

**University of Alberta**  
**Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences**

**EAS 593: Advanced Human Dimensions of Global Change**

**Section:** B1

**Term:** 2 (January-April 2007)

**Lectures:** Fridays

**Time:** 1:00pm – 3:50pm

**Room:** CSC B 43

**Instructor:** R.J. Patrick

**Email:** [robert.patrick@ualberta.ca](mailto:robert.patrick@ualberta.ca) (quickest way to contact instructor)

**Office Location:** 3-127 H.M. Tory Building

**Office Phone:** 492-0350

**Student contact hours:** Tuesday 2:30pm -5:00pm  
or by appointment

### **1. Course Description**

Investigation of issues related to the human use of resources and impact on the regional and global environment. Critical review of alternative frameworks for assessing, mitigating and adapting to global environmental change. Research project. Classes concurrent with EAS 493. Not available to students with credit in EAS 493.[Faculty of Arts] (*See EAS Website 'Course Listing'*)

### **2. Course Aim and Objectives**

This course introduces students to a diversity of global change topics ranging from the physical environment to the political, socio-economic, and cultural. Specific topics will include, but not be restricted to, globalization, agribusiness, development theory, political ecology and sustainable development. Classroom meetings will be in seminar format with student-led discussions and debates of weekly assigned readings.

The timing of this course aligns with the “International Polar Year”. As well, the UN World Environmental Day slogan for 2007 is: “**Melting Ice – a Hot Topic?**” [http://www.unep.org/wed/2007/english/About\\_WED\\_2007/index.asp](http://www.unep.org/wed/2007/english/About_WED_2007/index.asp). Consequently, the focal point of the course will be a student-hosted U of A ‘preliminary’ United Nations conference to The World Environment Day conference to be held in Tromsø, Norway, June 5 2007. Students of EAS 493 and EAS 593 will present research papers as well as conference posters of their choice relating to the UN conference theme. Dignitaries from the University and Edmonton communities will be invited to this ‘mock’ conference.

### **3. Recommended Text**

Johnston, R.J., Peter J. Taylor and Michael J. Watts.(eds) 2002. *Geographies of Global Change: Remapping the World*. Blackwell Publishing: Malden, MA.

#### 4. Course Evaluation

REQUIRED	VALUE	DUE DATE
UN Conference research paper proposal (see hand-out)	10%	Feb 16
Mid-Term Exam I	15%	Mar 23
Participation (class discussions, quick writes, UN Conference preparation)	15%	On-going
UN Conference Research Paper	15%	Mar 30
UN Conference Poster (summary of research paper highlights)	15%	Mar 30
Develop journal-based global change reading list (meetings)	15%	April 13
UN Conference Presentation (see hand-out)	15%	April 13

*Note: Final grades at the end of the course will be assigned using a combination of absolute achievement and relative standing in the course and will remain unofficial until approved by the Faculty Council or its designate (i.e. the departmental chair).*

#### 5. Course Content

The list on Page 3 is to be used as a general guide for seminar topics and assigned readings. Additional readings from outside the text will be assigned from time to time. Students are expected to have completed the assigned readings *prior* to class.

#### 6. Students with Special Needs

Specialized Support and Disability Services (SSDS) provides assistance to University students whose disabilities involve any number of conditions affecting mobility, vision, hearing, learning or mental or physical health. Students who require accommodations in this course due to a disability affecting mobility, vision, hearing, learning, or mental or physical health are encouraged to discuss their needs with Specialized Support and Disability Services (2-800 Students' Union Building).

#### 7. Academic Honesty

*“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at [www.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm](http://www.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm)) and avoid any behaviour (that) could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”* (University of Alberta Academic Calendar 2006/7)

Policy about course outlines can be found in 23.4 (2) of the University Calendar.

#### 8. Classroom Ethics

Please arrive *before* the start of class (ie. before 1:00pm). There is a strong correlation between student attendance and student academic performance. For this reason plan on attending all lectures. In the event a class must be missed an email to the instructor in advance of the missed class is always appreciated. It is the student's responsibility to get the seminar notes from a colleague. To facilitate open discussion in class it is important to remain tolerant of other viewpoints, open-minded, and respectful of others. Fair debates and open expression of ideas will be encouraged.

**Course Schedule and Lecture Topics** (subject to minor changes)

DATE	TOPIC	READING
JAN 12	a) Course Introduction; major topics b) United Nations (mock) classroom conference overview “ <b>Melting Ice – a Hot Topic?</b> ” World Environment Day Tromsø, Norway June 5, 2007 (International Polar Year) <a href="http://www.unep.org/wed/2007/english/About_WED_2007/index.asp">http://www.unep.org/wed/2007/english/About_WED_2007/index.asp</a>	See UN Conference Website
JAN 19	a) Climate Change and the Arctic b) Strategies for climate change mitigation/adaptation c) Conference invitations; notice to public	a) UN Conference website b) TBA
JAN 26	a) Geoeconomic Change I b) Geopolitical Change I	a) Text: Part I b) Text: Part II
FEB 2	a) Geosocial Change I b) Geocultural Change I	a) Text: Part III b) Text: Part IV
FEB 9	a) Geoenvironmental Change I b) Geoeconomic Change II	a) Text: Part V b) Text: Part I
FEB 16	a) Conference Research Paper proposal due b) Geopolitical Change II c) Geosocial Change II	b) Text: Part II c) Text: Part III
FEB 23	READING WEEK – No Classes	
MAR 2	a) Conference research paper proposal returned b) Geocultural Change II c) Conference poster preparations/instructions	b) Text: Part IV c) DIF Lab
MAR 9	a) Geoenvironmental Change II b) Geoenvironmental Change III	a) Text: Part V b) Text: Part V
MAR 16	a) Climate Change b) Arctic Impacts	Text: Part VI
MAR 23	a) MID TERM EXAM b) Kyoto, the future?; and the “Made in Canada Approach to Climate Change”, challenges and opportunities c) Preparation for Conference rehearsal	TBA
MAR 30	a) UN Conference “ <b>Melting Ice – a Hot Topic?</b> ” conference rehearsal; see UN press release: <a href="http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=477&amp;ArticleID=5271&amp;l=en">http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=477&amp;ArticleID=5271&amp;l=en</a> b) Conference Poster due (highlights from your paper) c) Conference Research Paper due	
APR 6	Good Friday – UNIVERSITY CLOSED	
APR 13	Journal-based reading list due	
APR 13	*Students of EAS 493/593 host United Nations Conference (run-up to The World Environment Day June 5, 2007 conference in Norway) “ <b>Melting Ice – a Hot Topic?</b> ” Invited dignitaries from University/Edmonton	

TBA = To be announced