Course Essentials  
Envir Sc / Geog 3ME3 Fall 2016

Instructor: Dr. Maureen Padden (paddenm@mcmaster.ca)

Field Assistants: t.b.a.

Course Dates:
Session 1: Monday, August 22 - Wednesday, August 31
Meet on Monday, August 22 at 8:30 a.m. in BSB 315

Session 2: Wednesday, August 24 – Friday, September 2
Meet on Wednesday, August 24 at 8:30 a.m. in BSB 315

We will be going into the field on the first day. Please come prepared. See below for equipment.

This course runs for 10 days including weekends. We will be leaving the General Sciences Building each day at 9:00 a.m. We expect to return to campus each day by 5:00 p.m.

Costs: We are still in the process of calculating the extra costs of the course. We expect the total supplemental cost to be $100 or less. We will communicate with students who have applied once we finalize our budget. You can pay your deposit by cash or money order at the main office for the School of Geography and Earth Sciences (GSB 206) by April 15.

Field Exercises will involve:

(1) constructing a cross-section of a flood plain
(2) making a topographic map with hydrologic information
(3) measuring water temperature, conductivity and pH under field conditions
(4) measuring dissolved nutrients, such as phosphorous and nitrogen under field and lab conditions
(5) conducting vegetation surveys
(6) conducting a benthic invertebrate survey of stream sediment
(7) mapping, interpreting and reporting your work
Grading scheme*

Cross-section of Sulphur Creek flood plain and vegetation survey 20%
Sulphur Creek Stream map with geochemistry and benthic surveys 20%
Prediction of changes after development - 1 page report 10%
Interview 30%
Field notebook 20%

*may change slightly as additional field areas become available. Final grading scheme will be available on the first day of the course.

List of Essential Items for Field Work:

Field and Office
map folder - a clipboard with cover works well
field notebook – must be hard-covered, bound book
protractor
short ruler with mm divisions
longer ruler for office work
pencils and erasers
coloured pencils
calculator
watch

Personal Items
Health Card
sturdy boots or shoes
good (waterproof) rain jacket and rain pants. A disposable rain poncho is not sufficient.
backpack for carrying rain gear, lunch etc.
water bottles/ thermos
small first aid kit
personal medication / inhaler
light clothing for hot, dry weather
warm clothing for cold, wet weather
hat
sunscreen
bug spray
zip-loc bags for garbage
sunglasses
**EACH DAY** Bring lunch, snacks, plenty of fluids