**Vision for Teaching and Learning**

**Goals**
1. Using blended and flexible learning approaches to enhance courses in the Department of Geography’s Environment & Sustainability Program.
2. Leveraging new learning environments, education technologies and innovative pedagogical approaches to help students explore emerging environmental issues and enhance their program experience.
3. Develop research on teaching and learning in the context of Geography.

**Guiding Principles**
- Outcome-based
- Purposeful use of education technology
- Promote active & experiential learning
- Transferable and sustainable resources
- Open education

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**Open Education**

We are working to make learning opportunities for geography and environmental sciences more open, flexible and pedagogically diverse through creating Open Educational Resources (OER) that people can freely retain, reuse, revise, remix, and redistribute. We are building OER for teaching geography and environmental science while also working to educate geographers about importance and potential of OER. Current work includes:

**Open Pedagogy and Open Science**
Mapping the Agricultural Land Reserve as a student open science project that attempts to map the arable farmland in BC’s ALR.

**Open Educational Resources**
Natural Hazards Open Textbook

**360 Virtual and Augmented Reality Field Trips**

**Open Source Software**
To manage our online field trips we created an open source WordPress plugin called FieldPress—open.geog.ubc.ca

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**Course Transformations**

We have introduced flexible and blended learning approaches to over ten courses in the E&S Program and assisted over a dozen courses build WordPress course sites and OER materials. Our activities have included:

- Two-stage exams
- Infographics
- Google Cardboard
- PulsePress discussion forums
- Student created videos
- Podcasts for flipped material
- Sound mapping

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**Where and When Is Flexible Learning?**

Evaluating the effect of flexible learning on where, when and how well students do their work.

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**Student Public Scholarship**

Geography students work at the intersection of some of the most pressing human-environment issues of our times. We encourage the students to create materials that can be used by the public. You can see our student’s public scholarship at: environment.geog.ubc.ca

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**Contact Information**

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