



**GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: SPRING 2014
GEOGRAPHY 394.58**

H(3-7)

Sustainability and the City: Learning from Europe I (Geog 394) (or 597.94)

Sustainability and the City: Learning from Europe II (Geog 395) (or 597.95)

Instructor: Aaron Williams	Office: ES 446
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Official Course Description:

Field research and reconnaissance survey of techniques applied to regions outside North America. Group travel-study combined with formal instruction and seminars.

MAY BE REPEATED FOR CREDIT.

Prerequisite:

Consent of the department

Supplementary Fees: (*field trips etc*). N/A

Text(s)/Readings:

Beatley, T. (Ed.) (2012) Green Cities of Europe, Washington DC: Island Press.

Ostergren, R. and J. Rice (2004) The Europeans: A Geography of People, Culture, and Environment, New York: Guilford Press.

Newman. P. Beatley, T. and H. Boyer (2009) Responding to Peak Oil and Climate Change, Washington, D.C.: Island Press.

Required readings will be posted to Blackboard.

Course content

Geography 394.XX and 395.XX will be offered during the Overseas Field School, Spring Session, 2014; an extensive, mandatory pre-session will be held during the Winter Session, 2014. A specific focus of this field program will be on the cultures, cities, and the environment that has developed, interacted with and evolved along the central and southern waterways of Europe. The field program will have stops along the Seine, Rhone, Rhine, Po, and Danube

rivers to investigate and understand the evolution of cities, landscapes, and environmental uses and issues that have emerged through centuries of human occupation.

These two linked half courses focus on human environments and issues of urban sustainability. Pre-session for GEOG 394, will be held during the Winter 2014 semester.

The first part of this course will focus on the historical geography of urban systems in Europe, emphasizing economic, cultural, and political processes. This introduction to European urban systems will lay the groundwork for addressing contemporary debates surrounding urban sustainability issues and policies in Europe. Economic, political, and cultural aspects of sustainability will be considered with respect to urban form, social geography, and mobility systems. Theoretical and practical links between urban, national, and European Union policies, on the one hand, and global sustainability discourses, on the other, will be made.

Understandings gained in GEOG 394 will undergird the second half course, GEOG 395, in which theoretical and practical conceptions of urban sustainability will be illustrated and challenged through field observations and interviews with a diverse array of local experts in European cities. Students will be introduced to examples of sustainable urbanism exemplified by select European cities and neighbourhoods. Best practices in subjects such as urban planning, transportation, energy systems, sanitation, recycling, residential and industrial design and many other social and political aspects of European cities will be addressed. The array of political structures, legal frameworks, and social forces that influence European urban sustainability practices will also be addressed so that students will understand the differences between European and Canadian sustainability policies and practices in context. Students will consider the potential transferability of European sustainability policies and practices to Canadian cities.

While overseas, students must complete one oral presentation, three field study assignments, an extensive field notebook, and a final examination. **Note:** Group travel study is interspersed with numerous opportunities for small group and individual instructor-approved studies. The following components are included: pre-session assignments, group project, on-site lectures; field notes and assignments and a final essay exam.

The final course grade for Geog 394/395 includes these components:

one pre-session group project	20%
an on-site individual presentation(from group work).....	15%
four on-site assignments.....	20%
field Notebook.....	35%
a final exam.....	10%

It is **not** necessary to pass each component in order to pass the course. The Registrar will **not** schedule the Final Exam; it will be scheduled on the last day of the Field School.

Expectations:

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

- an in-depth introduction to the economic, political, social, and environmental context of European cities with specific relation to policy debates and initiatives
- a theoretical and practical understanding of sustainable development in general and urban sustainability in particular
- insights into social and economic processes in European cities, the organization of human activities in European cities, and environmental impacts of various forms of human action in European cities
- a well rounded understanding of the relationships between urban form, mobility, and the potential to function sustainably
- a broad context within which to discuss the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainability with specific reference to the City of Calgary

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

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

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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/i-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>

Student Accessibility Services Accommodations

If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

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>

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, 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.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@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 program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [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