

# Geoscience Information Management Syllabus

## Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences

### ENVS / EARTH / GEOG 3500 Fall 2023

*Dalhousie University acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people.*

*Dalhousie University also acknowledges the histories, contributions, and legacies of African Nova Scotians, who have been here for over 400 years.*

#### Course Instructor(s)

Name	Email	Student Hours
Christopher Greene, PhD	Chris.Greene@dal.ca	Monday 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Caitlin Cunningham	Caitlin.Cunningham@dal.ca	Friday 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

#### Course Description

Geographic Information Systems (GIS), as a tool for the management of georeferenced data, have become indispensable for disciplines where location of objects and pattern of processes is important. GIS plays a fundamental role for a wide range of applications, from modeling, to analysis and predictions, to decision making. The course is designed for a broad base of potential users and draws on examples of the role of GIS in global climate change, mineral exploration, preservation of biodiversity, coastal zone management, resource depletion, and many other present and future environmental issues. The course material will be of interest to those studying geoscience, environmental science, ecology, marine biology, oceanography, epidemiology, urban and rural planning, civil engineering, and any other field involving spatial data. Laboratory exercises emphasize the principles of raster and vector GIS, and the integration of databases and GPS (global positioning systems) data into GIS. Exercises draw on the diversity of GIS applications in a number of topical areas.

### ***Course Prerequisites***

Two years of university study or equivalent or instructor's permission

### ***Course Exclusions***

Credit will only be given for one of EARTH 3500.03, EARTH 5600.03, GEOG 3500.03, SCIE 3600.03 or ENVS 3500

## **Learning Objectives**

With successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- recognize and describe how geographic information science governs (or should govern) the use of geographic information systems;
- recognize and describe the components (and component functions) of geographic information systems;
- explain and demonstrate how geographic data is generated, managed, modified, visualized;
- critique the quality of geovisualization from a range of sources (popular media, memes, peer-reviewed manuscripts);
- conduct basic, non-inferential spatial analysis using GIS software; and
- compare / contrast how geographic information systems can be used to aid decision-making across several disciplines.

## **Student Resources**

**Student Hours for the Course Instructor and Lab Instructor** and are booked through the MS-BOOKINGS site for Dr. Greene's courses (<https://bit.ly/3C06Pda>). Appointments are booked for 20-minute time slots.

While it is a teaching space, **the Elizabeth May Centre for Geocomputation** (LSC-2012) is open to students to work outside of scheduled class time. The lab is open 7:00 am to 10:00 pm except on university holidays. Additionally, the class schedule for the lab will be posted on the door to assist students with planning.

The **GIS Centre (located on the 5th floor of the Killam Library)** also supports this class by providing access to additional applied help during normal business hours (10 am - 4 pm). Appointments with a staff member for help on workshops or projects can be booked through their MS-BOOKINGS page (<https://bit.ly/30M7dDI>). It is also critical to note that the GIS

Centre assists with applied parts of the course only; staff do not assist in answering theory-related questions on class deliverables.

## **Course Structure**

### ***Course Delivery***

This course employs a **blended delivery model**, with both synchronous and asynchronous elements to the class. Moreover, the synchronous elements of the class are designed for in person delivery with several deliverables requiring in-person attendance to complete (i.e., weekly exercises, three term tests).

While synchronous lecture sessions will have a remote stream for students that are unable to attend due to illness, these sessions are not recorded as they are not traditional lectures and are largely engaging with organized pen and paper exercises.

Finally, this course employs the ESRI platform ArcGIS Pro™. As a U.S.-based Company ESRI observes embargoes placed on several countries by the U.S. government and do not permit exporting / use of the software in those embargoed nations for non-government users. That From ESRI's Export Compliance material:

*"In addition, ENC products are eligible for export to any nongovernment customer in all destinations except the embargoed countries: Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Syria, Russia, Belarus, and the Regions of Crimea, Donetsk People's Republic, and Luhansk People's Republic of Ukraine."*

### ***Lectures***

In person sessions are held Tuesdays from 5:35 to 6:55 pm in Life Sciences Common Area C240.

### ***Laboratories***

A three-hour in-person lab section per week (there are six potential options), held in the Elizabeth May Centre for Geocomputation. Students are permitted to contact the lab Instructor via MS-TEAMS with questions during their scheduled lab section if they are unable to attend In-person.

## Course Materials

### *Recommended Textbook*

Longley, P. A., Goodchild, M. F., Maguire, D. J., & Rhind, D. W. (2015). *Geographic Information Science and Systems* (4th ed.). Wiley Publishing. Available as an e-book through the Killam library at <https://bit.ly/3pLRN53>.

### *Software*

Access to ArcGIS Pro™ 3.1 is required and is installed on all Dalhousie campus machines (e.g., the Elizabeth May Teaching Lab, the Wallace McCain Learning Common, Killam Library). The software may also be available to you on your own computer through two alternative methods<sup>1</sup>:

- 1) **Downloading ArcGIS Pro™** through the Dalhousie Software resources to run on a Windows Operating System (<https://software.library.dal.ca/>). It is important to double-check the hardware requirements for the software if using this approach (<https://bit.ly/3jGbk4k>) as video capacity (recommended minimum is a 4 GB GPU) tends to be a common limitation. Using a local install also requires the Dalhousie Virtual Private Network to be installed and active while running ArcGIS Pro™. **Do NOT upgrade to ArcGIS Pro™ 3.0 as the projects are not backwards compatible** to ArcGIS Pro™ 2.9.5.
- 2) **Web Delivered Access** through a strong, stable broadband connection in a virtual lab environment (<https://apps.vlab.dal.ca/>, use: ArcGIS) or a remote desktop connection (<https://remoteaccess.labstats.com/dalhousie-university>). This method can be used by either Windows or Mac operating systems through a downloadable client, or through a web browser. The first week's workshop provides an overview of using the virtual lab environment and remote desktop.

### *Digital Storage*

There are several times during the course where digital files are used across several weeks and deliverables. Because campus terminals are “frozen”, students will need to save their work to an external location like their Dalhousie OneDrive or to an external USB drive (best practice is to save duplicates in separate locations). **I recommend bringing a 64 GB Minimum USB drive (USB-C recommended)** to use exclusively for this course to save weekly applied work in addition to saving to OneDrive.

---

<sup>1</sup> If using either of these options, students are responsible for ensuring they have either an appropriate Windows capable machine at home and / or a stable broadband internet connection (ethernet strongly recommended) to use VMWare or Remote Desktop.

## Assessment

### *Assignments*

Applied – Small Value Lab Deliverables (100 pts.): Standalone, structured exercises completed in a single lab session with a deliverable such as a single map or worksheet to be evaluated. These exercises introduce and develop fundamental remote sensing techniques and data management practices in preparation for the Independent Lab Project. Workshop deliverables are due +72 hours from the end of the student’s scheduled lab section.

Applied – Two Independent Lab Projects (400 pts.): Two multiple lab session projects, each worth 200 pts., requiring students to select and apply techniques learned in the previous standalone, structured exercises for a location of their choice to address a given question / topic area. These projects are intended to develop the ability to integrate and contextualize analytical outputs in a professional product (e.g., PowerPoint Presentation, Technical Report, Story Map).

Project 1 (200 pts.) – Due October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Project 2 (200 pts.) – Due December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Synchronous Session – In Class Exercises (50 pts.): Weekly pen & paper exercises completed and discussed in the lecture section of the class. These exercises are pass / fail and intended to reinforce specific lecture topics or to demonstrate how the software executes an operation on one or more inputs.

### *Knowledge Tests*

Students will complete three written tests for a total of 450 pts. Each test is valued at 150 pts towards the final grade and largely structured as short/long answer format. Tests are held during the scheduled in person sessions and have a 90-minute time limit.

Test 1 (150 pts) – Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Content = Modules 1 & 2

Test 2<sup>2</sup> (150 pts.) - Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, Content = Modules 3 & 4

Test 3 (150 pts.) – Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, Content = Modules 5 & 6

Content on Tests 2 and 3 are not fully “cumulative” but do rely on several scaffolded topics from previous tests that carry through the entire term and underpin later concepts covered in the course.

---

<sup>2</sup> This test was intended to be on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, but because that is Halloween and I have two young kids, I felt I had better push it back a week so that I don’t get side-eye for months for not being home for Trick-or-Treating.

### *Final Exam*

There is no final exam for this course. However, a time slot will be scheduled during the final exam period to deliver makeup tests for those missing a term test for valid reasons during the semester.

### *Other Course Requirements*

Students must earn 250 total points in the theory portion of the class and earn 250 total points in the applied portion of the class to complete the course. Students that do not achieve this threshold in both the theory and applied portions of the course will be assigned an F regardless of the total number of points earned.

Grade	Range	Definition and Expectations
A+	90-100	<b>Excellent:</b> Considerable evidence of original thinking; demonstrated outstanding capacity to analyze and synthesize; outstanding grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
A	85-89	
A-	80-84	
B+	77-79	<b>Good:</b> Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature.
B	73-76	
B-	70-72	
C+	65-69	<b>Satisfactory:</b> Evidence of some understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems; benefitting from his/her university experience.
C	60-64	
C-	55-59	
D	50-54	<b>Marginal Pass:</b> Evidence of minimally acceptable familiarity with subject matter, critical and analytical skills (except in programs where a minimum grade of 'C' is required).
F	<50	<b>Inadequate:</b> Insufficient evidence of understanding of the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytical skills; limited or irrelevant use of the literature.

## **Course Policies on Missed or Late Academic Requirements**

### *Audits*

As per section 10 of the Undergraduate calendar, audits of this course are only permitted if permission to audit the course is given by the course instructor and a plan of what constitutes the planned audit is agreed upon by the instructor and student.

### *Synchronous Sessions*

There are no direct grade penalties for not attending the scheduled synchronous session (i.e., attendance). There are, however, assessments such as in-class exercises and term tests delivered and submitted during the synchronous sessions over the semester. Moreover, these sessions are also intended to provide a forum to ask clarification questions about lecture content, lab projects, and upcoming tests or exams. Material covered in the synchronous

session may not be replicated in other media. Students are responsible for any information missed in the synchronous sessions.

### ***Learning Management System (LMS)***

Important information is posted to the LMS several times a week. It is the responsibility of each student to check the LMS and their Dalhousie email on a regular basis to ensure they are not missing any important materials, updates, announcements, etc.

Materials posted to the Learning Management System are for personal use only and are not to be shared (see Copyright Disclaimer in the LMS Course Shell). Sharing class materials with other students (registered in the class, not in the class, or outside the institution) is not permitted. Posting class materials to course sharing sites is also not permitted and could be considered both a copyright issue as well as a breach of academic integrity.

### ***Social Media***

It can be disheartening to see your instructor posting material to social media that negatively discusses their students, even when those posts do not identify individuals. As students in this class, you have my promise that I will not publicly post anything negative about participants in this class.

### ***Course Variations***

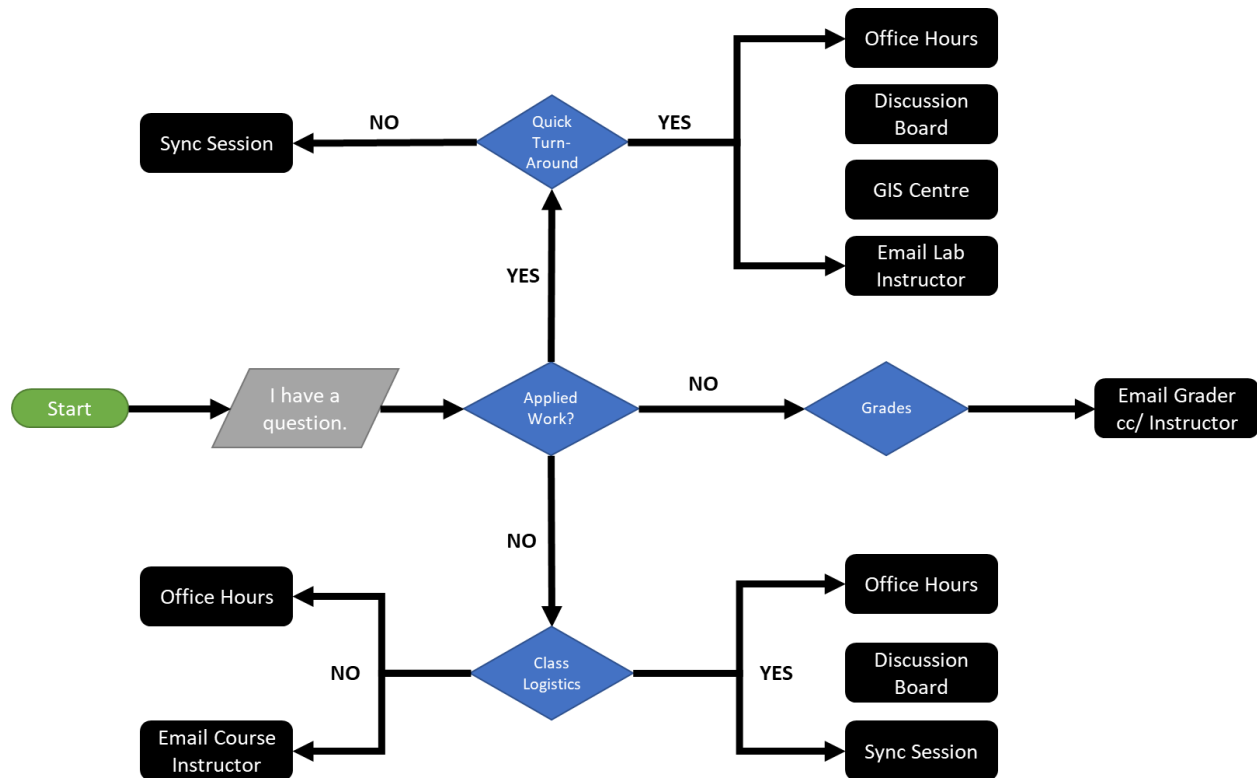
The course will be taught as close to the listed schedule as possible; however, some deviation from this schedule may be required as the term progresses.

### ***Communications***

Students are required to use discussion boards in the Learning Management System for many communication types, especially if related to course management and assessments that have applicability to the entire class cohort. If the Instructor, Lab Instructor, or Teaching Assistants receive an email and feel the question should go to the discussion boards, they will ask the student to replicate their question there for a full response or to ask the question in the next scheduled synchronous session.

Discussion boards will be set up to allow anonymous posting to increase the comfort level of students posting publicly. Please note that even with anonymous posting the moderator (i.e., the teaching staff) will know the identity of the user posting. Please endeavor to be courteous in all communications, including discussion boards.

Due to the volume of emails received during the semester, I am unable to guarantee immediate responses to email enquiries. Typically, students should expect an average of one business day for turnaround of responses to emailed questions. A rough decision tree to assist students in what communications tools to employ has been provided at the end of Section A of the Syllabus.



### ***Student Absence Declaration***

This course has opted into the student declaration of absence in lieu of sick notes. Please refer to <https://bit.ly/2NJS8jw> for specific details about the use of the Student Declaration of Absence. This mechanism is meant to substitute for sick notes from a doctor related to short absences (less than three days) and does not provide an automatic exemption from any missed assessments. Accommodating the absence whether by exemption or makeup assessment is at the discretion of the course instructor. The SDA process can only be used twice in the course. It is important to remember that the SDA policy indicates you must contact the instructor before the assessment deadline has passed regarding your intention to submit an SDA as a part of the SDA process.

### ***Discretionary Extensions (“the Saving Throw”)***

In addition to accommodations provided by the SDA policy and long-term absence policy, each student begins the semester with five discretionary extensions they may use on any applied assessment (workshop or lab project). Students may choose to use a discretionary extension to apply a +24-hour extension on that assessment for any reason not covered by standard accommodation policies, with no questions asked. Up to a maximum of 3 of these discretionary extensions or “Saving Throws” can be applied to the same assessment for a maximum total of +72-hr extension.



Please note, the teaching staff must be informed prior to the deadline (see Communications Decision Tree) for the assessment passing to use these extensions for the extension to apply. You can use a saving throw after the deadline, however half the late penalty (or “half damage” for any D&D peeps out there) will be applied for that saving throw. Additional saving throws for the same assessment requested prior to the deadline are treated independently.

These discretionary extensions are meant to supplement applicable policies such as the SDA (i.e., they are in addition to existing policies), and not meant to act as a replacement for these existing policies. If you are sick, have accommodations that include extensions, are in bereavement, then the policies that normally govern those conditions (SDA, Accessibility, etc.).

### ***Missed Small Deliverables (Module-Related Exercises and Structured Workshops)***

For both the module related exercises and the structured workshops, the lowest individual item for each will be dropped from the total score. If a student does not submit an item, that item is assigned a 0 and will count as the lowest score item.

### ***Missed Tests***

If a student misses a term test for valid reasons, they can write a make-up test to be scheduled during the final exam period. Students that miss more than one term test must consult with the instructor for options on a case-by-case basis.

### ***Submission of Work and Late Penalties***

To reduce the carbon footprint related to class delivery, most work will be submitted and graded electronically in the Brightspace LMS to reduce paper use.

Late penalties for written work without accommodation from the instructor are -20% per calendar day. Late penalties begin to accrue after the assigned submission time has been reached. For example, if an assignment is due on September 4th at 12:00 pm, submissions past that time (plus a brief “grace period”) are subject to the first application of a -20% late penalty.

## Course Policies related to Academic Integrity

All written work may be subject to evaluation using a plagiarism detection service. All students are responsible for ensuring the product they submit to the LMS is the one they intended to submit. There has been an emerging trend of “I submitted the wrong draft” as a justification for high similarity in originality detection, or as an effort to buy time to avoid late penalties from submitting after the scheduled due date. If a resubmission is permitted, that submission will be subject to a grade penalty unless there is timely notification from the student to the instructor that the wrong draft was submitted.

Unless otherwise noted by the instructor, independent work is required for each student. General discussion and peer tutoring are acceptable and encouraged; however, assessments with highly similar structure and flow of ideas are not acceptable and could be submitted to the faculty academic integrity officer for review. Similarly, if not indicated in individual assessment instructions, then the products of Large Language Models / Generative AI (e.g., text generated by ChatGPT, Mobile ChatBot extensions, browser extensions) will not be considered as independent student work and is explicitly not permitted for use in assessment submissions.

### Topic List

#### **Module 1**

1-1: Geographic? Spatial? Geospatial? – Longley et al Ch. 1 pp. 1-9

1-2: Geographic Information Science? Or Systems – Longley et al Ch. 1 pp. 3-32

1-3: A Primer on Map Making – Longley et al Ch. 11 pp. 237-265

1-4: Geographic Views and Spatial Objects – Longley et al Ch. 3 pp. 55-66

1-5: Data Models Representing Spatial Objects – Longley et al Ch. 3 pp. 66-69

1-6: Binary and Levels of Measurement - N/A

2-2: From Measurement to Map – Longley et al Ch. 4 pp. 86-98

2-3: Adding Location to Unreferenced Data – N/A

2-4: Uncertainty & Error – Conception of Phenomena – Longley et al Ch. 5 pp. 99-111

2-5: Uncertainty & Error – Representation of Phenomena – Longley et al Ch. 5 pp. 111-117

2-6: Uncertainty & Error – Analysis of Phenomena – Longley et al Ch. 5 pp. 117-126

#### **Module 2**

2-1: Assigning Coordinates to Locations – Longley et al Ch. 4 pp. 77-86

**Module 3**

3-1: Governing Concepts in Understanding Geographic Phenomena – Longley et al Ch. 2 pp. 33-54

3-2: Classification and Choropleth Mapping – Longley et al Ch. 11 pp. 248-253

3-3: More on Counts and Zones in Choropleth Mapping – Buckley (2013)

3-4: Geovisualization – Other Ways to Consider Spatial Data – Longley et al Ch. 12 pp. 266-280

**Module 4**

4-1: Databases I – Overview of Types and Terms – Longley et al Ch. 9 pp. 194-200

4-2: Databases II – Normalization vs. Table Join – N/A

4-3: Database III – SQL, Boolean Terms, Select by Attributes – Longley et al Ch. 9 pp. 202-202

4-4: Databases IV – Adding Geographic Functions – Longley et al Ch. 9 pp. 202-206

4-5: Databases V – Structuring Geographic Data – Longley et al Ch. 9 pp. 206-212

**Module 5**

5-1: Spatial Analysis – An Introduction to Spatial Analysis – Longley et al Ch. 13 pp. 290-294

5-2: Spatial Analysis – Analysis by Location – Longley et al Ch. 13 pp. 295-303

5-3: Spatial Analysis – Analysis by Distance – Longley et al Ch. 13 pp. 303-317

5-4: Spatial Analysis – Vector Overlay – Jensen Ch. 6

5-5: Spatial Analysis – Raster Overlay – Jensen Ch. 6

5-6: Spatial Analysis – Raster Operations – Jensen Ch. 6

**Module 6**

6-1: Remote Sensing – Electromagnetic Radiation – N/A

6-2: Remote Sensing – How Data is Stored – N/A

6-3: Remote Sensing – Resolution(s) – N/A

6-4: GNSS – The Three Segments – Shelito Ch. 4

6-5: GNSS – Estimating Locations – Shelito Ch. 4

6-6: GNSS – Sources of Positional Error – Shelito Ch. 4

**Module 7**

7-1: Models – Differentiating Data Models and Spatial Models – Longley et al Ch. 15 pp. 339-351

7-2: Models – Accuracy and Validity in Spatial Models – Longley et al Ch. 15 pp. 354-356

## Course Content

Week	Date	Theory / Applied	Assessment
1	Sept. 04 to Sept. 10	Module 1 / SWS-0*	
2	Sept. 01 to Sept. 17	Module 1 / SWS-1*	
3	Sept. 18 to Sept. 24	Module 2 / SWS-2*	
4	Sept. 25 to Oct. 01	Module 2 / SWS-3*	
5	Oct. 02 to Oct. 08	Module 3 / Working Week**	Test 1 (Oct. 3 <sup>rd</sup> )
6	Oct. 09 to Oct. 15	Module 3 / Working Week**	
7	Oct. 16 to Oct. 22	Module 4 / SWS-4*	Project 1 (Oct. 16 <sup>th</sup> )
8	Oct. 23 to Oct. 29	Module 4 / SWS-5*	
9	Oct. 30 to Nov. 05	Module 5 / SWS-6*	
10	Nov. 06 to Nov. 12	Module 5 / SWS-7*	Test 2 (Nov. 7 <sup>th</sup> )
11	Nov. 13 to Nov. 19	Reading Week	
12	Nov. 20 to Nov. 26	Module 6 / Working Week**	
13	Nov. 27 to Dec. 03	Module 6 / Working Week**	Test 3 (Nov. 28 <sup>th</sup> )
14	Dec. 04 to Dec. 06	Module 7	Project 2 (Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup> )

\*Workshop deliverables are due +72 hours from the end of your scheduled lab section.

\*\*Working weeks have lab instructor support for the leading 2 hours of the lab section.

## University Policies and Statements

### Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel, and support. Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre at 1321 Edward St or [elders@dal.ca](mailto:elders@dal.ca). Additional information regarding the Indigenous Student Centre can be found at: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/indigenous.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html)

### Internationalization

At Dalhousie, 'thinking and acting globally' enhances the quality and impact of education, supporting learning that is "interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, global in reach, and orientated toward solving problems that extend across national borders." Additional internationalization information can be found at: <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/internationalization.html>

### Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility, and respect. As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. Additional academic integrity information can be found at: [https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/academic-integrity.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html)

### Accessibility

The Student Accessibility Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for matters related to student accessibility and accommodation. If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course (online or in-person) that result in barriers to your inclusion, please contact the Student Accessibility Centre ([https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/accessibility.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html)) for all courses offered by Dalhousie with the exception of Truro. For courses offered by the Faculty of Agriculture, please contact the Student Success Centre in Truro (<https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/student-success-centre.html>)

## **Conduct in the Classroom – Culture of Respect**

Substantial and constructive dialogue on challenging issues is an important part of academic inquiry and exchange. It requires willingness to listen and tolerance of opposing points of view. Consideration of individual differences and alternative viewpoints is required of all class members, towards each other, towards instructors, and towards guest speakers. While expressions of differing perspectives are welcome and encouraged, the words and language used should remain within acceptable bounds of civility and respect.

## **Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect**

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2). Additional diversity and inclusion information can be found at: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

## **Student Code of Conduct**

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner - perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. The full Code of Student Conduct can be found at: [https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html)

## **Fair Dealing Policy**

The Dalhousie University Fair Dealing Policy provides guidance for the limited use of copyright protected material without the risk of infringement and without having to seek the permission of copyright owners. It is intended to provide a balance between the rights of creators and the rights of users at Dalhousie. Additional information regarding the Fair Dealing Policy can be found at: [https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/fair-dealing-policy.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/fair-dealing-policy.html)

## **Originality Checking Software**

The course instructor may use Dalhousie's approved originality checking software and Google to check the originality of any work submitted for credit, in accordance with the Student Submission of Assignments and Use of Originality Checking Software Policy. Students are free, without penalty of grade, to choose an alternative method of attesting to the authenticity of their work and must inform the instructor no later than the last day to add/drop classes of their intent to choose an alternate method. Additional information regarding Originality Checking Software can be found at:

[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/student-submission-of-assignments-and-use-of-originality-checking-software-policy-.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/student-submission-of-assignments-and-use-of-originality-checking-software-policy-.html)

## **Student Use of Course Materials**

Course materials are designed for use as part of this course at Dalhousie University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as books, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law. Copying this course material for distribution (e.g., uploading to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law.

Faculty of Science

# Student Resources and Support

## University Policies and Programs

Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates):

[http://www.dal.ca/academics/important\\_dates.html](http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html)

Classroom Recording Protocol:

[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/classroom-recording-protocol.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/classroom-recording-protocol.html)

Dalhousie Grading Practices Policies:

[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html)

Grade Appeal Process: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/appealing-a-grade.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/appealing-a-grade.html)

Sexualized Violence Policy: [https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/health-and-safety/sexualized-violence-policy.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/health-and-safety/sexualized-violence-policy.html)

Scent-Free Program: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

## Learning and Support Resources

General Academic Support – Advising (Halifax): [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html)

General Academic Support – Advising (Truro): <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/ssc/academic-support/advising.html>

Student Health & Wellness Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/health-and-wellness.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness.html)

On Track (helps you transition into university, and supports you through your first year at Dalhousie and beyond): [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/On-track.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/On-track.html)

Indigenous Student Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/indigenous.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html)

Indigenous Connection: <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/indigenous-connection.html>



Elders-in-Residence (The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel, and support. Visit the office in the Indigenous Student Centre or contact the program at [elders@dal.ca](mailto:elders@dal.ca) or 902-494-6803: <https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/academics/UG/indigenous-studies/Elder-Protocol-July2018.pdf>

Black Student Advising Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/black-student-advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html)

International Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/international-centre.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre.html)

South House Sexual and Gender Resource Centre: <https://southhousehalifax.ca/about/>

LGBTQ2SIA+ Collaborative: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/vpei/edia/education/community-specific-spaces/LGBTQ2SIA-collaborative.html>

Dalhousie Libraries: <http://libraries.dal.ca/>

Copyright Office: <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>

Dalhousie Student Advocacy Services: <https://www.dsu.ca/dsas?rq=student%20advocacy>

Dalhousie Ombudsperson: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html)

Human Rights and Equity Services: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres.html>

Writing Centre: [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html)

Study Skills/Tutoring: [http://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html](http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html)

Faculty of Science Advising Support: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/science/current-students/undergrad-students/degree-planning.html>

## **Safety**

Biosafety: <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html>

Chemical Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/chemical-safety.html>

Radiation Safety: <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety.html>

Laser Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety/laser-safety.html>