



Looking for a *Living Things & Their Environment* breadth requirement?

Consider ENV200H: Assessing Global Change

"The challenge for humanity lies in understanding what science can and cannot do and how that information should be used to discriminate among courses of action."

Global environmental change, such as climate change, loss of species diversity, land transformation, and resource overexploitation, are daunting challenges currently confronting humanity. These changes are primarily precipitated by anthropogenic activities which are impacting the planet's ability to self regulate or persist. To better address these challenges we need to assess and understand the magnitude and consequences of these changes through a systematic acquisition of knowledge.

ENV200H is a course about science and what it means to study something from a scientific perspective. ENV200H is also a course about the environment. Taken together, environmental science means using scientific protocols, i.e. seeking valid, generalizable knowledge, to further our understanding of the natural world as well as acquiring knowledge about our impacts on that world. The course has been specifically designed to fulfill the *Living Things and Their Environment* breadth requirement (4).

The course meets in the winter term on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:00 am, with a tutorial every other week. There is no hardcopy textbook for the course. Instead resources are drawn from a variety of sources, with links to relevant readings provided. The course syllabus is accessible at:

<http://www.environment.utoronto.ca/Undergraduate/Courses/CourseList.aspx>

Course marks are based on tutorial assignments (30%); a mid-term test (25%); tutorial participation (5%); and a Final Examination (40%).