

**SOILS 210 Introduction to Soil Science and Soil Resources**

*3 credits. 3 hours lecture and 3 hours lab per week*

An examination of the elementary aspects of soil formation, soil occurrence in natural landscapes, soil classification, soil resource inventory, basic morphological, biological, chemical and physical characteristics employed in the identification of soils and predictions of their performance in both managed and natural landscapes.

*Must have completed a university-level course in life or natural sciences. A university-level chemistry course is strongly recommended.*

**Instructor Contact**

Instructor: Dr. Marie-France Jones  
Office location: S209E  
Phone number: 780-791-8957  
email: marie-france.jones@keyano.ca

**Office Hours**

Monday 3:00 – 4:00 PM  
Wednesday 3:00 – 4:00 PM  
Thursday 2:00 – 4:00 PM  
Friday 3:00 – 4:00 PM

**Hours of Instruction**

Lecture	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	4:00 – 4:50 pm	S214
Laboratory	Wednesday	9:00 – 11:50 am	S114

**Required Resources**

- Brady and Weil. 2018. Elements of the Nature and Properties of Soils, 4th Edition, Pearson. ISBN-13: 9780133254594
- Laboratory field manual will be provided as a PDF on the course iLearn website. Purchase hard copy from bookstore for use in the field.
- **Full outdoor apparel for fall and winter weather including suitable footwear.**

**Course Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Recognize physical properties and functions of soils in relation to other components of the environment.
- Analyze the factors of soil formation and processes of soil development that lead to differences in soils in our environment.
- Use techniques of soil sampling, identification and measurement of soil properties
- Classify soils using the Canadian System of Soil Classification.
- Apply the knowledge gained in sustainable soil management.

**Proposed Schedule of Topics**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Lectures</b>	<b>Labs</b>
1	Introduction	Introduction, Soil as a Natural Resource
2	Soil Formation	Field Lab 1
3	Soil Classification	Field Lab 2
4	Soil Architecture	Field Lab 3
5	Soil Water	Field Lab 4
6	Hydrological Cycle	Field Lab 5
7	Soil Aeration & Temperature	Field Lab Exam
8	Soil Colloids	Indoor Lab 1: Soil pH and EC
9	Soil Chemistry	Indoor Lab 2: Soil Texture
10	Soil Ecology	Indoor Lab 3: Soil Moisture Content & Organic Matter
11	Soil Organic Matter	No Labs (Reading Break)
12	Nutrient Cycles and Soil Fertility	Research Paper
13	Soil Erosion	
14	Soils and Chemical Pollution	

**Please Note:**

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

**Evaluation**

Lab Assignments	25%
Research Paper	10%
Weekly Quizzes	10%
Field Lab Midterm (Oct 14)	10%
Midterm Exams (Oct 4, Nov 1)	20%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

*A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.*

Assignments, labs, and projects are expected to be handed in during class time on the assigned due dates. All lab assignments will be due 1 week after the lab. Late assignments will receive a grade of zero. Extensions are available if requested prior to the due date.

**Students are required to attend all labs unless excused for valid reasons.** Unexcused absence from any lab period or failure to submit a lab report may result in your being assessed a failing grade in the course. Absence from more than any two (2) laboratory periods for any reason may also result in a failing grade.

**Grading System**

<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4.0 Scale</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Rubric for Letter Grades</b>
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory <b>Progression</b>	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor <b>Minimum Pass</b>	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

**Laboratory Safety**

Students must complete the WHMIS for Students online training course on Moodle before entering the science laboratories.

Students must comply with the mandatory laboratory safety rules for this course as provided in the laboratory manual. Failure to do so will result in progressive discipline such as a verbal warning, refused entry into the laboratory, or suspension from the College.

Before entering the lab, students are responsible reviewing the lab manual and relevant Safety Data Sheets for the purpose of evaluating risks associated to health. Some hazards used in the laboratory may have additional risks to those with pre-existing medical conditions.

**Performance Requirements and Student Services****Student Responsibilities**

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the [Keyano College credit calendar](#). The Keyano College credit calendar also has information about Student Rights and Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

**Student Attendance**

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and notes that may be due.

**Academic Misconduct**

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own;
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating);
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work;
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications;
- The willful distortion of results or data;
- Substitution in an examination by another person;
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment; and
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on [ilearn.keyano.ca](http://ilearn.keyano.ca). Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work may not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

**Specialized Supports**

The Student Services Department is committed to Keyano students and their academic success. There are a variety of student supports available at Keyano. Due to the continuing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, the offered support services will be implemented through a model to respond to the restrictions in force at the time. In-person and virtual services will be offered. All Alberta Health Services guidelines will be followed for in-person appointments—wear a mask, maintain two meters of physical distance, use hand sanitizer, and stay home if you are unwell.

All student services are available during Keyano business hours: Monday to Friday, 8h30-16h30. The College is closed for statutory holidays. If you require support outside of regular business hours, please inform the support service team, and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

**Accessibility Services:** provides accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with a Learning Strategist to discuss their current learning barriers and possible accommodations. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to contact us to request them for the semester. Please note that requesting accommodations is a process and requires time to arrange. Contact us as soon as you know you may require accommodations. For accessibility supports and to book an appointment, please contact [accessibility.services@keyano.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@keyano.ca).

Accessibility Services also provides individual and group learning strategy instruction for all students, as well as technology training and supports to enhance learning. Meet with a Learning Strategist to learn studying and test-taking strategies for online classes. Schedule an appointment with the Assistive Technology Specialist to explore technology tools for learning. Book an appointment today by emailing [accessibility.services@keyano.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@keyano.ca)

**Wellness Services:** offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. Students may access services virtually and in-person.

Wellness Services welcomes students to participate in any of the group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing topics including mindfulness and test anxiety.

Individual appointments can be made by emailing [wellness.services@keyano.ca](mailto:wellness.services@keyano.ca).

**Library Services:** provides students with research and information supports as they engage in their studies. Library staff are available to support you both online and in-person throughout the semester. For a detailed list of library supports and services, go to [www.keyano.ca/library](http://www.keyano.ca/library). For all inquiries, please email [askthelibrary@keyano.ca](mailto:askthelibrary@keyano.ca) or chat with us online.

Begin your research with the [Library's FIND page](#). Search for information and sources for your assignments using the OneSearch, the Library's Catalogue, or by searching in a specific database selected from the [A-Z Database List](#).

Individual support with us is available. For support with citations, research and other information needs, appointments can be booked using the online [Book A Librarian Calendar](#). For support with Moodle, educational tools for assignments, Microsoft Office, Zoom, Teams and more, book an appointment using the online [Educational Technology Support Calendar](#).

Research and subject guides are helpful resources when beginning your research, assignment, using new educational technology, or addressing other information needs. To view a subject or course-specific guide, check out the complete listing of online [Subject Guides](#).

To access additional research resources, including Citation Guides (APA, MLA, Chicago, or IEEE), go to the [Research Help Library page](#).

The Loanable Technology collection is available to support students in their learning pursuits, whether online, in person or both. Items available for borrowing include mobile projectors, webcams, noise-cancelling headphones, Chromebooks, and laptops. For an up-to-date list of technology available for borrowing as well as support available, go to the Library's [Loanable Technology webpage](#).

**Academic Success Centre:** The Academic Success Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus (CC-119) at Keyano College. Students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects, get new perspectives on learning from our Academic Content Specialists, or use the Centre's educational resources. The Academic Success Centre provides academic support services to students registered in credit programs at Keyano College in the form of individual tutoring, writing support groups, facilitated study groups, workshops, and study space. Services are **free** to Keyano students.

Academic Content Specialists are available in the areas of Math, Science, Human Services, and English/Humanities. This covers all courses offered at Keyano. The Academic Success Coach can also be found in the Academic Success Centre.

For the most up to date information on how to book a session, please view [the Keyano Academic Success Centre homepage](#).

**Academic Integrity:** The goal of the Academic Success Centre is to foster a student's ability to learn effectively and independently. Students registered at Keyano College are welcome to drop by the Centre to visit with any of our Academic Content Specialists to discuss their academic concerns.

**Availability:** Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Flexible times may be available upon request. Virtual and in-person sessions, please email to get in contact with our Academic Content Specialists. For the most up to date information on how to book a session, please view the [Academic Success Centre homepage](#).

**Academic Success Coach:** offers you support and access to resources for your academic success to help you to find the Keys to your Success. The Academic Success Coach will work with you to

develop an academic success plan, develop your study and time management skills, and connect you with the right resources here at Keyano. [Academic.success@keyano.ca](mailto:Academic.success@keyano.ca) is the best way to access resources during blended service delivery. The Academic Success Coach is located in the Skill Centre in CC-119 at the Clearwater Campus.

**E-Learning**

Technology and internet will impact your online learning experience. It's important that you can watch an online video and other course materials, take online quizzes and participate in a live class with your instructor and other students. Live/virtual classes will be hosted in Microsoft Teams or Zoom.

For all course delivery types, you will access your course resources on Keyano's learning management system, **Moodle (iLearn)**. Login in using your Keyano username and password.

Keyano College operates in a Windows based environment, and having the correct tools for online learning is important. Here's a list of recommended system requirements.

**System requirements:**

Microsoft Windows	Apple
<p><b>Minimum Requirements:</b></p> <p>A Windows 10 <b>computer / laptop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 4GB of RAM.</li> <li>• 10GB+ available hard drive storage.</li> <li>• Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <u>Microsoft Office</u> software is free to all Keyano students and employees.</li> <li>• Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended.</li> <li>• System updates must be regularly installed.</li> <li>• Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommended Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8GB of RAM</li> <li>• A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email for free.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Minimum Requirements:</b></p> <p>A Macintosh (V10.14 and above) <b>computer / laptop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum 4GB of RAM.</li> <li>• 10GB+ available hard drive storage.</li> <li>• Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <u>Microsoft Office</u> software is free to all Keyano students and employees.</li> <li>• Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended.</li> <li>• System updates must be regularly installed.</li> <li>• Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommended Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8GB of RAM</li> <li>• A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email for free.</li> </ul>
<p>Chromebooks are <b>not</b> recommended as they are not compatible with testing lockdown browsers.</p> <p>A Microsoft Surface or iPad or iPad Pro may be possible alternatives in some program areas.</p>	

**Internet Speed**

Minimum Internet speeds of 10 Mbps. Recommended Internet speeds of 25 Mbps (especially if you are sharing your internet at home). Check your internet speed with [Fast.com](https://www.fast.com/).

**Specific Department Requirements:**

Business and OA programs require Windows 10.

Other programs may utilize Windows based tools as well.

**Computer Software**

Students will be able to get access to Microsoft Office 365 for free using Keyano credentials by [clicking here](#).

**Recording of Lectures and Intellectual Property**

Students may only record a lecture if explicit permission is provided by the instructor or by Accessibility Services. Even if students have permission to record a lecture or lecture materials, students may not share, distribute, or publish any of the lectures or course materials, this includes any recordings, slides, instructor notes, etc. on any platform. Thus, no student is allowed to share, distribute, publish or sell course related content (instructor, or students) without permission. It is important to recognize that the Canadian Copyright Act contains provisions for intellectual property. The [Academic Integrity Policy](#) provides additional information on Keyano College's expectations from students as members of the intellectual community.

**ITS Helpdesk**

If you are having issues with your student account, you can contact the ITS Helpdesk by emailing [its.helpdesk@keyano.ca](mailto:its.helpdesk@keyano.ca) or calling 780-791-4965.