

GEOG 458 LEC01 Political Geographies

GFC Hours 3-1T

Winter 2023 classes: January 8th – April 8th

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	MWF	11-11.50 AM	ES 443
T01	W	10:00-10:50AM	ES 319
T02	R	3:30-4:20PM	ES 319
Instructor: Gordon Titchener		Office: TBA	
Telephone: NA		Email: Gordone.Titchener@ucalgary.ca	
Email communication will be through your UCalgary email address.		Office hours: By Appointment	

The **Department of Geography** condemns the longstanding and continued injustices against those marginalized by racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, xenophobia, able-bodied normativity, mental health profiling, and other forms of prejudice. We are pained by the fact that injustices are unevenly borne. <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/news/anti-racism-statement>

Territorial Acknowledgement

The Department of Geography would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/cultural-protocol>

Official Course Description

Spatial study of political systems, structures, and processes, and their relationship to geographic factors.

Course Objectives

The objective of this course is to provide the student with a solid grasp of the underlying principles, and concepts, of political geography. The paradigm employed is interpretive and critical in that it addresses concepts of identity, community and locality as contested notions within landscapes shaped by systems of economic, cultural, and political control.

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)**
Learn how maps may be used to shape reality	1,4,5,6,7	2
Understand the notion of communal identity and Imagined Community	1,4,5,6,7	3
Understand how power is manifest as system of spatial order	1,4,5,6,7	3
Recognize major flashpoints, areas of ongoing conflict and explain the reasons behind those conflicts.	1,4,5,6,7,8	3
Learn the concepts of state, nation, nation-state, and stateless peoples	1,4,5,7	2
Understand the different types of territorial morphologies and boundaries	1,4,5,7	2
Apply concepts through case study research and communicate findings	1,4,5,6,7,8	3
Learn the principles of electoral geography	1,4,5,7	2
Understand about indigenous peoples and the challenges they face	1,4,5,7	2
Compare the concepts of colonialism and decolonialism	1,4,5,7	3
Learn the major paradigms of geopolitics including military geography.	1,4,5,7	3

*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

3 units from Geography 251, 253, 352, Urban Studies 253.

Learning Resources

We will draw from two required texts and add supplementary readings and media resources throughout the term. The texts are:

1. Jones, M., Jones, R., Woods, M., Whitehead, M., Dixon, D., & Hannah, M. (2014). *An introduction to political geography: space, place and politics*. Routledge. **ISBN-13** : 978-0415457972
2. Marshall, T. (2016). *Prisoners of geography: ten maps that explain everything about the world* (Vol. 1). Simon and Schuster. **ISBN-13** : 978-1501121470

Assessment Methods

There are several different assessments, including a midterm and final examination. These are written, closed book examinations consisting of identification, short answer and essay questions.. The midterm will be held in class February 9 and represents 20% of the course grade. The final exam (comprehensive) to be scheduled by the registrar constitutes 30%.

Under no circumstances will a deferred writing of a missed midterm examination be allowed. Students who miss a midterm examination for a valid reason will have their missed midterm examination reweighted onto the final examination. A missed final examination will require an application for a deferred final examination.

An applied research project on an area of contested spaces/resources will be conducted with a formal written report due April 12 (20% of course grade) and a summary of findings presented in class during the last two weeks, April 3-8. (10%).

The remaining 20% of your grade consists of attendance and active participation in ten scheduled activities (10 x 2%) to be held during the tutorial breakout sessions. These allow for more detailed discussion of critical issues as well as preparation of the final project.

There IS a scheduled final exam in this class.

- 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.
- Assignment due dates should be met wherever possible. If special circumstances arise, please contact your instructor and/or TA to discuss your situation. Ordinarily, late work is not accepted and will receive a grade of zero.

Grading System

The grading scheme is as follows:

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

Additional Course Information**Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade)**

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-3.html>

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

Supplementary Fees

Not applicable

Referencing

Be sure to cite all sources consulted, whether as direct quotes or paraphrased material, in an appropriate style. APA is preferred but MLA or similar style is permitted as long as consistency is apparent throughout the written work.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and receive a tuition fee refund is **Thursday, January 18th, 2024**. The last day to add or swap a course for Winter 2024 is **Friday, January 19th, 2024**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Tuesday, April 9th, 2023**. Please note that the University is closed on **Monday, February 19th** for Family Day. Term break is **February 19th – 24th**. The University is closed **Friday, March 29th** and **Monday, April 1st** for Easter.

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

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. 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:

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

For students wishing to know more about 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>

Principles of Conduct

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www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Rules Regarding Use of email

All emails to the instructor **must** be sent from a ucalgary.ca email address. The instructor **will not** reply to email messages that are sent from non-ucalgary.ca email addresses. The instructor will not reply to email question in the last twelve (12) hours before an examination.

Instructor Intellectual Property

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

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.

Research

Students in the course will not be expected to participate, as either subjects or researchers, when research on human subjects may take place.

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>

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:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

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).

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.

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

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/>).

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

The University recognizes that 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/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

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/emergencymanagement>

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.