



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2018

**GEOGRAPHY 251
H (3-2)**

The Human Environment

Section	Days	Times	Location
LEC 01 (10558)	TuTh	09:30 - 10:45	ES443
LAB 01 (10559)	W	09:00 - 10:50	ES 313
LAB 02 (10560)	R	15:30 -17:20	ES 313
LAB 03 (10561)	F	14:00 - 15:50	ES 313

Instructor: Dr. W.N. Holden	Office: ES 416
Telephone: (403) 220-4886	Email: wnholden@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours	T & R 14:30-16:45

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 difference between human and physical geography	6,7	1
Learn the two main purposes of maps	6,7	1
Learn the concept of map scales	6,7	1
Learn the difference between absolute and relative distance	6,7	1

Learn the attributes of the different types of map projections	6,7	1
Learn the fundamental principles of population geography	1,7	1
Learn the concepts of demographic and epidemiological transition	1,2,7	1
Learn the major push and pull factors responsible for migration	1,2,3,5,7	1
Learn the difference between folk and popular culture	1,2,7	1
Learn the concepts of language families, branches, and groups	1,7	1
Learn the spatial distribution of the world's religions	1,2,7	1
Learn the concepts of nation, state, and nation-state	1,2,7,5	1
Learn the spatial distribution of economic activities	1,2,3,5	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 **Thursday 15 February** and will be worth 37%, the second midterm will be held on **Thursday 22 March** and will be worth 37% and the third midterm will be held in class on **Thursday 12 April** 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.

Supplementary Fees: N/A

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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, faculty members can and should consider quality of writing as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by Writing Support Services can be

utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance: www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/overview.

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations, according to the university policies and procedures listed in the University Calendar.

The student accommodation policy can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy. 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: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Department Head (email: geograph@ucalgary.ca).

Principles of Conduct

The University 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 university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Student Misconduct

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

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 at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html. 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 adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html.

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.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation in Alberta disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, such as outside an 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

must provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

Graded assignments will be returned by the instructor or teaching assistant personally during schedule lecture or laboratory periods, unless they are made available electronically through the course D2L webpage. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The 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 provides detailed information about common academic concerns.

For guidance on course registration (add, drop, swap), information about paying fees, and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-7625 or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

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: www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness, and academic success and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support, or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

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 station, 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.

USRI Surveys

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, so please participate in USRI surveys.