

## **GEO 3251: Environmental Geography**

**Instructors:** Assistant Prof. Hannington Sengendo and Bob Nakileza (PhD), Makerere University

### **Course description:**

This third year course aims at creating an understanding of the changing environmental conditions in the region of eastern Africa, with a special focus on Uganda. It draws on aspects of physical geography including environmental issues, resources and management. Special themes to be covered include environmental change, environmental hazards, hydrological processes and pollution, population and development.

The approach to delivery of the course will include use of lectures and tutorials. This will be supported by a variety of practical or field work activities in carefully selected problem areas in the country side, where we shall have the opportunities to investigate environmental systems and their management that are characteristic of a developing region.

**Evaluation:** A mixture of assessments covering coursework will be adopted. Field project (40%); Written assignments including tests and essays (40%); class participation (20%)

### **Course outline:**

#### ***Week 1: ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM***

- Planet Earth: Global Systems
- Global and regional Environmental Issues
- People and the Environment
- Politics and environment

***Week 2: ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES***

- Cultures of Regulation: Globalisation of Environmental Governance
- Population and health dynamics (HIV/AIDS)
- Hazards and disasters ( Earthquakes, Landslides, flooding, droughts)

***Week 3: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT***

- Conservation and Natural Resource Management
- Sustainable agriculture (organic farming)
- Environmental Pollution
- Environmental Research Methods and strategies

***Week 4: FIELDWORK***

- Field work and group project work (e.g. study encroachment problems, organic farming)

**Reading materials:**

A variety of relevant materials including hard copies (text books, Journals e.t.c.) and websites will be provided prior to the commencement of the course.