

**Geography 391
Geographic Field Studies
Fall 2005
August 31-September 9**

CONTENTS

Course Outline	2
Field notebooks.....	5
Course schedule	7
Destination information	8
What to bring.....	9
Safety policy.....	11
Required reading.....	12

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Please notify Brenda Mottle (at 220-4852 or mottle@ucalgary.ca) of any special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian) **before August 26.**
2. You must attend the first day of class spent in Calgary. Meet in **ES 920 at 9:00 am on Wednesday, August 31.** We will spend the day filling out the appropriate forms and learning how to use some of the field equipment. Plan to work outside in ANY weather conditions.
3. You must be at the meeting location (**Lot 20**) **between 6:30 and 7:00 am on Thursday, September 1.** Have all your gear packed and bring it with you. Don't be late as we leave promptly at 7:00 am!
4. If you have any allergies (e.g. food or insect) or have other medical conditions that may require you to obtain emergency attention, please notify Brenda Mottle before we leave Calgary.
5. Food and accommodations are NOT provided for the first day while we are in Calgary. You will be required to bring your own lunch for the first travel day (we will not be stopping at a restaurant or food store). Meals while in Saskatchewan Crossing are not provided. There is a restaurant and café where you will be able to purchase supper and breakfast.

COURSE OUTLINE 2005 (FALL)
GEOGRAPHY 391 H (80 HOURS) (AREA III)
GEOGRAPHIC FIELD STUDIES

Timetable: Fall Session

Lec 01: TBA

Instructors: Office hours for all instructors is by appointment only.

Darren Sjogren

Office: ES 926

Phone: 220-2575

E-mail: sjogren@ucalgary.ca

Shelley Alexander

Office: ES 460

Phone: 220-5597

E-mail: shelley@telusplanet.net

Stefania Bertazzon

Office: ES 308

Phone: 220-7355

E-mail: bertazzs@ucalgary.ca

Mryka Hall-Beyer

Office: ES 458

Phone: 220-6586

E-mail: mhallbey@ucalgary.ca

Shawn Marshall

Office: ES 404

Phone: 220-4884

E-mail: marshals@ucalgary.ca

John Yackel

Office: ES 408

Phone: 220-4892

E-mail: yackel@ucalgary.ca

Course Content:

This course is an introduction to field research techniques and topics in physical and human geography. Field lectures and hands-on exercises will provide an introduction to a range of geographic disciplines. The course will be based out of Hinton, Alberta, August 31-September 9, 2005.

Grading:

Field exercises	80%	Assignments will be completed in the evening after the field excursion. Assignments are due to the instructor before departure the following day. Format will be different for each assignment and will be indicated by the instructor.
Final exam (take home)	15%	The exam will be posted on Blackboard on 07 Sept 2005 and is due on 16 Sept 2005 at 4:30. All answers must be handed in through Blackboard.
Field notebook	05%	Hand in to D. Sjogren in ES 926 by 4:30 on 16 Sept 2005. Instructions and guidelines indicated below.

Grading Scheme

A+	> 93	C+	69 – 72.99
A	89 – 92.99	C	65 – 68.99
A-	85 – 88.99	C-	61 – 64.99
B+	81 – 84.99	D+	57 – 60.99
B	77 – 80.99	D	50 – 56.99
B-	73 – 76.99	F	< 50

Text:

Required: (Available in reference section at University Bookstore and at other bookstores such as Chapters)

Gadd, Ben. *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies*. Corax Press.

Suggested: (Available at University Bookstore)

Holmes, D. and Farbrother, D. 2000. *A-Z Advancing Geography: Fieldwork*. Geographical Association, Sheffield, 112 p.

Prerequisites: Consent of the Department. One of the following is recommended: Geography 201, 203, Geology 201, 209.

NOTE: Enrollment in Geography 391 may be limited. Only declared Majors in Geography, Earth Science, Environmental Science and Minors in Transportation Science may be admitted prior to August 1. Applications from other students will be reviewed after August 1. Please see Paulina Medori in ES 356 (email medori@ucalgary.ca or call 220-4838) to place your name on the waiting list.

For additional detailed course information posted by the Instructor see Blackboard at: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>

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

- **Assignments will be handed back only in class or by the Professor at pre-arranged time(s).**
- **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**

FIELD NOTEBOOKS

The primary purpose of the field notebook is to record information/observations in a manner that you (or someone else) can use the data in the future. Communication is the key and you will be graded on how well this is accomplished. Grading of your entries in your field notebook will be based on the following:

1. Clear indication of purpose for the observations (1%)
2. Adherence to the other entry guidelines below. Are you missing the major elements? (1%)
3. Information content - data and observations (2%).
4. Organization, readability and ability of a person not affiliated with the course, to gain insight into your fieldwork by reading your notebook (1%).

General guidelines:

- Make your observations when you are in the field. It is not appropriate to write down things at the end of the day. No one's memory is that good!!!!
- You will be using the data/observations to complete the assignments so it is important that you make your own observations. If you rely on others to take the notes in the field you will not benefit from multiple viewpoints when writing up the assignment. Furthermore, it is not acceptable to copy someone else's notes. Refer to academic misconduct.
- The most important thing to remember is that your notebook is meant to communicate information to yourself and others.
- Use pen for entries. No pencil!
- Do not erase or whiteout any entry. If you wish to disregard the information, cross it out with a few neat lines.
- With all your entries you should ask yourself if you have included enough information. Would you understand what you did in 10 years time? If you can't honestly say that you would be able to glean information after 10 years, you do not have enough information.

Your notebook entries should include the following:

- ❖ Date – should be clearly indicated
- ❖ Page # - all pages should be numbered
- ❖ Location - GPS and/or verbal
- ❖ Weather conditions - Important information if you are studying living things
- ❖ Purpose of investigation
 - “question of the day or hour” or your hypothesis
 - Important because it guides data collection and provides direction, particularly when there is time pressure
 - Guides someone reading your field notebook
- ❖ Equipment used - Important for evaluating errors in future
 - Note instrument, model/make, etc.
- ❖ Observations and comments - Point form
 - This should not be a commentary, but should concisely state the observation.
 - It is up to you to decide how much writing is necessary.
- ❖ Data collected
 - Be clear as possible about how it links to the “purpose”

- Tabulate whenever possible
- Write neatly and clarify
- ❖ Maps and sketches – absolutely critical
 - Should be neatly drawn in pen. The purpose is to remind you of the spatial arrangement of your observations. When doing sketches in your notebook you do not have to strictly adhere to the cartographic conventions, but the more you do the more useful the notebook is in the future. Usually, both a north arrow and scale bar are necessary.
 - To follow cartographic conventions you should include the following essential elements
 - Title
 - Legend
 - Direction indicator (e.g. north arrow)
 - Scale indicator (e.g. scale bar)
- ❖ Tables, graphs and charts
 - Basically the same ideas indicated with the maps and sketches apply here. It is important that these elements of your notebook have enough information that you or someone else can follow the logic and identify what the information represents.
 - You should try to use the appropriate type of graph (pie, bar, etc.) and label it appropriately
- ❖ Daily or topic summaries
 - This section is meant to document your “train of thought” at the time of data collection
 - Use this section to “take you back” to that day
 - You may take this opportunity to identify things that you wish you had done or information you think you may need and why.
 - Helps you evaluate whether you have collected the appropriate information to accomplish your “purpose”

Due: Hand in to Darren Sjogren (Earth Science Building 926) on September 16, 2005 by 4:30pm.

GEOGRAPHY 391 FIELD SCHOOL SCHEDULE: Fall 2005

Before August 31, 2005

- Acquire required equipment including the field notebook (no substitutions!)
- Read text book (see last page of this package for details)

On Wednesday, August 31, 2005

- Meet in ES 920 at 9:00 am to sign out equipment, fill out necessary forms and learn how to use field equipment. Come prepared to work outside in ANY weather.

On Thursday, September 1, 2005

- Meet in Lot 20 between 6:30 and 7:00 am (don't be late, vans will be leaving promptly at 7:00 am!).
- Travel to Saskatchewan Crossing.
- Vans will be split into two groups in the afternoon for the Athabasca Glacier/Parker Ridge modules.
- Return to Saskatchewan Crossing in time for supper.
- Group introduction in the evening and first assignment.

On Friday, September 2, 2005

- Breakfast 7:00 - 7:30 am.
- Check out of Saskatchewan Crossing, hand in yesterday's assignments.
- Depart for Athabasca Glacier/Parker Ridge.
- Lunch at Icefields Interpretive Centre.
- Depart for Hinton, arriving in time for supper at 5:30 pm.

September 3-September 8, 2005

- Small group trips and exercises originating in Hinton and returning each night (each day's exercise is to be handed in before leaving in the van the next morning)

September 9, 2005

- Return to Calgary (arriving mid- to late afternoon)

Friday, September 16, 2005

- Final take-home exam will be posted to Blackboard on September 9.
- Final exam is due Friday, September 16 by 4:30 pm.
- You must also hand in your field notebook to Dr. Darren Sjogren in ES 926 by 4:30 pm on September 16.

DESTINATION INFORMATION

**Crossing Resort
Saskatchewan Crossing
Phone 403-761-7000**

Accommodations:

- Motel units consisting of one double bed, a single bed and a double hide-a-bed
- 5 students per room
- no cooking facilities
- restaurant on site (no meals provided)

**Hinton Training Centre
1176 Switzer Drive
Hinton, AB T7V 1E3
Phone 780-865-8299 / Fax 780-865-8226**

Residences:

- two students per room
- shared washroom facilities
- men's and women's corridors
- each residence has a lounge area with games, TV/VCR and work space
Sheets, pillow cases and pillows provided
- washers and dryers are coin-op
- bring towels, face cloths, all toiletries (only hand soap and paper towels are provided in the washrooms)

Dining:

- All meals are served cafeteria style
- Breakfast 7:00-7:30
- Supper 5:30-6:00
- Box lunches provided for the field
- Please be on time for meals. Late arrivals will not be served. We will be leaving for the field immediately after breakfast, so come to breakfast prepared to go.

Quiet hours:

- 11:00pm to 6:00 am. Others will be staying at the facility during our stay. Please respect other's rights to a good night's sleep.

Alcohol:

- Consumption of alcohol is permitted only in residence rooms. If you wish to drink, please keep it in moderation. We expect you to be ready to work on time every morning. Out of control behaviour will not be permitted in the field or residences.

Getting messages:

- Notice of messages and calls for students will be posted on the Student Information board in the Academic Building. The phone number to leave messages is 780-865-8200 from 8:15 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 4:30 Monday to Friday (except Labour Day).

WHAT TO BRING:

Required field equipment and essential to bring into the field each day:

- watch
- day pack
- sturdy shoes/hiking boots (open toed shoes are forbidden during field activities)
- warm clothing in layers
- rain jacket and pants (we work in the field rain or shine)
- field notebook (Can. Measure Field Book 7010.360, available at U of C bookstore)
- sun/rain hat
- water bottle, at least 1L, plastic
- small first aid kit (see details below)
- sunscreen
- I.D. of some sort (student ID, Drivers License)
- Alberta Health card
- pens, pencils, coloured pencils, eraser, sharpener or penknife, ruler
- textbook (Handbook of the Canadian Rockies by Ben Gadd)
- any essential medications
- cash for emergency purposes

Optional (but recommended) field equipment:

- paper tissues
- insect repellent
- sun glasses
- plastic bags (zip lock) for your notebook and maps in case of rain
- extra socks
- umbrella
- camera, binoculars or monocular

Clothing and personal items:

Be prepared to work in any conditions. Some suggestions for clothing are:

- long-sleeved shirts
- T-shirts
- long pants
- shorts
- sweater

- hiking boots
- rubber boots
- trekking or good walking shoes
- walking socks (e.g. Smart Wool)
- polypropylene socks - 3 pr
- underwear
- bathing suit (for possible hot springs trip)
- hat with a brim
- warm jacket
- light wool gloves
- towel
- face cloth
- soap
- shampoo
- required toiletries

Suggested first-aid kit:

- Tylenol
- Gravol
- band-aids
- polysporin
- second-skin or moleskin, foam padding
- tensor bandage
- latex gloves
- alcohol swabs
- safety pins
- absorbent cotton, gauze
- medical tape
- triangular bandage
- small scissors

DO NOT BRING any of the following:

- picnic cooler
- mountain bike
- pets
- flares (any size)
- alcoholic beverages
- illegal drugs
- firearms

All students will be provided with safety guidelines and other policy, and an injury waiver form, before starting the course.

SAFETY POLICY

Although field localities and field exercises are chosen with safety in mind, work and study outdoors carries some risk. You are responsible for yourself and, through your actions, those around you. All field participants are to behave in a safe manner, and if unsure, to seek advice. If you feel unsafe doing anything requested of you, don't do it and let the instructor know immediately. All field school participants are equally responsible for safety, but faculty and staff of the Department are in charge. Given that, **if you are ever instructed to take an action, or stop one, do so first, question it later.**

Preparation

Prevention is the key to safety. All students will come to field school each day with:

- attitudes and behaviors conducive to safe field practices
- good footwear, preferably hiking boots, but sturdy running shoes if not boots. Open-toed shoes are forbidden
- clothing appropriate for the complete "normal" range of local weather, including long trousers, sweater, and wind/rain gear, regardless of anticipated weather
- sun protection: hat, sun glasses and sun screen
- extra food and water when appropriate
- medicines for chronic illnesses such as diabetes, asthma etc.
- mosquito and fly repellent

Inform your trip leader of any conditions that might require emergency medical attention (e.g. bee sting allergy) immediately.

Team work

Field school participants will never be asked to work alone. Keep your partner in sight, and don't get separated. Most areas are very open, and you won't have any problems. If you get separated, retrace your steps, back to the start point if necessary, until you find your partner. You should never be alone in the field.

Fires, Smoking

Unless required for emergency warmth, no fires. Smoking in the field, due to the fire hazard, is discouraged. If you must, sit down, don't wander about with a lighted cigarette.

Miscellany

Other things/activities are forbidden during field activities, including:

- alcoholic beverages, non-medicinal drugs
- firearms
- boulder rolling
- rough-housing/horsing around
- antagonizing wildlife
- swimming alone
- rock climbing
- littering

Sexual Harassment

The University of Calgary has a clearly stated policy on sexual harassment. Because the field camp is a University of Calgary activity, serious penalties can follow from misbehavior. Any incidents of harassment should be reported to a faculty member immediately.

Student Misconduct

The nature of this field school requires that, for the safety of others, student misconduct be dealt with immediately. If a student threatens the safety or security of anyone, or commits any academic or non-academic offense as defined in the University Calendar, they will be expelled from the course immediately and required to make their own travel arrangements back to Calgary at their own expense.

REQUIRED READING

The suggested course text is *A-Z Advancing Geography: Fieldwork* by Holmes and Farbrother. You would do well to read over the entire text (it's only 112 pages) before the course. The required text, *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies*, by Ben Gadd, is more a reference book than a regular style textbook. You will want to have it with you in the field as it will be a valuable resource.

During the field school you will be required to do further reading in order to accomplish your assignments and the final exam.