



School of Science
RRMT 204
Global Solar Project
Field course to Peru
Term: Winter 2023
Number of Credits: 3

Course Outline

INSTRUCTORS: Megan Skarnulis MA, Tara Stehelin, BSc, MSc, PhD

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TIME/DATES: Required meetings on Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, Feb. 10 3:00 – 4:30 in A2605, and other times TBA in preparation for travel TBA. Travel to Peru: Feb. 14-27, 2023, Dates and times of final presentations TBA

OFFICE HOURS: Tara - Thursdays 1:00 – 2:30 or book an appointment by email.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a three-credit course in which students, with the guidance of a research supervisor, instructor, prepare, implement, and report upon studies or research in the field of renewable resources management. Students use research methodology and the scientific process. Participants are expected to demonstrate organizational skills, the ability to work independently, think critically, and present oral and written reports to professional standards. Topics may cover any field relevant to renewable resources management and those which include traditional knowledge or relevance to the implementation of land claim settlements are particularly encouraged.

This offering of RRMT 204 has been created for a project to learn about and implement small-scale renewable energy projects in rural off-grid locations of the Andean foothills of Peru in partnership with Light up the World, a non-profit organization dedicated to renewable energy projects in remote locations. Students are required to apply, which will include a statement of interest, and priority will be given to students that identify as indigenous, low-income or with disabilities.

PREREQUISITES

Second-year standing in the Renewable Resources Management (RRMT) program or Northern Science diploma or other science program with permission of the coordinator/chair of the program and permission of the course instructor. Student must work closely with the instructors throughout the course to ensure all preparations are made to travel and participate effectively.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite(s): Second-year standing must include first-year English, and at least one of first-year Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, or Biology (or equivalents).

Students must possess a valid Canadian passport prior to travel, as well as have all needed vaccinations for the countries of travel.

Students must be comfortable travelling in locations that are remote, with little or no internet or phone access, in varied, unexpected and possibly uncomfortable conditions (such as sleeping in shared quarters and tents).

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Please be aware that receiving institutions determine course transferability. Find further information at: <https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit>

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, a student will be able to;

- plan, investigate, and report on the research topic, project background, and location,
- travel and participate fully in field activities, planning, and learning to install, fix, and/or maintain renewable energy projects in remote communities in the Andean foothills of South America,
- prepare an outline, first and final written drafts to deadlines, for final presentation to professional standards on the results of the project,
- demonstrate an attitude of respect for knowledge holders, the land and people visited, other student participants in the project, organizers, and instructors, including those on-site.

COURSE FORMAT

Students will, within the framework of a schedule, formulate a travel and safety plan, demonstrate that they have all required documents and vaccinations to travel, learn the history of the project, and learn some history of the land and first peoples of the area prior to leaving on the trip – this will require some reading, preparation, and demonstration of knowledge using our online learning management system (Moodle). Students will then participate in a 10-11 day return field trip leaving from Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada to Lima, Peru, and then to the Andean foothills. Upon return, students will prepare a short oral presentation at a mini-conference (or poster) demonstrating their knowledge and participation in the project.

ASSESSMENTS

will include at minimum

- a) a statement about preparedness to travel and acceptance of risks involved, including a signed risk assessment form completed on Moodle,
- b) a written statement on the purpose of the project and why the student wishes to learn about it and participate,
- c) outcomes to be completed on the trip (learning about, maintenance, and installation of the solar projects),
- d) a final product (oral presentation or poster) that would be used to demonstrate successful completion and participation in the project.

EVALUATION

Schedule and completion of learning contract and preparation for travel – all documents ready, 4 weeks before departure	30%
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Progress report and engagement – participation in all activities and effective contribution – during the trip	40%
Final oral (or written/poster) presentation of project results and reflection (demonstrating engagement and effective help in the project) – and participation in the mini-conference - upon return	30%
Total	100%

TEXTBOOKS & MATERIALS: None required, but students will be required to access and use scientific literature for final reports and correctly reference these works.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates. <https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/important-dates>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one’s own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities. <https://www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Yukon University is committed to providing a positive, supportive, and barrier-free academic environment for all its students. Students experiencing barriers to full participation due to a visible or hidden disability (including hearing, vision, mobility, learning disability, mental health, chronic or temporary medical condition), should contact [Accessibility Services](https://www.yukonu.ca/student-life/learning-matters/accessibility-services) (<https://www.yukonu.ca/student-life/learning-matters/accessibility-services>) for resources or to arrange academic accommodations: access@yukonu.ca.

Outline and Schedule

Dates	Topic	Location/details
Jan. 20; 3:00 – 4:00 pm	Presentations on local renewable energy projects and research; guest speaker Dr. Michael Ross, Tara Stehelin, Megan Skarnulis	A2605 and online
Jan. 27; 3:00 – 4:30 pm	Presentations on Peruvian culture, and traveling with cultural sensitivity, guest speaker Dr. Victoria Castillo	A2605 and online
Feb. 3; 3:00 – 4:30 pm	Information about location, geography, local wildlife, and cultures (Dr. Tara Stehelin)	A2605 and online

Feb. 10; 3:00 – 4:30 pm	Preparation for travel (Megan)	A2605 and online
Feb. 14 – 27	Travel	
March/April – date TBA	Presentations and conference	