

***Ecosystem Management***  
Biology 3222G  
Course Outline/Syllabus Winter 2024

**1. Course Information and Prerequisites:**

See schedule posted on OWL

Biology 2483A

**Prerequisites:** Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean's Designate (Department/Program Counsellors and Science Academic Counselling) to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees if you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**2. Instructor Information**

See schedule posted on OWL

**3. Course Description, Learning Outcomes, Schedule, Delivery Mode**

**Course Description:** The theory and practice of managing ecosystems. Topics include ecosystem functioning and relationships at various spatial scales, sustainable management, restoring degraded ecosystems, species-at-risk, invasive species management, and indigenous management. The value of ecosystem services, financial and practical considerations will be considered.

**Learning Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe sustainable management and explain how it can be achieved via different ecosystem management philosophies (e.g., conservation, preservation)
2. Understand the process for developing an ecosystem management plan
3. Describe the biotic and abiotic ecosystem properties that affect management planning and management objectives
4. Describe the environmental legislation that governs ecosystem management in Canada
5. Describe and evaluate the methods used for assessing ecosystems, supporting management recommendations, and monitoring progress

**Contingency Plan:** This course will be delivered in-person, however in the unlikely event of any university-declared emergency, some or all of this course may be required to be delivered online, either synchronously or asynchronously. ***The grading scheme will not change.*** Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the professor.

**TENTATIVE CALENDAR 2024: Students will be informed in advance of any upcoming changes.**

See schedule posted on OWL

**4. Course Materials**

**Required Equipment:**



Stable internet connection



Laptop or computer with webcam



Working microphone

**Required Reading, textbook:**

All course documents and information (syllabus, lecture files, instructional documents, required readings, etc.) **will be posted to OWL and students are responsible for checking the course OWL site (<http://owl.uwo.ca>) on a regular basis for updates.** If students need assistance with the course OWL site, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk, which can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Personal Response Systems ("Clickers") are not used in this course.

**5. Methods of Evaluation**

Most assignments will be submitted on OWL, except for quizzes, the midterm, and the presentation, which will all take place in class.

**The overall course grade will be calculated as:**

Assignment	Weight	Due Date
Quizzes	10%	Weekly
Participation in lectures and tutorials via attendance and submitting assignments 'for completion'	15%	Weekly
Review of possible management actions	15%	Week 4
Presentation	10%	Week 6
Midterm	20%	Week 9
Management Plan	30%	Week 12

Students must complete and pass (grade >50%) the management plan assignment to pass the course.

**6. Student Absences**

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

**Assessments worth less than 10% of the overall course grade:**

The only assignments worth less than 10% of the overall course grade are the individual quizzes and participation marks. Students who miss one or two quizzes or tutorials can reweight to those that they do complete. Students who miss more than two quizzes should discuss make-up options with the instructor.

### **Assessments worth 10% or more of the overall course grade:**

For work totaling 10% or more of the final course grade, you must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to the Academic Counselling Office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as possible. For further information, please consult the University's medical illness policy at

[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration.pdf).

The Student Medical Certificate is available at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

Students who miss an assignment worth more than 10% of the overall course grade and receive accommodation can expect an extension or make-up opportunity depending on the specific circumstances and assignment type.

### **Absences from Final Examinations**

If you miss the Final Exam, please contact the Academic Counselling office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a "Multiple Exam Situation" (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

**Note:** missed work can *only* be excused through one of the mechanisms above. Being asked not to attend an in-person course requirement due to potential COVID-19 symptoms is **not** sufficient on its own.

## **7. Accommodation and Accessibility**

### **Religious Accommodation**

When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and/or the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at

<https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>.

### **Accommodation Policies:**

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf),

## **8. Academic Policies**

The website for Registrarial Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>.

In accordance with policy,

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies\\_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf),

the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

**Scholastic offences** are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

### **Professionalism & Privacy:**

Western students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

- Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on OWL
- All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared
- Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission
- Permitted recordings are not to be distributed
- Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments
- All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed

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**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is an academic offense and will not be tolerated. Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate, and by proper and accurate referencing in the form of scientific citations. All required papers will be subject to

submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices During Tests/Exams:**

Cellphones, tablets, and personal computers will not be permitted during the midterm or quizzes.

## **9. Support Services**

Please visit the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Counselling webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: <https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/>.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at

[https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html).

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca).

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education at

[http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible\\_education/index.html](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html)

if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Learning-skills counsellors at the Student Development Centre (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: <https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>.

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.

## **10. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Decolonization (EDID):**

**Land Acknowledgement:** We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society. Throughout Canada, North America, and the world, Indigenous Peoples are vital contributors to their communities, and we greatly value their presence, knowledge, and wisdom.