

GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2020

GEOGRAPHY 324 GFC HOURS (3-1/2T)

Society and Environmental Change

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TuTh	11:00 – 12:15	ST 145

Instructor: Aaron Williams	Office: ES 420
Telephone: 403 220 7483	Email: awill@ucalgary.ca

Please note: The emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Science Theatres is Professional Faculties Food Court.

Official Course Description

Environmental and resource issues, with emphasis on topics such as climate change, sustainability, ethics, planning, policy and decision making, and management strategies. Case examples highlight issues in resource sectors such as freshwater, oceans, parks and wildlife, tourism and recreation, forests and energy.

Course Objectives

The primary objective of geography 324 is to assess the impact of human activities on the environment, the challenges involved in achieving environmental sustainability, and on policies, plans, and strategies devised to move society and environment toward a sustainable future. Using the framework of political ecology, this course integrates dimensions of human and physical environmental problems and highlights the roles of critical reflection, local action, stewardship and cooperative problem solving in environmental management.

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)**
Students should be able to explain concepts and values critical to the study, management and understanding of our environment.	1,2,3,4,5,7	2
Students should be able to conceptualize the distribution, use, extraction and impact of global natural resources, the effects of human activities on a range of natural resources globally, and aspects of the uncertainty, complexity and conflict that characterize both the use and management of resources globally.	1,2,3,4,5,7	2
Students should be able to apply concepts for maintaining and sustaining the environment as a resource.	1,2,3,4,5,7	1
Students should be able to evaluate environmental problems and issues of sustainability within select world regions through case study examples.	1,2,3,4,5,7	2
Students should be able to explain the basic fundamentals of globalization and theories surrounding political ecology in relationship to the environment.	1,2,3,4,5,7	2

**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

No prerequisites required.

Learning Resources

Robbins, Paul; John Hintz and Sarah A. Moore (2014) Environment and Society – A Critical Introduction. Second Edition. Wiley Blackwell, Malden MA. (required)

Grading (Weighting)

Mid-term exam 1- February 13 th	30%
Mid-term exam 2...March 26 th	30%
Class presentation and written report	25%
Final examination (in class final exam)	15%

Exemptions to the Examination and Tests Regulations

- There **will not a** be scheduled final exam by the Registrar’s Office.
- It is not essential to pass all elements/components to pass the course as a whole.
- Only pens, pencils and erasers are allowed in exams. No other materials or devices are allowed.
- Late assignment policy: Late assignments not subject to being excused with a valid medical/emergency will be assessed a 15% penalty per day.
- **THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED EXAMS OR QUIZZES** under any circumstances, nor may the examinations be written early. Students unable to write an exam because of documented illness; family emergency or religious observance will have the weight shifted to the other midterm grade. Please refer to the policy as outlined in the University of Calgary Calendar: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-1.html> In the event that a student misses a midterm or any course work due to illness, supporting documentation. 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.

Communication and course etiquette:

Regarding e-mail and other communication with the Instructor and other students. Please make sure your e-mails are polite and respectful. Any abusive or disrespectful e-mails or other communication deemed so will be reported and you may face non-academic or academic misconduct if they are deemed to be abusive or bullying in nature.

The Instructor expects students to show up for class. If you missed important information it is best that you attempt to obtain that information from your peers. If it because of illness or other extenuating circumstances contact the Instructor during office hours, after class, or set up an alternate time to meet. Sending e-mails expecting long responses from your Instructor because of your absence may go

unanswered. This is especially true immediately before exams when the information has been given multiple times in class or by e-mail to the class.

It is a student's responsibility to follow the course schedule and the readings that have been detailed in the course schedule in the outline. This schedule might change through the term so make sure you follow these changes that may be outlined in class. The material in the readings, videos and the lectures **are all** testable material regardless if the material in the readings or videos were not covered in the lecture or the lecture covered different material that is not in the readings or videos. Keep in mind as well that lecture slides are just headings of what the Instructor is discussing. You will need to take notes to understand the material. Reading the slides and not coming to class or not taking notes will not adequately prepare you for the exams. If you have questions about the exams please see the Instructor in his/her office hours.

Grading System

96 – 100	A+	77 – 80	B	59 – 61	C-
90 – 95	A	71 – 76	B-	55 – 58	D+
86 – 89	A-	65 – 70	C+	50 – 54	D
81 – 85	B+	62 – 64	C	0 – 49	F

Supplementary Fees

N/A

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf>

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.

Human subjects

There are no human subjects in this course.

Internet and electronic communication device information

There are no restrictions on the use of laptops and tablets in class 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, unless you have previously identified yourself to the instructor as a health care or law enforcement professional.

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. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office.

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 their instructor or the Department Head (email: david.goldblum@ucalgary.ca).

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) 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

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/>).

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/

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.