



GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE: SPRING 2017

GEOGRAPHY 394.10

H(3-0)

Cultural, Political and Urban Geography of Southeast Asia & China

Section	Days	Times	Location
Instructor: Aaron Williams		Office: ES 420	
Telephone: 220 7483		Email: awill@ucalgary.ca	

Course Content

Geography 394 will be offered during the Geography Overseas Field School in the spring semester 2017. This half course focuses on the urban, political, cultural Geography of Myanmar, Lao, Cambodia, and Thailand.

This half-course centres on data collection techniques and field research applied to geographical phenomena in regions outside North America. Topics of focus will include, settlement patterns, transportation networks, economic activities (e.g., manufacturing, energy production and consumption, resource extraction, tourism development), and aspects of historical and political geography of this shatter belt region. Comparing and contrasting regional, cultural and religious variations on the itinerary will be a major focus. Cultural, political, and economic aspects of sustainability will be considered with respect to urban form, rapid urban development, cultural and ethnic interactions and power relationships, and human interaction and anthropogenic changes to environments. Theoretical and practical links between urban, national, and transnational organizations (e.g. ASEAN) policies, on the one hand, and global economic and sustainability discourses, on the other, will be made.

The following pre-session components are included: one short paper, and introductory and topical lectures, and field work training. *En route* components will include lectures, seminars, student-instructor consultations, group field trips, and lectures by local experts. While overseas, students must complete one oral presentation, two field study assignments, an extensive field notebook, and a final examination. The final examination will be conducted on-site, and will require students to synthesize observations made during the course and apply them to a concrete question. **Note:** Group travel study provides opportunities for small group and individual instructor-approved studies.

The final course grade includes these components:

Comparative project report	15%
an on-site oral presentation (may be as part of a group)	15%
two field assignments @ 10% each	20%
a field notebook:	40%
a final examination	10%

597-course associated with GEOG 394:

Those enrolled in the associated 500-level course will be required to complete all these components but will be held to more rigorous marking criteria, including incorporation of more theoretical aspects of geography. In addition, they must complete a proposal for field research, including a literature review, prior to departure. An interim report on data collection will be due half-way through the field course, and a final report resulting from this research will be submitted no later than 6 weeks after the completion of the travel portion of the course.

Students enrolled in the 500-level courses will, in addition, be asked to assume a leadership position with respect to 300-level students, by being assigned to a small group and helping with background information and concept interpretation as required during the course. They will be responsible for submitting a diary of time and content of such activity, which will count toward their final grade.

Expectations:

By the conclusion of the program, a successful student will have acquired

- an understanding of field reconnaissance techniques.
- the ability to produce a field notebook.
- a good understanding of the geography of Southeast Asia.
- insights into social and economic processes, the organization of human activities, and environmental impacts of various forms of human actions.

Grading System:

A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject
A-	3.70	↑
B+	3.30	↑
B	3.00	Good - clearly above average performance
B-	2.70	↑
C+	2.30	↑
C	2.00	Satisfactory performance – basic understanding of the subject
C-	1.70	
D+	1.30	
D	1.00	Minimal Pass-marginal performance
F	0	Fail - - poor performance

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

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

USRI

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 - please participate in USRI Surveys.

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, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

Principles of Conduct

The University of Calgary 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 the University's property. This statement applies in all situations where the members of the University community are acting in their University capacities. All Members of the University Community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with this statement which is available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j-2.html>

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. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/honesty/plagiarism>

Academic Accommodations:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the university policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf

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. The procedure can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities_0.pdf

Students needing an accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, in writing, to the Instructor.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

FOIP: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside 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 provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- All assignments will be handled through Blackboard or personally.
- Their own grades will be available to each student on Blackboard by password access. **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: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: arts1@ucalgary.ca

The students ombudsman office information can be found at:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/su-structure/contact-info>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new 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 has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210 7625 or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca