Handout 1

Pollutants, Invaders and Global Change (Biology in Environmental Management)

BIOL 4265 3.0, winter 2008_09

Prerequisite: 1 of Biol 2030, 2031 and 2050
classes from 10:00-11:30, Tuesdays & Thursdays, Fairquharson 020
course director – Dr. Norman Yan

N. Yan’s office: room 212B Lumbers
contact info: tel: 416 736-2100 x22936 email: nyan@yorku.ca FAX: 416 736-5698, but use WebCT mailer to communicate with Yan, at all times.
office hours: generally Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Please pre-arrange.

Course website: activate and consult your “myWebCT” account for course materials
To activate your WebCT account:
1. go to http://www.yorku.ca/computing
2. select Website for Current Students
3. Click WebCT
4. Under the New Users tab, select “activate your WebCT service”.

Readings: see handout 5 and “course reserve material” at www.library.yorku.ca

Course Goal: This course summarizes our progress in conceptualizing, understanding and solving large-scale ecological problems caused by pollutants and non-indigenous species. The course is built on a simple, conceptual, box and arrow framework of the ecological management process. Using mainly aquatic examples, to contrast with many other ecology courses, it highlights the fundamental roles of applied ecologists in solving ecological problems.

Readings: Required and recommended readings are provided in handout 5 on course WebCT site. If these articles are available on line through York’s library eservices, you will be able to download them from www.library.yorku.ca by selecting course reserve materials, then the course number. If they are not available on line, hardcopies are on reserve on a 2-hour loan in the Science library.

Assignments: There will be no final exam. Rather there will be a test on ecological assessment techniques (20 marks), two short (5-page) required papers on assessing ecological impacts (25 marks each), preceded by a 1-page preview of these two projects (5 marks), and one poster presentation on non-indigenous species prepared in groups of two students (25 marks). This assignment plan is summarized as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>See readings</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test on ecological assessment</td>
<td>Classes 1-9</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>April 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-page preview of planned papers</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>April 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-pg paper on indicator development and assessment</td>
<td>Classes 1-16</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>April 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and recovery using the indicators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster on invaders (groups of 2 students)</td>
<td>Classes 17-21</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>May 19 &amp; 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Assignments will not be accepted for marking beyond 4 pm on the due date. See http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69#_Toc89156089 for important general information about academic honesty.

Last date to drop course without receiving a grade: April 22
Handout 1b (approved by nigh-unanimous class vote, March 26, 2009)
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Course Goal: This course summarizes our progress in conceptualizing, understanding and solving large-scale ecological problems caused by pollutants and non-indigenous species. The course is built on a simple, conceptual, box and arrow framework of the ecological management process. Using mainly recent government reports from the Great Lakes as a base for students’ assigned work, it highlights the fundamental roles of applied ecologists in solving ecological problems.

Readings: Required and recommended readings are provided in handout 5 on course WebCT site. If articles are available on line through York’s library eservices, you can download them from www.library.yorku.ca by selecting course reserve materials, then the course number. If they are not available on line, hardcopies are on reserve on a 2-hour loan in the Science library.

Assignments: There will be no final exam. Rather there will be a test on ecological assessment techniques (25 marks), one short plan (10 marks), and a 7-page required paper (35 marks) on ecological impacts on a selected species, resource or habitat in one of the Great Lakes, and one 2 – page, PPT poster presentation on the status of a Great Lake (p1) and its implications (p2) for Great Lakes policy, prepared in groups of two students (30 marks). This assignment plan is summarized as follows:

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<td>35</td>
<td>April 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Lakes poster (in groups of 2)</td>
<td>Classes 17-21</td>
<td>30</td>
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Notes: Assignments will not be accepted for marking beyond 4 pm on the due date. See http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69#_Toc89156089 for important general information about academic honesty.
Last date to drop course without receiving a grade: April 22