



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCE COURSE OUTLINE FALL 2015

1. **Course:** GOPH 375, Natural Disasters and Critical Earth Phenomena

Lecture Sections:

L01: TuTh, 15:30 – 16:45, ST 148

Dr. A. Hildebrand, Office: ES 760A, Ph. 403-220-2291, ahildebr@ucalgary.ca, Office Hours: Tu, 11:00 – noon; Wed, noon – 1:00 PM

Course will use Desire 2 Learn (D2L) and Top Hat

Geoscience Department ES 118, 403-220-5841, geoscience.ucalgary.ca, geoscience@ucalgary.ca

2. **Notes:** A non-major course for students in all faculties. Not available as a course in the Field of Geophysics.

3. **Grading:** The University policy on grading and related matters is described in sections [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the online University Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Midterm test 1	25%	(Oct. 6)
Midterm test 2	30%	(Nov. 3)
Final Examination	40%	(To be scheduled by the Registrar)
Top Hat (Join code 617499)	5%	(half attendance, half scoring)

The midterms and final examination will be multiple choice format. No supplemental work may be done to change a grade. Students may opt out of Top Hat participation and add the 5% course credit to their final examination component; students wishing to opt out must inform instructor in writing before the end of first week of class (before 5 PM MDT Friday, September 18, 2015)

Grading Scheme (letter and percent): A+ (95-100), A (90-94.99), A- (85-89.99), B+ (80-84.99), B (75-79.99), B- (70-74.99), C+ (66-69.99), C (61-65.99), C- (57-60.99), D+ (53-56.99), D (50-52.99), F (0-49.99)

4. **Missed Components of Term Work:** The regulations of the Faculty of Science pertaining to this matter are found in the Faculty of Science area of the Calendar in [Section 3.6](#). It is the student's responsibility to familiarize himself/herself with these regulations. See also [Section E.6](#) of the University Calendar

5. **Scheduled out-of-class activities:** An optional field trip will be run to the Frank Slide and Bellevue Mine (on weekend of Oct 3-4) if sufficient interest from the class.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OUT-OF-CLASS-TIME-ACTIVITY. If you have a clash with this out-of-class-time-activity, please inform your instructor as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements may be made for you.

6. **Course Materials:** *"Natural Disasters", 3rd Canadian Edition, by Abbott and Samson, McGraw-Hill Ryerson*

7. **Examination Policy:** Nonprogrammable calculators are allowed during midterms and final examination. Students should also read the Calendar, [Section G](#), on Examinations.

8. **Approved Mandatory and Optional Course Supplemental Fees:** If the optional Frank slide field trip is run, participating students will pay \$20 towards admission fees and transportation costs.

9. **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:**

(a) **Misconduct:** Academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, or any other form) is a very serious offence that will be dealt with rigorously in all cases. A single offence may lead to disciplinary probation or suspension or expulsion. The Faculty of Science follows a zero tolerance policy regarding dishonesty. Please read the sections of the University Calendar under [Section K](#). Student Misconduct to inform yourself of definitions, processes and penalties

- (b) **Assembly Points:** In case of emergency during class time, be sure to FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF with the information on [assembly points](#).
- (c) **Student Accommodations:** Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities_0.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Associate Head of Geoscience, Dr. E.S. Krebs by email krebes@ucalgary.ca or phone 403-220-5850.
- (d) **Safewalk:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>). Call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.
- (e) **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page. For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.
- (f) **Student Union Information:** VP Academic Phone: 403 220-3911 Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 403 220-3913 Email: science1@su.ucalgary.ca, science2@su.ucalgary.ca and science3@su.ucalgary.ca;
Student Ombuds Office: 403-220-6420 Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca; <http://ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
- (g) **Internet and Electronic Device Information:** You can assume that in all classes that you attend, your cell phone should be turned off unless instructed otherwise. Also, communication with other individuals, via laptop computers, Blackberries or other devices connectable to the Internet is not allowed in class time unless specifically permitted by the instructor. If you violate this policy you may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct.
- (h) **U.S.R.I.:** At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference – please participate in USRI Surveys.

Lecture No.	Approx. Date	Subject Matter	Instructor	Related Chapter(s)
1	Sep. 8	Introduction	Hildebrand	
2	Sep. 10	Disasters and Energy		1, 2, 8
3	Sep. 15	Plate Tectonics		2
4	Sep. 17	Earthquakes Geology and Seismology		3
5	Sep. 22	Catastrophic earthquakes		4
6	Sep. 24	Tsunami		7
7	Sep. 29	Volcanic Eruptions		5
8	Oct. 1	Volcanic Case Histories		6
	Oct. 6	MIDTERM EXAM 1		
9	Oct. 8	Mass Movements		13
10	Oct. 13	Avalanches		13
11	Oct. 15	Weather Systems		8, 9
12	Oct. 20	Climate Change		9
13	Oct. 22	Drought		9
14	Oct. 27	Thunderstorms, Hail, Tornadoes		9
15	Oct. 29	Lightning and Heat		9
	Nov. 3	MIDTERM EXAM 2		
16	Nov. 5	Hurricanes		10
17	Nov. 10	Hurricanes		10
18	Nov. 17	Guest lecture		
19	Nov. 19	Floods		11
20	Nov. 24	Fires		12
21	Nov. 26	Extinctions		Supplement/15
22	Dec. 1	Hazards from Space		14
23	Dec. 3	Population and Exponential Growth		Supplement/1
24	Dec. 8	Review		