

**GEOGRAPHY 251
(formerly Geography 203)
H(3-3) Area II**

The Human Environment

Instructor: Dr. Wil Holden

TA: Mr. Brent Else

Office: ES416 Office: Office hours: MWF 12:00 -13:00 Phone: 220-4886

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Course Content:

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 or urban areas.

Topics: a readings list will be distributed in the first week of classes.

Prerequisite:

Geography 205 or admission to the Major or Minor in Geography, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Urban Studies, Latin American Studies or the Minor in Transportation Studies.

Blackboard <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>

Text(s)/Readings: J.M. Rubenstein (2005): *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography*. New York. Prentice Hill
Class notes are available on Blackboard.

*subject to change before classes officially start.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

This course will have **eight lab assignments**, each worth 5%, and **three midterms**. The first two

midterms will be worth 25% each and the third midterm will be worth 10%. Note: the course will not have a Registrar scheduled final examination during the final examination period. There is no one component of the course, which must be passed in order to pass the course.

Tests and lab assignments are 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+ 95 – 100, **A** 90 – 94, **A-** 85 – 89, **B+** 80 – 84, **B** 75 – 79,
B- 70 – 74, **C+** 65 – 69, **C** 60 – 64, **C-** 55 – 59, **D+** 50 – 54, **D**
45 – 49, **F** 0 – 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 if the instructor, **at the instructor's discretion**, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

Tests and exams may involve multiple-choice questions.

Dates for the midterms and lab assignments will be announced during the first week of classes.

Students must comply with the University regulations concerning "Intellectual Honesty," "Examinations," "Plagiarism," etc., which are published in the University Calendar.

The midterm examinations will be held in class on dates to be announced. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED EXAMINATIONS** under any circumstances, nor may the examinations be written early. Students unable to write the examination because of documented illness; family emergency or religious observance will have the weight shifted on to other components of course work.

Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work should discuss their work with the Instructor within one week of the grade being made available. Unclaimed work will be available from the instructor during office hours.

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

Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments:

The instructor will make graded assignments available during office hours; an answer key will be provided on blackboard.

Posting of grades will be at the discretion of the instructor and, if posted, they will be scrambled. **Grades will not be available in the Geography office. Assignments will not be accepted by email.**

Prerequisite: A previous course in Geography or consent of the department.

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.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

The instructor will make graded assignments available during office hours; an answer key will be provided on blackboard. To receive your assignment back via mail, please include an appropriately sized self-addressed, stamped envelope with your assignment when handing in to the professor. Posting of grades will be at the discretion of each Professor and, if posted, they will be scrambled. 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: socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

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.