

ENVS*4090 - Soil Management

Fall 2024 Course Outline

Section: 01

Credits: 0.50

Land Acknowledgement: Guelph

The University of Guelph resides on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron people and the treaty lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We recognize the significance of the Dish with One Spoon Covenant to this land and offer respect to our Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Métis neighbours. Today, this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and acknowledging them reminds us of our important connection to this land where we work and learn.

Calendar Description

A lecture-tutorial course on the practical aspects of soil management for crop production as they relate to the physical, chemical and biological properties of soils; major emphasis is placed on soil fertility as related to field soil properties and fertilizer, lime and manure use, soil and plant testing for mineral nutrients. The beneficial aspects of drainage, irrigation, erosion control and related tillage practices on soil fertility are also presented. Due regard is given to both economic and environmental aspects of soil management practices.

Prerequisite(s): AGR*2320 or ENVS*2060

Restriction(s): ENVS*4160

Department(s): School of Environmental Sciences

Course Description

Soil management / nutrient management are lecture-tutorial based courses on the practical aspects of soil management for crop production as they relate to the physical, chemical and biological properties of soils. The major emphasis is placed on soil fertility as related to field soil properties, fertilizer, lime and manure use, as well as soil and plant testing for mineral nutrients. Due regard is given to both economic and environmental aspects of soil management practices.

A second version of the course called ENVS*4160 uses the same lectures and seminars as ENVS*4090, however, there is an additional "lab" component. The laboratory portion (Soil Nutrient Management course only) will focus on the regulatory requirements as stated under the Nutrient Management Act, 2001. Students will discuss nutrient management issues and gain practical experience developing a nutrient management plan. Although not part of the course requirements, students are required to write an exam scheduled with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Agribusiness for certification to develop nutrient management strategies/plans for farms under the Nutrient Management Act, 2001.

Please note that although ENVS*4090 and ENVS*4160 use the same lectures and seminars they are different courses, as such changing from one to the other requires adding one and dropping the other like any other course change.

Lecture Schedule

MonWedFri 10:30am-11:20am in MCKN*029 (9/5 to 12/13)

Lab / Seminar Sections

<instructor can choose which table they'd like to use. **Title and Content within this block is fully editable & removeable**>

NOTE: To add another ROW, go to the bottom right cell of table and press 'tab' button. To delete a ROW contact courseleaf@uoguelph.ca

Day	Time	Location	Sections
Wednesday	2:30 - 3:20	ROZH 106	01
Monday	3:30 - 4:20	ALEX 028	02

Instructor Information

John Lauzon

Email: lauzonj@uoguelph.ca

Additional Support

<Optional content block - title and content block fully editable>: Instructors may add additional content if necessary. This content block can be removed by clicking the 'eye' icon.

Textbooks

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Recommended	Soil fertility handbook, 3rd ed	OMAFRA, 2018	available online as a PDF https://www.ontario.ca/page/publication-611-soil-fertility-handbook
Suggested	Soil Fertility and Fertilizers 8th ed.	Havlin, J.L., J.D. Beaton, S.L. Tisdale, 10: 0-13-503373-X and W.L. Nelson	

Learning Resources

Required Resources

Note that course link will be used to indicate when a seminar is required by posting the seminar assignment with the date the seminar describing it will occur: Course link (Website) (<https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/>)

Additional Reading

These are additional resources that are used to in the class .

Barber, S.A., 1995, Soil Nutrient Bioavailability : a Mechanistic Approach. 2nd ed. Wiley, Toronto.

Brady, N.C. and R.R.Weil. 2017. The Nature and Properties of Soils. 15th ed. (any edition back to 12th ed are OK) Prentice-Hall of Canada, Toronto.

Follett, R.H., L.S. Murphy and R.L. Donahue. 1981. Fertilizers and Soil Amendments. Prentice-Hall of Canada Ltd., Toronto.

OMAFRA, Agronomy guide for field crops. Publication 811. Queen's printer. Toronto, Ontario. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/publication-811-agronomy-guide-field-crops>

Paul, E.A. and F.E. Clark. 1989. Soil Microbiology and Biochemistry. Academic Press, inc. Toronto.

Campus Resources

If you are concerned about any aspect of your academic program: Make an appointment with a Program Counsellor (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/uaic/programcounsellors/>) in your degree program. If you are struggling to succeed academically: There are numerous academic resources offered by the Learning Commons (<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/using-library/spaces/learning-commons/>) including, Supported Learning Groups for a variety of courses, workshops related to time management, taking multiple choice exams, and general study skills.

Library Course Reserve (Ares)

For this course, you will be required to access course reserve materials through the University of Guelph McLaughlin Library. To access these items, select **Ares** on the navbar in CourseLink. Note that you will need your Central Login ID and password in order to access items on reserve.

For further instructions on accessing reserve resources, visit How to Get Course Reserve Materials (<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/find/course-reserves-ares/>).

If at any point during the course you have difficulty accessing reserve materials, please contact the e-Learning Operations and Reserve Services staff at:

Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 53621 | Email: libres2@uoguelph.ca | Location: McLaughlin Library, First Floor, University of Guelph

Course Level Learning Outcomes

1. Understand and describe how plant nutrients reach the root surface
2. Understand and describe biological, chemical and physical processes involved in the cycling of soil organic matter.
3. Understand and describe the biological, chemical and physical processes involved in the cycling in soil systems, plant availability and loss of most required plant nutrients
4. Describe the fates and potential impacts of plant nutrients that leave the soil root zone
5. Understand the nature and management of animal manures
6. Understand the behavior and management of fertilizers in the soil/plant environment
7. Understand the impacts pH on the soil/plant environment
8. Understand the nature and management of water in agricultural systems
9. Apply the knowledge in outcomes 1 – 8 to develop soil management options which minimize unwanted environmental impacts and enhance the conditions for plant growth
10. Work effectively in groups
11. Improved written communication skills
12. Improved ability to apply mathematical skills to quantify soil processes and/or soil management.
13. Relate scientific principals covered in class to economics and management

Lecture Schedule. (note exact dates are likely to change. Check course link for updates)

Day	Date:	Topic	Activities	Due
Fri	9/6	Introduction and review	Describing the course and the differences between ENVS*4090 and ENVS*4160	
Mon	9/9	Continued Soil review		
Wed	9/11	Roots and Nutrient Movement in the Soil	Suggested Reading: Barber pp. 90 - 106, Pub. 611 pp 7 - 18	
Fri	9/13	Roots and nutrient Movement Continued		
Mon	9/16	Soil Organic Matter	Suggested reading: Brady chapter 12, Paul chapter 7	
Wed	9/18	Soil Organic Matter		
Fri	9/20	Soil Organic Matter		
Mon	9/23	Soil Organic Matter		
Wed	9/25	Soil Nitrogen	Suggested reading: Havlin chapter 4, Follett chapter 2, Pub 611 pp 19- 25	
Fri	9/27	Soil Nitrogen		
Mon	9/30	Soil Nitrogen		
Wed	10/2	Soil Nitrogen		
Fri	10/4	Soil Nitrogen		
Mon	10/7	Soil Phosphorus	Suggested reading: Havlin chapter 5, Follett chapter 3, Pub 611 pp 25 - 31	
Wed	10/9	Soil Phosphorus		
Fri	10/11	Soil Phosphorus		
Mon	10/14	Thanksgiving Holiday		
Wed	10/16	Soil Potassium	Havlin chapter 6, Follett chapter. 4, Pub 611 pp 31 – 34	
Fri	10/18	Soil Calcium, Magnesium, and Sulphur	Suggested reading: Havlin chapter 7, Follett chapter 5, Pub 611 pp 34 - 41	
Mon	10/21	Soil Calcium, Magnesium, and Sulphur		
Wed	10/23	Soil Calcium, Magnesium, and Sulphur		
Fri	10/25	midterm Exam (in Class)		

Mon	10/28	Soil Micronutrients	Suggested reading: Havlin chapter 8, Follett chapter 6, Pub 611 pp 41 – 53
Wed	10/30	Soil Micronutrients	
Fri	11/1	Soil Micronutrients	
Mon	11/4	Soil pH and Liming (p. 4)	Suggested Reading: Havlin chapter 3, Follett chapter 8, Pub 611 pp 53 - 72
Wed	11/6	Soil pH and Liming (p. 4)	
Fri	11/8	Manure Management	Suggested Reading: Follett chapter 10, Pub 611 pp 117 - 151
Mon	11/11	Manure Management	
Wed	11/13	Manure Management	
Fri	11/15	Manure Management	
Mon	11/18	Nutrient Placement	Suggested reading: Havlin chapter 10, Pub 611 pp 203 - 215
Wed	11/20	Nutrient Placement	
Fri	11/22	Soil and Plant Testing	Suggested reading: Havlin chapter 9 Pub 611 pp 89 -118
Mon	11/25	Soil and Plant Testing	
Wed	11/27	Variable Fertility	
Fri	11/29	Variable Fertility	
Wed	12/4	Final Exam	

Lab / Seminar Schedule

1. Land Capability
2. Soil Organic Matter Dynamics
3. Nitrogen Cycling and Management
4. Irrigation
5. Soil Drainage
6. Soil pH and Liming
7. Manure Management

The exact dates that we will meet for the seminar assignments will be indicated in Course Link

Assessment Breakdown

{NOTE: instructor can add another row by hitting "TAB" button when they are at the end of the row}

Description	Weighting (%)	Due Date
Midterm Exam	25%	Oct 25, in class
Assignments	30%	one week after assigning them
Final Exam	40%	8:30 Dec. 4

Final Exam

Date: Dec 4

Time: Wed 8:30am-10:30am

Location: TBA *Please see Web Advisor closer to the date of scheduled final for location.*

To understand rules and regulations regarding Examinations students are encouraged to read Student's Responsibilities (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/examinations/>)

If the student is unable to meet the final exam requirements due to medical, psychological or compassionate circumstances they are encouraged to review Student's Responsibilities in the Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-consideration-appeals-petitions/>) section of the Academic Calendar.

Last Day to Drop Course

The final day to drop Fall 2024 courses without academic penalty is the last day of classes: November 29

After this date, a mark will be recorded, whether course work is completed or not (a zero is assigned for missed tests/assignments). This mark will show on the student's transcript and will be calculated into their average.

Course Grading Policies

Submission of Assignments

Assignments are submitted to the appropriate course link drop box

Late Assignment

All seminar assignments are due one week after the seminar that describes them. Assignments that are late without an acceptable explanation will receive a 10 % grade penalty per week. **All assignments must be handed in by the final class day or a mark of zero will be assigned.**

Standard Statements for Undergraduate Courses

Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-misconduct/>) is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability. Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 10 days in advance, and no later than the first business day in November, March or July as appropriate for the semester. Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time. For students at the Guelph campus, information can be found on the SAS website. (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas/>)

Accommodation of Religious Obligations

If you are unable to meet an in-course requirement due to religious obligations, please email the course instructor within two weeks of the start of the semester to make alternate arrangements.

See the Academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Accommodations of Religious Obligations (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-accommodation-religious-obligations/>).

Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all undergraduate students except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in the Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/dropping-courses/>).

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

Health and Wellbeing

The University of Guelph provides a wide range of health and wellbeing services at the Vaccarino Centre for Student Wellness (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/>). If you are concerned about your mental health and not sure where to start, connect with a Student Wellness Navigator (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/navigators/>) who can help develop a plan to manage and support your mental health or check out our mental wellbeing resources (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/shine-this-year/>). The Student Wellness team are here to help and welcome the opportunity to connect with you.

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The Academic Calendars (<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/?index>) are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration. (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-consideration-appeals-petitions/>)