

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**



**SAULT  
COLLEGE**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE:** Environmental Assessment Policy & Legislation  
**CODE NO. :** NET353 **SEMESTER:** 5  
**PROGRAM:** *Natural Environment Technologist- Conservation & Management*  
**AUTHOR:** Robert Rattle  
**DATE:** August 4, 2011 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:**  
**APPROVED:**

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**CHAIR**

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**DATE**

**TOTAL CREDITS:**

**PREREQUISITE(S):**

**HOURS/WEEK:**

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**For additional information, please contact Brian Punch, Chair, Environment and Design School of Technology and Natural Resources**  
**(705) 759-2554, Ext. 2681**

- I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course provides an overview of the Environmental Assessment process, the various acts, regulations, agencies and authorities involved. Using the guidelines of the Environmental Assessment Act, students will understand the objectives of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and be able to identify the types of projects that require an EIA and be able to develop the terms of reference for such projects.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Describe the history and objectives of the EIA process in Canada.  
Potential Elements of the Performance:
  - explain the history of EIA in Canada
  - identify and explain the objectives of an EIA
  - describe the different jurisdictional roles in an EIA
  - compare and contrast acts and regulations between jurisdictions
2. Establish whether and explain why a proposed project requires an EIA.  
Potential Elements of the Performance:
  - identify the various authorities to consult to determine the need for an EIA
  - identify the mechanisms that trigger an EIA
  - identify the relevant authorities
  - define the level of EIA required
3. Identify the appropriate authorities, agencies and other stakeholders in order to properly conduct an EIA.  
Potential Elements of the Performance:
  - list the key authorities in the EIA process in different jurisdictions
  - describe their role(s) and responsibilities
4. List and describe the various acts and regulations that govern an EIA.  
Potential Elements of the Performance:
  - list the various acts and regulations that govern an EIA
  - describe their relevance to the EIA process
  - differentiate between federal, provincial/territorial roles
  - identify and explain the key objectives of each
5. Describe in general terms the Environmental Assessment process and the elements of each step.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- identify and describe the steps in an EIA
- describe the process to undertake an EIA
- describe the different types of EIAs and differentiate between them

6. Define and develop the terms of reference for an EIA.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- identify triggers and jurisdictions
- define the information necessary to develop the terms of reference for an EIA
- understand the main components and the procedural and operational considerations for each stage of the assessment
- determine study-specific requirements for the EIA
- identify the relevant information needed and required sources
- understand and utilize best practices

**III. TOPICS:**

1. History and objectives of an EIA in Canada
2. EIA triggers
3. Key authorities, agencies and stakeholders
4. Acts and regulations in different jurisdictions that govern an EIA in Canada
5. EIA process
6. Developing the terms of reference for an EIA in Canada

**IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:**

**V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:**

class participation – 15%  
 course projects – 35%  
 mid-term exam – 25%  
 final exam – 25%

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

| <b>Grade</b> | <b><u>Definition</u></b>   | <i>Grade Point Equivalent</i> |
|--------------|--|-------------------------------|
| A+           | 90 – 100%  | 4.00                          |
| A            | 80 – 89%   | 3.00                          |
| B            | 70 - 79%   | 2.00                          |
| C            | 60 - 69%   | 1.00                          |
| D            | 50 – 59%   | 0.00                          |
| F (Fail)     | 49% and below  |                               |
| CR (Credit)  | Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.  |                               |
| S            | Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.  |                               |
| U            | Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.   |                               |
| X            | A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course. |                               |
| NR           | Grade not reported to Registrar's office.  |                               |
| W            | Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.  |                               |

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES:**

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

**VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:**

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal form part of this course outline.