



GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2014

GEOGRAPHY 205 H(3-0)

Gateway to Geography

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 02	TuTh	09:30 – 10:45	ST 140

Instructor: Conny Davidsen	Office: ES 318	Hours: W/Th 11:00 – 12:00
Tel: 220 5591	Email: davidsen@ucalgary.ca	
Instructor: John Yackel	Office: ES 356	Hours: Tu 10:00 - 11:00, W: 1:45 - 2:45
Tel: 220 4892	Email: yackel@ucalgary.ca	
Instructor: Peter Slezak	Office: ES 452	Hours: M/W/Th 11:30 - 12:30
Tel: 220 8353	Email: slezak@ucalgary.ca	

Please note: The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Science theatres is Professional Faculties Food court.

Official Course Description:

An overview of human and physical environments, their inter-relationships and their relevance to environmental issues and world affairs. Major topics are drawn from current global issues where location matters. Specific examples are discussed in a global context and vary by term.

NOTE: Not open to students with credit in Geography 201, 203, 211, 251 or 253 (Urban Studies 253)

Text:

1. Geography: A Very Short Introduction (Matthews, J.A., Herbert, D.T.), 2008. Oxford University Press
2. Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context (Knox, P.L., Marston, S.A., Imort, M., Nash, A.E.), 2013. Pearson Press Inc., Canada
3. Additional readings will be posted on D2L as necessary

D2L:

All the course material will be available on the D2L.

Grading:

Mid-term exam # 1	(30% - 50 questions)	Oct 17
Mid-term exam # 2	(30% - 50 questions)	Nov 12
Final exam	(40%)	Registrar scheduled

It is not essential to pass all elements/components to pass the course

Grading System:

A+	> 95.5	C+	64.5 – 70
A	89.5 – 95	C	61.5 – 64
A-	85.5 – 89	C-	58.5 – 61
B+	80.5 – 85	D+	54.5 – 58
B	76.5 – 80	D	49.5 – 54
B-	70.5 – 76	F	< 50

If the distribution of grades appears to be abnormal, the instructors reserve the right to change the grade conversion chart to represent student achievement more fairly.

For additional detailed course information posted by the Instructor see D2L at:
<https://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

Course Schedule (subject to change)

Wk	Date	GEOG 205 CONTENT	Required Reading	Instructor
Part I: The discipline of Geography				
1	Sep 09 Sep 11	Topic 00: Course Introduction Topic 01: What is Geography? Why Geography?	VSI – Geography Chapter 1 (pp. Preface – 20)	All Yackel
2	Sep 16 Sep 18	Topic 02: Geographic Representations	VSI – Geography Chapter 5 (pp. 105-130)	Yackel Yackel
Part II: Geography of the Natural Environment				
3	Sep 23 Sep 25	Topic 03: Physical Geography (Earth Dynamic Systems)	VSI – Geography Chapter 2 (pp. 21-35; 44-49)	Yackel Yackel
4	Sept 30 Oct 02	Topic 04: Physical Geography (Weather and Climate)	VSI – Geography (pp. TBA)	Yackel Yackel
5	Oct 07 Oct 09			Yackel Yackel
Part III: Geography of the Human Environment				
6	Oct 14 Oct 16	Exam 1 (30% of final grade) Topic 05: Population Dynamics and Demographics	HG: pp. 97-143	All Slezak
7	Oct 21 Oct 23			Slezak Slezak
8	Oct 28 Oct 30	Topic 06: Population Dynamics and Demographics	HG: pp. 322-353	Slezak Slezak
9	Nov 04 Nov 06			Slezak Slezak
10	Nov 11 Nov 13	Reading Days - no lecture Exam 2 (30% of final grade)		All
Part IV: Human-Environment: Current Global Issues				
11	Nov 18 Nov 20	Topic 07: Global Energy & Climate Issues	Readings announced on D2L	Davidson Davidson
12	Nov 25 Nov 27	Topic 08: Global Food Crisis & Development	Readings announced on D2L	Davidson Davidson
13	Dec 02 Dec 04	Topic 09: Rainforest Struggles & Conservation	Readings announced on D2L	Davidson Davidson
14	End Fall Session - Registrar Scheduled Final Exam (40% of final grade)			

How to contact your instructors

Contact all your instructors via D2L. Use the email function within D2L. We will NOT answer emails that are sent directly to our email addresses. This is important because when you send an email through D2L it adds the name of the course to the subject line. This allows us to identify your emails easily in the flood of other emails we receive every day. Your professors will be instructing ~ 500 students this term so please appreciate that you may not receive a response immediately; furthermore, emails will be responded to during **weekday** hours (9:00am – 5:00pm). If possible we will respond to your question in class so that all participants can benefit from the discussion.

Recommendations regarding the formality of your emails

We require that all emails sent to us be written formally. Consider these to be formal letters NOT TWEETS.

Exams

There are three exams in this course:

1. Midterm exams (x2) **(30% each)**
 - a. They will each be a 50 minute exam conducted in class (see schedule)
 - b. The material examined will be explained in the lecture
 - c. The format will be exclusively multiple choice – expect 50 questions
2. Final exam **(40%)**
 - a. It will be a 2 hour exam scheduled by the registrar on the entire course
 - b. It will have two components:
 - c. 60% of the questions will cover material from Part IV (ie. Topics 7-9) (see schedule)
 - d. 40% of the questions will be from Parts I, II, and III
 - e. **Hint:** for this exam you should focus on those topics that have recurred in different parts of the course.
 - f. The format will be exclusively multiple choice

Hints (how to excel in Geog 205):

1. Attend all lectures. Attendance is closely linked to success in any course.
2. Be ready to engage in the course material and ask questions. Consider forming a study group to make learning easier and more effective.
3. Textbook readings are intended to supplement and reinforce the concepts presented in the lecture, but ARE NOT substitutes for attending the lecture. Do not make the mistake of thinking that you can "just read the textbook" or "just attend the lectures and not read" and do well in the course.
4. D2L will be used extensively to communicate outside of lecture periods. All lectures, grades, and updates/corrections to the course materials will be provided on D2L. We suggest that you consult D2L every morning in the event of changes, cancellations etc.
5. Ask questions of your professors. That is why we are here. Your professors will have office hours throughout the term. We urge you to take advantage of these opportunities.

USRI

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys.

Writing across the Curriculum

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

Principles of Conduct

The University of Calgary Calendar includes a statement on the Principles of conduct expected of all members of the University community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors and volunteers) whether on or off the University's property. This statement applies in all situations where the members of the University community are acting in their University capacities. All Members of the University Community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with this statement which is available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j-2.html>

Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar. Quite often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are 1) presenting another student's work as your own 2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without proper referencing and 3) using work completed for another course. This activity will not be tolerated in this course and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/honesty/plagiarism>

Student Accessibility Services Accommodations

If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

FOIP: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside instructor's office, the department office, etc. Term assignments will be returned to students individually, during class or during the instructor's office hours; if students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- All assignments will be handled through Blackboard or personally.

- Their own grades will be available to each student on Blackboard by password access. Grades will **not** be available at Geography's main office.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- SU VP Academic Phone: 220-3911 and e-mail: suypaca@ucalgary.ca
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: arts1@ucalgary.ca

The students ombudsman office information can be found at:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/su-structure/contact-info>

Campus Safewalk

Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day, to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security officer will accompany you to your Campus destination.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca