

Course Title: Environmental Issues

Course Number: CC555/BIOL849

Instructor: Barbara A. Zeeb, Professor

Contact Info: Dept. of Chem. & Chem. Eng. RMC

Sawyer Building, Mod 5, Room 5517 zeeb-b@rmc.ca; 541-6000 x6713

Course Logistics:

This course is available to both Queen's (BIOL 849) and RMC (CC555) students, but retains a separate course number at the two institutions. As I am on sabbatical until December 2015, BIOL849/CC555 will be held in the Winter 2016 term.

Course Scope and Goals:

Environmental issues are defined as problems with earth's systems (air, water, soil, etc.) that have developed or been created as a result of human interference or activities. The scope of this topic is huge, and cannot possibly be covered in a single, or even several, courses. Instead, this survey course presents a series of seminars on selected environmental issues across a broad array of disciplines. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the realities and perceptions of changes to the environment. Students will also have the opportunity to choose topics of interest to them for presentation and for their final paper.

Goals:

- To provide an awareness of global environmental issues, outside the scope of each students individual research
- To broaden each students knowledge of a specific environmental issue of interest to them
- To gain experience in both written and oral communication of topical scientific information

Textbooks:

There is no required textbook however selected readings will be required. Visiting lecturers may recommend readings in advance.

Prerequisite and Assumed Background:

Enrolment in a Graduate program in Science or Engineering at either Queen's or RMC.

Evaluation:

Intro to Thesis	2%
Seminar #1	10%
In Class Debate	10%
Seminar #2	20%
Term paper	50%
Class Participation	8%