



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2012
GEOGRAPHY 607
GFC Hours (3-3)

Geography Information Systems: Basics and Beyond

| Section | Days | Time | Location |
|---------|------|---------------|----------|
| LEC 01 | Tu | 14:00 - 16:45 | ES 342 |
| LAB 01 | We | 08:00 - 10:45 | ES 415 |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Instructor: Greg McDermid | Office: ES 320 |
| Tel: 220 4780 | Email: mcdermid@ucalgary.ca |
| TA: Victoria Lukasik | Office: ES 440 |
| Course Asst: Bart Hulshof | Office: ES 402 |

Please note: the appropriate emergency evacuation assembly points for all classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT Food Court.

Official Course Description:

Introduction to the world of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Includes: representing reality in the digital realm, geo referencing, data structures, software history and comparison, and the full spectrum of analytical approaches associated with advanced GIS software. A major part of the work will be hands on. Software is used as a vehicle for taking the theory and concepts into a working reality.

Prerequisite: Consent of the Department.

Grading (Weighted)

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|---|-----|
| 1. Laboratory Assignments (five labs worth 8% each) | 40% |
| 2. ESRI Virtual Campus Course | 5% |
| 3. Term Tests (three tests worth 10% each) | 30% |
| 4. Term Project | |
| Proposal | 5% |
| Report | 15% |
| Presentation | 5% |

The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar.

Note: You **MUST** pass each individual elements/components of Geog 607 (including the ESRI Virtual Campus Courses) in order to pass the course as a whole.

The only acceptable reasons for missing an examination or assignment in this class, as listed in the Deferral of Final Examinations section of the University of Calgary Calendar are illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction. If you miss an assignment or examination, and you provide me with the appropriate documentation, you will have one opportunity to make

arrangements for the missed work. Without appropriate documentation, you will receive a zero for that portion of your grade.

Required Text(s)/Readings:

P. A. Longley, M. F. Goodchild, D. J. Maguire, D. W. Rhind, 2011: Geographic Information Systems and Science, 3rd Edition. Wiley.

Recommended Text:

Northey et al. 2012 Making Sense, A Student's Guide to Research and Writing, Fourth Ed. Oxford University Press.

Note: Readings from other sources may be assigned. Notifications of these will be posted on Blackboard.

Grading System:

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|-------|----|-------|----|
| 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 |

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

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 **required** 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.

Disability Resource Centre Accommodations

If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre 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.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- All assignments will be handles on Blackboard.
- 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: suypaca@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