

KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
Richmond Campus
PSYCHOLOGY 3980 – R10
ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY
2015-2

COURSE SYLLABUS:

Course Summary:

This course critically examines the field of environmental psychology. You will learn about the interrelationships between ourselves and the environmental systems in which we live and work. The focus is on both theory and application. Specific topics addressed include: the history and scope of environmental psychology; theories of environment and behaviour; environmental stress; natural environments; built environments; designing for humans; specialized living and working environments and behavioural change in relation to contemporary global environmental issues and issues of sustainability.

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr. Kevin Hamilton

OFFICE: Rm 2414 (off the Psych Lab Rm 2400).

OFFICE HOURS: **Richmond:** Mondays 1:00 – 3:00; Wednesdays 1-3pm
Rm 2044
Surrey: Tuesday 1-3pm Surrey Main Rm 2881

PHONE & EMAIL: 604-599-2606
voice mail 9188
Email preferred: *kevin.hamilton@kpu.ca*

CLASSES: Mondays 10:00am – 12:50pm
Rm 1830

READING LIST:

Required readings will be posted to the course website. In addition, the following two books have been selected for this course:

Required Reading:

Quinn, D. (1992). *Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit*. New York: Bantam / Turner

Recommended Reading:

Lovelock, J. (2009). *The Vanishing Face of Gaia: A Final Warning*. London: Allen Lane

Course Website:

The website for this course is hosted on *MyKwantlen*. It is recommended that you use Google Chrome or FireFox to navigate this site. Internet Explorer and Safari can be problematic. Course material is stored under 'Files' Be sure to click on the small triangles to the left of folders to open their contents.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

It is necessary that you read assigned material posted on the course website, and that you read the book(s) assigned for this course. You are expected to complete the appropriate assigned readings before coming to class. This is essential in order to understand the material covered during classes. Generally, students need to devote at least as much time to this course outside of class as in class.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Learning is enhanced by active participation. Students are expected to attend all classes and are encouraged to ask questions and discuss material from the text and other sources during class. Frequently students will be asked to work in groups and to present their work to the rest of the class. 5% of the overall grade is based on class participation.

EVALUATION:

- 3 Quizzes: 10%, 10%, 20%
- Building Audit 25%
- Group Major Project 30% (presentation 20%, annotated bibliography 10%)
- Class participation 5%
- Additional bonus marks of up to 5% will be available to students who complete a set of take home questions based on James Lovelock's book *The Vanishing Face of Gaia*

Dates for quizzes and assigned projects are indicated under '*Topics and Required Readings*'

Note: Grades for assignments and tests will be posted randomly by student number on the course website, **unless you specifically ask not to have your grades posted in this manner.**

MISSED TESTS:

Students are expected to write quizzes and complete assignments by the scheduled times. If you are ill or cannot make it to class to take a particular quiz, hand in a project or present, you are required to contact the Course Director within 48 hours. A doctor's note or other relevant written documentation is mandatory in order to write an equivalent form of a missed quiz or to receive an extension on an assignment. Missed quizzes are to be written within 3 days of returning to class. Times for writing missed quizzes are to be coordinated with the Psych Lab staff in Rm 2400 (Phone 604-599-2527) and missed quizzes are to be written in the Psych Lab under the supervision of a Psych Lab Assistant. Please give your doctor's note or other documentation to the Psych Lab Assistant or Course Director.

UNIVERSITY EVALUATION SYSTEM:

Grade	Grade Points	Conversion Scale (%)	Definition: Achievement
A+	4.33	90-100	Exceptional
A	4.00	85-89	Outstanding
A-	3.67	80-84	Excellent
B+	3.33	76-79	Very Good
B	3.00	72-75	Good
B-	2.67	68-71	Good
C+	2.33	64-67	Satisfactory
C	2.00	60-63	Satisfactory
C-	1.67	56-59	Satisfactory
D	1.00	50-55	Marginal
F	0.00	0-49	Unsatisfactory

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM:

I. Definitions:

Cheating: This includes plagiarism, where a student or group of students uses or attempts to use unauthorized aids, assistance, materials or methods during exams or in the completion of assignments.

Plagiarism: This is where a student represents the work of another person as his or her own.

II. Policy:

The University condemns all forms of cheating and plagiarism. Instructors are required to report such offenses to the Dean.

The University will discipline students in the following manner:

- 1) For most first offenses, a grade of zero will be assigned on the assignment, test, paper, analysis, etc.
- 2) For most second offenses, a failing grade will be assigned in the affected course.
- 3) Depending upon the circumstances surrounding a first or second offense, a more severe level of discipline may be imposed by the University.
- 4) For a third offense, the matter must be referred to the the University president for the assignment of discipline, which may include academic suspension.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPICS AND REQUIRED READINGS</u>
May 11	1. Introduction to Environmental Psychology
May 18	Victoria Day Holiday
May 25	2. Theories of Environment and Behaviour
June 1	Quiz 1: (all material to date) 3. From Tribes to towns to Cities
June 8	4. The Origins of Western Thought
June 15	5. The Built Environment <u>Cities</u>
June 22	6. The Built Environment <u>Buildings and Interiors</u> Assignment of Building Audit Project
June 29	7. Building Audit Project Time (No Scheduled Class)
July 6	8. Field Trip to UBC (Sustainable Architecture) Meet at UBC: Instructions posted online
July 13	9. Quiz 2 (Topics 3,4,5) Assignment of Group Major Projects Effects of Human Behaviour on the Environment
July 20	10. Sustainability: Quiz 3: (Ishmael) Ishmael discussion
July 27	Building Audit due (25%) Building Audit discussions
August 3	11. Extreme and Unusual Living and Working Environments

August 10

Group Major Project presentations

August 17

Group Major Project presentations

Last day to submit answers to Lovelock bonus questions posted online