

GEOG 597.23 H (2-1) AREA II

International Field Work In Geography

Timetable Lec 23 TR 3:30 ES 609

Catalogue #

Instructor: Aaron Williams

Office: ES 320

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Purpose of Geog 597.23

- *To instill observation and critical thinking skills for international fieldwork, research, and other international work abroad*

Objective

- *To provide multiple views and topics related to international fieldwork, research, and travel. The objective will be facilitated by providing numerous themes, topics, locations, and guest speakers relating to the international experience*

Course Modules:**January 13th to January 29th****1) Introduction to critical observation and interpretation of human and physical landscapes.**

Skills essential for research, coursework, and overall well-being in a foreign environment. Isolating and solving geographic problems. The importance of sensory perception in fieldwork. Developing the ability to filter desired information from an otherwise 'messy' landscape. Introduction to the 'scientific method' and its application in fieldwork

January 29th Virtual fieldtrip assignment 1, due February 5th

February 5th Virtual fieldtrip assignment 2, due February 12th

February 3rd to March 4th**2) Traveling, Working, Researching: Cultural Interaction in Overseas Settings**

Geographic analyses and overviews of selected cultural realms: understanding worldviews, perceptions, misunderstandings, customs, and traditions; demographic, socio-economic and political change; flashpoints and disparities; environmental, social, and development issues; cultural sensitivity. Examples from numerous culture realms

February 12th Research Paper topics due
February 12th, Guest Speaker, Emma Stewart
February 14th – 22nd reading days
February 24th Virtual fieldtrip assignment 3 due, March 2nd

March 9th to March 23rd

3) Conducting Geographical Field Work Abroad. Qualitative and quantitative fieldwork methods and techniques in human and physical geography. Emphasis on methods which can be utilized while in international field settings. Guest speakers from the Department of Geography, cognate disciplines, industry, and government.

March 9th Mid-term exam
March 16th, virtual fieldtrip assignment 4, due March 25th
March 18th, research paper due
March 23rd, presentations start

March 25th to April 6th

4) The Impacts of International Tourism on Cultural and Physical Landscapes. Fragile ecosystems and environments: natural reserves and parks, wildlife reserves, and endangered plant and animal species. Impacts of tourism: economics, development, heritage sites, sustainability.

April 1st, due April 10th, field trip assignment

April 6th to April 10th

5) Practical Aspects of International Travel. Travel in selected cultural realms. Emphasis on travel preparation, documentation, money, risk, safety, security, legal issues, liability, health and effective logistics.

April 15th in class final

6) Four assignments based on 'virtual field trips' using scanned slide banks available on CD rom and DVD. One field trip assignment.

Topics from selected regions will include the following: environmental degradation, land use, housing, landscape change, and the impact of tourism

References/Possible texts/Readings:

Butler, D.R., Wilkerson, F.D. 2000. Comments: In Praise of Off-Season Field Trips, *Journal of Geography* 99: 6-42.

Delyser, D., Starrs, P.F. 2001. Doing Fieldwork: Editor's Introduction, *Geographical Review* 91: 4-9.

Hart, J.F. 1968. *The Undergraduate Field Course: Field Training in Geography*. Washington, D.C. Association of American Geographers, Commission on College Geography Teaching, Paper No, 1, 29-04.

Jenkins, A. 1994. Thirteen Ways of Doing Field Work with Large Classes, *Journal of Geography in Higher Education* 18: 143-154.

Jones, P.A. (1969) Field Work in Geography, London: Longman's Green and Co. Ltd.

Lounsbury, J.F., Aldrich, F.T. (1979) Introduction to Geographic Field Methods and Techniques, Columbus: Charles F. Merrill Publishing Company.

Mayborn, K.R., Leshner, C.E. 2000. Teaching the Scientific Method Using Contemporary Research Topics as the Basis for Student-defined Projects, *Journal of Geoscience Education* 48: 145-149.

Parsons, J.J. 1977., Geography as Exploration and Discovery. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 67(1): 1-16.

Northon, C. 2001. Geography Undercover. *Geographical Review*, Vol, 91 Issue 1/2.

Platt, R.S. (1959) Field Work in American Geography, Chicago: University of Chicago.

Shoemaker, M.W. 2000. Russia, Eurasian States, and Eastern Europe. Harpers Ferry: Stryker-Post Publications.

Robertson, I., Richards, P. 2003. *Studying Cultural Landscapes* London: Hodder Arnold Publishers.

Rundstrom, R.A., Kenzer, M.S/. 1989. The Decline of Field Work in Human Geography, *Professional Geographer* 41(3): 294-303.

Grading (Weighting)

20%	Research Paper: Topics TBA. February 12 th Research Paper topics due March 18 th , research paper due
10%.....	In class presentation on research paper March 23 rd to April 10 th
30%	4 Virtual, 1 actual field trip assignments. Field assignments worth 06% each January 29 th , assignment 1, due February 5 th February 5 th assignment 2, due February 12 th February 24 th , assignment 3 due, March 2 nd March 16 th , assignment 4, due March 25 th April 1 st , field trip assignment, due April 10 th ,
30%	Mid-Session Examination. Based on lecture material, required readings, and guest speakers. March 9 th Mid-term exam
10%	Final Examination. Based on lecture material, required readings, and guest speakers. Administered during the last week of classes. April 15 th In class final

It not essential to pass all elements to pass the course.

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

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

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: socialsciirep@su.ucalgary.ca

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.