

GEOG 280 LEC01 Thinking Spatially in a Digital World

GFC Hours 3-1/2T, **Class Number 72590**
Fall 2023 classes: September 5th – December 6th

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TR	9:30-10:45AM	ENG60
T01	T	11:00-11:50AM	ES407
T02	T	11:00-11:50AM	ES407
T03	R	4:00-4:50PM	ES407
T04	R	4:00-4:50PM	ES407
T05	F	11:00-11:50AM	ES407
T06	F	11:00-11:50AM	ES407
T07	W	10:00-10:50AM	ES307
T08	W	10:00-10:50AM	ES307
Instructor: Dr. John Yackel		Office: ES 444	
Telephone:		Email: yackel@ucalgary.ca put GEOG 280 in subject	
Email communication will be through your UCalgary email address.		Office hours: 12:15 to 1:00 TR	

Official Course Description

Introduces mapping technologies and digital spatial data for solving geographical problems that focus on how to collect, manage, analyze, and communicate diverse spatial data. Topics include geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, spatial statistics, geovisualization, cartography, and web mapping.

Course Objectives

The goals of this course are to explore spatial thinking and introduce geospatial technologies that underpin contemporary digital society. Together, we will examine the use of geospatial data and technologies in everyday life. Some key applications include climate change, public health, natural resource management, urban studies and more. Topics will highlight how geospatial technologies enhance our understanding of the world around us.

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 to which they contribute, and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO(s)*	Level(s)**
Consider how maps represent, create, and recreate places and spaces	1, 2	1
Describe how knowledge is produced through geospatial technologies and practices	1, 2	1
Describe geospatial technologies and practices	4, 5, 6	1
Recognize geospatial-related applications	4, 6	1
Apply industry standard software to perform basic mapping tasks	3, 6	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, and 3 = Advanced.*

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Learning Resources

There is no required textbook for this course. Links to online readings and resources will be posted in the Desire2Learn (D2L) course page.

Assessment Methods

1. Tests	55% of grade
Test 1 (in-class)	20% (October 5)
Test 2 (in-class)	20% (November 9)
Test 3(in-class)	15% (December 5)
2. Tutorial Assignments	45% of grade (8 tutorials @ 5.625% each)

Notes:

- It is not essential to pass all components to pass the course as whole
- Only pens, pencils and erasers are allowed in exams. No other materials or devices are allowed.
- Late assignment policy – see Additional Course Information

Grading System

92.50 – 100	A+	73 – 75.99	B	60 – 62.99	C
85 – 92.49	A	70 – 72.99	B-	56 – 59.99	D+
80 – 84.99	A-	66 – 69.99	C+	50 – 55.99	D
76 – 79.99	B+	63 – 65.99	C	0 – 49.99	F

A weighted average of all components of course work will be calculated and converted into a letter grade using the aforementioned grade conversion chart.

Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-3.html>

Additional Course Information

Tutorial Assignments will be submitted through the D2L course page and will be automatically timestamped. These components will be considered late if the timestamp is later than the due date and time. Deliverables received within 1 minute to 24 hours of the due date will be assessed a 20% penalty. This means if your assignment receives a grade of 88% it will be entered as 68% ($88 - 20 = 68$) on the grade sheet. If it is received between 24 and 48 hours, it will be assessed a 40% penalty. If the assignment is received greater than 48 hours from the due date it will be assessed a penalty of 60%, and so forth.

If you anticipate missing or being unable to complete one of the scheduled course components (test or tutorial assignment) and possess a legitimate explanation, please email Dr. Yackel (for tests) or one of the TAs (for tutorials) before the commencement of the test or the scheduled due date of the tutorial assignment. If the justification is accepted, you may be granted a deferral of the examination or an extension of the due date for the tutorial assignment.

In the event that a student misses a test or any course work due to illness, supporting documentation, such as a medical note or a statutory declaration may be requested <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>
Please refer to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals/student-faq> for frequently asked questions concerning the provision of a medical note/statutory declaration.

Students will not be expected to participate as subjects or researchers when research on human subjects may take place.

Exams & Deferrals <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams>

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and receive a tuition fee refund is **Thursday, September 14th, 2023**. The last day to add or swap a course for Fall 2023 is **Friday, September 15th, 2023**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Wednesday, December 6th, 2023**. Please note that the University is closed on **Monday, November 13th, 2023**, for Remembrance Day and **Monday, October 9th, 2023**, for Thanksgiving Day. Term break is **November 12th – 18th, 2023**.

For additional detailed course information posted by the instructor, visit the course Desire2Learn page online at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>.

Resources and Writing support

Please note writing support resources provided by the Student Success Centre <https://ucalgary.ca/ssc/resources/writing-support> and the library <https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/guides/>

University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. 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.

[University of Calgary : K. Integrity and Conduct \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Student Misconduct

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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For information on what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation in Alberta regulates the return of term assessments. 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. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office and assignments cannot be dropped off at the Department Office.

Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

Graded assignments will be returned by the instructor or teaching assistant personally during scheduled lecture or laboratory periods, unless they are made available electronically through the course D2L webpage.

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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-1.html>

Within the first week of classes, students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should register with Student Accessibility Services [Accessibility | Home | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#) Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing to their instructor or the Department Head (email: freeman@ucalgary.ca).

Learning Technologies and Requirements

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updates web browser
- Broadband internet connection
- Optional technology: webcam (built in or external) / microphone and speaker (built in or external) or headset with microphone
- Access to an Android or iOS Smartphone with a GPS and space to download one free app.

Use of internet and electronic devices in class

No electronic devices will be permitted during in-class tests. Additionally, no audio or video recording of lectures is permitted unless you are given individual permission by myself to do so.

Guidelines for Video Sessions

Video sessions maybe used in the event of instructor absence, for work within peer groups, or for other communication related to course obligations. To help ensure video sessions are private, do not share link or password with others via any medium, including social media platforms. Links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Recordings and materials presented, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering video conferencing sessions, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment.

Please be mindful of how your behavior in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. Student Non Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your sessions visit: [eLearn @ UCalgary](#)

If you are unable to attend a session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a class session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Media Recording (if applicable)

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

Course evaluations and student feedback

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms.

Accessibility

Lecture material and tutorials will emphasize visual materials such as images and maps and use of colors and shading. Visually impaired students may find it difficult to follow some of the lecture material and complete the tutorials.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Act.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

Mental health plays a pivotal role 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/>).

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to email the **Student at Risk line** if they or others appear to need wellness assistance: sar@ucalgary.ca For more immediate response, please call: 403-210-9355 and select option #2.

Sexual Violence Policy

All members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy>

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- Student Union VP Academic 403-220-3911, suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts – 403-220-3913, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
- Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management> The assembly point for lectures is MSC Atrium. The assembly point for labs is ICT Food Court.

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.