



**GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2014**  
**GEOGRAPHY 371**  
**INTRODUCTION TO LATIN AMERICA**  
**H (3-0)**

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC01	Tu Th	12:30-13:45	ST143

Instructor: Denise Brown	Office: ES444
Telephone: 220 3930	Email: <a href="mailto:dfbrown@ucalgary.ca">dfbrown@ucalgary.ca</a>

**Course Description:**

A survey of the physical, cultural and historical geography of Latin America.

**Prerequisite:**

Any course in Geography or consent of the Department.

**Course Content:**

Latin America is a diverse and vibrant region within our hemisphere. This course explores the emergence of this region as a dynamic historical geographical process. Using tools of historical, political, economic, social, and physical geography, this regional geography course explores how global and local forces interact to produce regional dynamics and local uniqueness. The goal of the course is to explore geographical factors that underlie critical issues that Latin Americans face today, including class struggle, the complexity of race and ethnicity, indigenous autonomy movements, political tension, economic crises, poverty and environmental challenges. The vehicle for this exploration will be resources and commodities of the region, such as silver, coffee, cacao, bananas, wood products, tobacco and cocaine, some of which are consumed daily by Canadians and Albertans.

**Objectives:** Students will:

- Learn the political geography of Latin America.
- Explore space-time dynamics in the formation of a region.
- Trace the origins of regional diversity in the physical and human geography..
- Explore the historical roots of current social challenges of the region.
- Reflect on the relationship between Canada and Latin America.
- Explore the global-local dialectic through the study of this region.
- Understand some of the political and economic processes that link Latin America to the rest of the world.

**Texts: (available in the University bookstore)**

*From Silver to Cocaine: Latin American Commodity Chains and the Building of the World Economy 1500-2000* edited by Steven Topik, Carlos Marichal, and Zephyr Frank, Duke University Press, Durham, 2006

*Broccoli and Desire: Global Connections and Maya Struggles in Postwar Guatemala* by Edward F. Fischer and Peter Benson, Stanford University Press, Stanford, California, 2006

**Selected chapters from**

*Insatiable Appetite: the U.S. and the Ecological Degradation of the Tropical World*, Tucker, Richard P. 2000 University of California Press, 2000 HD1417 INTERNET **available online**

**Plus: other assigned readings (see Blackboard)**

**Grading:**

**WIKISPACE LEARNING PORTFOLIO**

Weekly reflections on lectures/readings	25%
Maps illustrating at least four chapters	<u>15%</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>40%</b>

**TESTS**

Midterm, Thu Feb 28	30%
Final (exam period)	<u>30%</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>60%</u></b>

**TOTAL** 100%

**Grading system:**

96-100	A+	76-80	B	59-61	C-
91-95	A	71-75	B-	55-58	D+
86-90	A-	66-70	C+	50-54	D
81-85	B+	62-65	C	0-49	F

**Special Instructions:**

Grades will be deducted for poor writing style (spelling, grammar).

**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 **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: [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

