



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2017

GEOGRAPHY 251 H (3-2)

The Human Environment

Section	Days	Times	Location
LEC 01 (73482)	T	08:00 – 09:15	ES443
LAB 01 (73483)	W	08:00 – 09:50	ES 313
LAB 02 (73484)	R	12:30 – 14:20	ES 313

Instructor: Dr. W.N. Holden	Office: ES 416
Telephone: (403) 220-4886	Email: wnholden@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours	T & R 0930: to 10:45

Please note: The emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Maths Sciences is Social Sciences Food Court, and for classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT Food Court.

Course Description

The study of people, their origins, culture, technology, economy and impact on the environment. The manner in which people attempt to impose order upon the surface of the earth. Concepts of relative location are introduced with particular regard to both the external orientation and the internal organization of urban areas.

Course Objectives:

The primary objective of this course is to provide an overview of the discipline of human geography. Students will learn about the distribution of population, cultures, languages, religions, ethnicities, political systems, and economic activities on the surface of the Earth.

Course Learning Outcomes:

The Department of Geography is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Learn the essential differences between human and physical geography	6,7	1
Identify basic concepts from various sub-fields of human geography (population, environmental, cultural, political, economic, etc.) and how they relate to each other	1,4,5,7,8	1
Apply basic concepts from sub-fields of human geography to real-world cases and data	1,4,5,7,8	1

Identify and assess social/cultural/economic/political aspects and their roles in human-environment processes	1,4,5,7,8	1
Analyze basic concepts from sub-fields of human geography with particular attention to the roles of space and scale	6,7,8	1
Synthesize and interpret information on complex human-environmental processes across different types of human geography concepts and lenses beyond	1,4,5,7,8	1
Comprehend and apply the essential concepts of thinking geographically at a variety of scales	1,4,5,6,7,8	1
Identify and analyze the essential concepts of map projections and the distortions associated with the various types of map projections	6,7,8	1
Describe the essential concepts of population and migration geography	1,4,5,7,8	1

PLOs = Program Learning Outcomes: 1 = reflect and communicate diverse human-environment perspectives, 2 = identify and explain human-environment processes, 3 = implement sampling, data collection, analyses and communication methods, 4 = analyze spatial and temporal aspects of human-environment systems, 5 = employ knowledge, arguments, and methodologies for solving human-environment problems, 6 = evaluate geospatial data and manipulate it to create cartographic products, 7 = communicate geographic concepts using oral, written, graphic, and cartographic modes, and 8 = demonstrate literacy skills. **Levels:** (1) Introductory, (2) Intermediate, (3) Advanced.

Readings

The required textbook for this class is:

Rubenstein, J.M. (2017). *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography*, Twelfth Edition. Pearson Prentice Hall. New York, NY.

Additional readings will also be posted on D2L.

Assignments, Exams, and Weighting

This course will have **eight lab assignments**, each worth 2.0%, for a total of 16%, and **three midterm examinations**, which will take place during regularly scheduled class time. There will be no final examination. The first midterm will be held in the classroom on **Tuesday 17 October** and will be worth 37%, the second midterm will be held on **Tuesday 21 November** and will be worth 37% and the third midterm will be held in class on **Thursday 7 December** and will be worth 10%. It is not essential to pass all components of the course in order to receive a passing grade in the course.

The lab schedule will be made available on the first day of class, and will be posted on D2L. Lab exercises will, where possible, complement lecture material.

The lab assignments and the midterms will be marked on a numerical (percentage) basis. The course grade is calculated by using the weights indicated above and then converted into a letter grade. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+ 100, **A** 90 to 99, **A-** 85 to 89, **B+** 80 to 84, **B** 75 to 79,
B- 70 to 74, **C+** 65 to 69, **C** 60 to 64, **C-** 55 to 59, **D+** 50 to
54, **D** 45 to 49, **F** 0 to 44

If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart downward if the instructor, **at the instructor's discretion**, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED EXAMINATIONS under any circumstances, nor may the examinations be written early. Students unable to complete a lab assignment or write an examination because of documented illness; family emergency or religious observance will have the weight shifted to other components of course work.

Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work **cannot** discuss their work with the course or lab instructor within the first 48 hours after the grade has been made available and **must** discuss their work within 14 days after the grade has been made available. Unclaimed work will be available from the course or lab instructor during office hours.

Should a lab assignment for an entire lab section, or the writing of a midterm examination for an entire lecture section, become impossible due to events beyond the control of the relevant instructor (such as, and not exclusively consisting of; inclement weather, instructor's illness, unavailable facilities, or other "acts of fate") the lab assignment or midterm examination will be written one week later.

WARNING: THIS IS NOT A CORRESPONDENCE COURSE! It is your responsibility to ensure that you attend class. It is not my responsibility to "fill you in" on what you miss if you are absent from a class. I will not answer questions that, in my opinion, are the result of nonattendance or lack of attention in class.

WARNING: THIS COURSE IS NOT AN "EASY A!" The instructor of this course strictly adheres to the definition of letter grades in the University of Calgary Calendar. If you are taking this course in expectation of a high grade to facilitate dentistry school, law school, medical school or veterinary school admission, please take something else! This course may be "only an option" for you, it is not "only an option" for the instructor!

For additional detailed course information posted by the Instructor Desire2Learn at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>

Human subjects

Students are not expected to participate as subjects or researchers when research on human subjects may take place. No research on human subjects will take place.

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 Support Services 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> ***Be advised that the instructor of this course adopts a zero-tolerance policy toward talking in class. Students who talk in class will be ordered to leave the class and a refusal to leave, once ordered to do, so will be deemed to be an act of non-academic misconduct.***

Internet and electronic communication device information:

No restriction on the use of laptops and tablets in class if, and only if, they are used to take notes or find information relevant to the class, and if there is ***no disturbance or distraction of other students or the instructor.*** Phones must be turned off during class time unless you are a health care or law enforcement professional with appropriate ID.

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>

Academic Accommodations:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the university policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf

Students needing an accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. The procedure can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities_0.pdf

Students needing an accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, in writing, to the Instructor.

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 personally.
- 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: suvpaca@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 Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS 102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@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 registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210 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