

## **“Heavy Metal”: Award-Winning Interdisciplinary Graduate Course to be Taught in January 2023**

A collaborative new course will be taught for the first time this Winter, Term 2 (starting January 2023). The award-winning ‘Heavy Metal’ will examine the role of mineral resources and mining in the transition to green technologies and renewable energy systems. Heavy Metal was the 2021-2022 winner of the Killam Connection competition and was selected from among 21 proposals for an innovative and interdisciplinary graduate course. Throughout the term, students will have the opportunity to engage with high-profile UBC scholars and external guests including representatives of international institutions and global NGOs, as well as Indigenous rights-holders, government regulators, industry leaders, and renowned academic scholars.

‘Heavy Metal’ topics will include the global supply/demand forecast for mineral resources, social and environmental impacts across the mining life cycle (from mineral exploration to mine closure), engineering and process innovations, metals recycling and recovery, legal and policy frameworks for mineral governance internationally and in Canada, mining finance, and Environmental, Social & Governance issues, including options for responsible sourcing and community-led mining.

Prospective students should be prepared to be exposed to diverse viewpoints from outside of their core discipline, while acquiring skills in holistic thinking and systems analysis. Public scholarship is a key component of this course, and assessments will give special attention to effective, non-technical communication through opinion editorials, policy briefs, and reflective activities. Four classes throughout the term will be offered as public lectures and some of these may be held off-campus outside of scheduled class time (exact times/dates/locations will be provided in the first week of class). Students will also be required to participate in a class site visit to the Britannia Mine in Squamish (travel to/from UBC and entrance costs will be covered by the course).

The course is cross-listed across four UBC faculties, and graduate students can register using the following course codes:

[PPGA 591W.001](#) – School of Public Policy & Global Affairs

[LAW 467D.003](#) – Peter A. Allard School of Law

[EOSC 543.201](#) – Earth and Ocean Science

[MINE 590W.201](#) – NBK Institute of Mining Engineering

If you have questions about the course, or have trouble registering, please contact the course instructor Assistant Professor Dr. Nadja Kunz at [nadja.kunz@ubc.ca](mailto:nadja.kunz@ubc.ca)