



GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE: SPRING 2015

GEOGRAPHY 394/395 and associated 597 options.

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)

Timetable: Spring/Summer Session 2015

Instructor:

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Texts (suggested/optional):

Hall, P. (2013). *Good Cities, Better Lives: How Europe Discovered the Lost Art of Urbanism*. London and New York: Routledge.

Jordan-Bychkov, T. G., Murphy, A. B., & Bychkova Jordan, Bella. (2014). *The European Culture Area*. Rowman and Littlefield.

Course Content

Geography 394.02 and 395.02 will be offered during the Overseas Field School, Spring/Summer Session, 2015; mandatory pre-session classes will be held during the Winter Session, 2015.

These two linked half courses focus on issues of urban sustainability. 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 pre-session components will undergird the field component of GEOG 394 and 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:

an on-site individual presentation and report	20%
four on-site assignments	30%
Field Notebook	30%
a final exam (essay question based on field notes)	20%

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.

592.XX-level courses associated with GEOG 394/395

Those enrolled in the associated 500-level course will be required to complete all these components but will be held to more rigorous marking criteria for them, including incorporation of more theoretical aspects of geography. In addition, they must complete a proposal for field research, including a literature review, prior to departure. An interim report on data collection will be due half-way through the field course, and a final report resulting from this research will be submitted no later than 6 weeks after the completion of the travel portion of the course.

Students enrolled in the 500-level courses will, in addition, be asked to assume a leadership position with respect to 300-level students, by being assigned to a small group and helping with background information and concept interpretation as required during the course. They will be responsible for submitting a diary of time and content of such activity, which will count toward their final grade.

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/>

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.

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.

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 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: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: socialscirep@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.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS 102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@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 registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210 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