shape the surface of the Earth, with emphasis on both fundamental concepts and practical applications, as a basis for understanding and intelligent management of the Earth's physical and chemical environment.

MARKING SCHEME (tentative): Four practicals; value 40% (4 x 10%); a midterm exam: value 25%; and a final exam: value 35%.

The *midterm* is based on material covered in lectures and readings up to and including the class before the midterm exam. Readings will be from your course textbook: Bierman and Montgomery (2014). The format is multiple choice and short answer questions.

The *final exam* will be based on all term material (including readings and lectures). Readings will be from your course textbook: Bierman and Montgomery (2014). The format is multiple choice and short answer questions.

TENTATIVE LECTURES

Week 1: January 05	Earth's Dynamic Surface
Week 2: January 12	Earth's Solid Materials and Weathering
Week 3: January 19	Topography: Channels and Drainage Basins
Week 4: January 26	Geomorphic Hydrology
Week 5: February 02	Groundwater
Week 6: February 09	Mid-term exam held during class time
February 16 – 19	Reading Week
Week 7: February 23	Tectonic Geomorphology
Week 8: March 01	Glaciers
Week 9: March 08	Deserts: Wind as a Geomorphic Agent
Week 10: March 15	Coastal Geomorphology
Week 11: March 22	Landscape Evolution
Week 12: March 29	TBA (generally some lectures run into a 2 nd week – this lecture time will allow us to fully complete all the above noted lecture topics)

PLAGIARISM: Assignments are checked for plagiarism. Please consult the University Calendar for a discussion and outline of the policy on plagiarism and academic integrity (also see proceeding section below). The sanctions can be severe. If, after reviewing the University policy, you are uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism, talk to your course instructor.

ACADAMIC INTEGRITY: Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
- Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
- Misrepresenting your identity.

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources (see <http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/>).

Please consult the University Calendar for information about grade distribution and academic conduct.

ABSENCES: If you need to miss a practical or term test for any legitimate reason, you must submit 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. Note that conditions ranked as mild or negligible will not be considered a valid excuse.

MISSED TERM WORK: If a legitimate reason prevents you from submitting a piece of term work by its posted deadline, you must submit appropriate documentation within **three** business days of your absence. If the reason 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. Note that conditions ranked as mild or negligible will not be considered a valid excuse.

HANDING IN ASSIGNMENT: You are responsible for making sure that your TA receives your work. Students who mail assignments in, place work on the floor outside an office, or slip assignments under a door, do so at their own risk.

LOST OR MISPLACED ASSIGNMENT: It is your responsibility to keep a photocopy of your work, and to make more than one copy of your work. Excuses are not accepted in the case of lost or misplaced work.

ACCESSABILITY: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodation, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. I will work with you and AccessAbility Services to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The UTSC AccessAbility Services staff (located in S302) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca.

Students are encouraged to review the Calendar for information regarding all services available on campus.

List of references for concepts, information, data, figures, and text used in the course:

Allen, P.A. 1997, *Earth Surface Processes*. Blackwell Science, pp.404

Benn, D.I., and Evans, D.J.A. 1998, *Glaciers and Glaciation*. London, UK, Arnold, pp.734

Bierman, P.R. and Montgomery, D.R. 2014. *Key Concepts in Geomorphology*, W.H. Freeman and Company, New York, NY. pp.494

Bloom, A.L. 1998. *Geomorphology; A Systematic Analysis of Late Cenozoic Landforms*, 3rd ed. Prentice Hall, pp.482

Easterbrook, D.J., 1999. *Surface processes and landforms*, 2nd ed. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New Jersey, 546pp.

Flint, R.F. 1971, *Glacial and Quaternary Geology*. Wiley, pp.892

Google Earth™ (<http://www.google.com/earth/>)

Leopold, L.B. 1994, *A View of the River*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, pp.298

Leopold, L.B., Wolman, M.G., and Miller, J.P. 1964, *Fluvial Processes in Geomorphology*. Freeman, pp.522

Meriano, M., Published and unpublished research work

MIT OpenCourseWare (<http://ocw.mit.edu>; <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms/#cc>)

Strahler, A.N., 1975, *Physical Geography*, 4th ed. Wiley, pp.643

Sugden, D.E., and John, B.S. 1976, *Glaciers and Landscape*. London, Edward Arnold Ltd., pp.376

Taylor, G., and Eggleton, R.A. 2001, *Regolith Geology and Geomorphology*. Wiley, pp.375

Thornbury, W.D. 1969, *Geomorphology*, 2nd ed. Wiley, pp.594

Trenhaile, A.S. 2010. *Geomorphology A Canadian Perspective*, 4th ed. Oxford University Press, Don Mills, Ontario. pp.558

Trenhaile, A.S. 2013. *Geomorphology A Canadian Perspective*, 5th ed. Oxford University Press, Don Mills, Ontario. pp.575