Introduction
The primary aim of this course is to introduce students to environmental issues related to water resources and processes through the discussion and emphasis on Canadian case studies with emphasis on. The course will begin with emphasis on the fundamental knowledge needed (e.g. water quality, hydrologic cycle, etc) to fully appreciate the complexity of the issues. Throughout the course case studies will be used as examples to explore various local and global issues surround water conflicts, water allocations and specific environmental issues stemming from water pollution and waterway engineering.

Course Objectives
This course aims to give students the ability to fully understand issues and conflicts surround water and make informed opinions. Specifically students should have an understanding of the water issues important to Canada including those surrounding the Great Lakes and the Alberta Oil Sands.

Sources


Additional reading material may be posted, as required, on A2L (Avenue to Learn).

Lectures
Lectures are on Tuesday and Thursday; from 9:00 am to noon. Check your lecture schedule attached for further details. Partial lecture notes will be available on A2L. It is responsibility of the student to ensure that notes are obtained for any classes missed.

Attendance and Emails Policy
Office hours are held by the contact T.A., and the instructor as well, to help clarify the content of lectures and assist with the assignment. Office hours will be posted on Avenue by the end of the second week of lecture.
It is not appropriate to use email to ask detailed questions (including asking about what was discussed in lecture). As a general rule, you should not expect to receive answers to emails on weekends or in the evening. Rather, emails will typically be responded to during regular working hours on weekdays, and as schedule allows. Emails sent 24 hours prior to, or on the Final Exam test date will not be answered.

When asking a non-personal question you are encouraged to use the Avenue discussion board. It is likely that any question you have (whether it be clarification or simply of interest) is had by others as well. Both the TA and the instructor will frequent the discussion board.

As a courtesy, and to ensure your emails are properly answered, your must include your name and student ID number in the email signature. *Emails must be sent from McMaster email accounts* or they will not be read or responded to. Emails should be written in a professional manner, spell-checked and proof-read before sending them. The subject line *must* state for which course the query is about. Online discussion terminology (e.g. ROLF) must be avoided.

**Evaluation**

This course will consist of online quizzes, one assignment and a final exam. There will be 3 quizzes in the course covering lecture, additional readings and textbook material. Quizzes are valued at 6% each and the lowest quiz mark will be dropped. Quizzes will be available on A2L for a 5-day period starting on Thursday afternoon at noon and closing on Tuesday morning at 9:00am. Their schedule will be posted on A2L. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of quiz start and end dates, and of due dates for assignments. Please see the section titled ‘Missed Work or Late Work’ for information regarding missed quizzes.

This course will also contain Final Exam. The final exam will cover all lecture and textbook readings and be a mixture of multiple choice and short answer. A deferred final exam may not follow the same format.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Information Quiz</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online quizzes (3 QUIZZES, 6% EACH)</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One assignment</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>49%</td>
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**Missed or Late work**

As online quizzes will be available for a 5-day period, MSAFs will NOT be accepted for missed quizzes; see the section titled ‘McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF). Assignments will be turned in to an Avenue drop box on weeks 3 and 5. No late assignments will be accepted. The midterm will be written on July 6th. No make-up midterm will be offered. Any quizzes, assignments or midterms not completed will
simply have the grade redistributed to the final exam, no MSAF necessary. Also note that there is are no late penalties as late assignments will not be accepted.

**McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF)**

If you are absent from the university for a minor medical reason, lasting fewer than 5 days, you may report your absence, once per term, without documentation, using the McMaster Student Absence Form. Absences for a longer duration or for other reasons must be reported to your Faculty/Program office, with documentation, and relief from term work may not necessarily be granted. When using the MSAF, report your absence to maclacjc@mcmaster.ca. You must then contact your instructor immediately (normally within 2 working days) by email at maclacjc@mcmaster.ca to learn what relief may be granted for the work you have missed, and relevant details such as revised deadlines, or time and location of a make-up evaluation. Please note that the MSAF may not be used for term work worth 25% or more, nor can it be used for the final examination.

**Please note:** students who use the MSAF, but who do not contact the instructor within the 2 working days period, may not be granted any relief.

**Avenue to Learn (A2L)**

URL: http://avenue.mcmaster.ca

A2L is an online system which will be used in this class for communicating information relating to the course (e.g. lecture notes, etc.). To log in to A2L, use your MUGSI login and password. See the A2L home page above for more instructions if you need them. **It is the student’s responsibility to check A2L regularly (i.e. AT LEAST twice a week) for updates.**

Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used.

Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor. If you encounter any technical problems with this service go to the following website for support: http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/help/. **Please note that it is not the responsibility of the teaching staff of EARTH SC 2WW3 to assist you with A2L issues.**

**Mark Appeals and A2L grades**

You will have **one week** (i.e. 7 days) from the date that marks for an evaluation (e.g. quiz) are released to appeal your mark. The times at which you will be able to retrieve your class assignment will be announced during lecture and on A2L. If you wish to appeal a mark for a quiz, you must send a note via email (including your name, McMaster email address, and student ID number) to the instructor stating why you wish to have the quiz looked after. If you wish to appeal a mark for the class assignment you must attach to your assignment a written note (including your name, McMaster email address, and student ID number) box justifying why you wish to have the class assignment looked after, and leave this in the EARTH SC 2WW3 drop box. In any case,
if the request is found to be insufficiently justified (e.g. simply wanting a higher mark is insufficient), the matter will not be further investigated. Remember that a resubmitted paper is entirely regarded meaning the grade can go up or down.

Your marks will be recorded on A2L. It is your responsibility to check that all marks entered into A2L are recorded properly. You must notify the instructor about any errors with regards to how your marks are entered. You have until 48 hours prior to the final exam to report any A2L mark issues.

**Student Conduct**

Students’ behaviour in all aspects of this course should meet the standards of the McMaster University Student Code of Conduct. Any inappropriate behaviour directed against any of your colleagues, T.A, or the instructor will not be tolerated. Disruptive behaviour during lectures will also not be tolerated.

This also means that the A2L Discussion Board is an extension of the classroom. These spaces are to be considered inclusive and safe. Abuse, ridicule, slander, inappropriate language, and discrimination towards the instructor, teaching staff, and other students will not be tolerated in any capacity. This may lead to various disciplinary measures including, but not limited to, removal of access privileges to the A2L for Earth Sc 2WW3.

**Academic Dishonesty**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at

http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

**Turnitin.com:** In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to
Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

**Acknowledgement of Course Policies**

Your registration and continuous participation (e.g., on A2L, in the classroom, etc.) to the various learning activities of Earth Sc 2WW3 will be considered to be an implicit acknowledgement of the course policies outlined above, or of any other that may be announced during lecture and/or on A2L. **It is your responsibility to read this course outline, to familiarize yourself with the course policies and to act accordingly.** Lack of awareness of the course policies cannot be invoked at any point during this course for failure to meet them. It is your responsibility to ask for clarification on any policies that you do not understand.

The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly (in class and post any changes to the course A2L). **The lecture schedule is only a guideline and may be modified during the course of the class.**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. **If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.**