



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2009

GEOGRAPHY 697.02 GFC Hours (3-0)

Seminar in the Philosophy and Nature of Human Geography

Timetable: Tuesdays 14:00 – 16:45 ES332

Instructor: Wayne Davies
Email: wdavies@ucalgary.ca

Room: ES 442
Telephone: 220 4888

Please arrange any appointments immediately after class.

Official Course Description:

This course is designed to provide a critical survey of the key issues and problems in the *construction* of the field of Geography *throughout history* and its relationships with other fields of enquiry. This historical survey will provide a background to a review of the *contemporary* methodological and philosophical debates about its nature, from such issues as: the scientific approaches of the 1960s and their utility; the humanistic reactions; through structuralism and post structuralism; radicalism; the new ecological and technical approaches; gender geography; post-modernism and hermeneutic perspectives, especially the critical practice approach and the new cultural geography. In addition, questions such as the decline and relevance of traditional fields such as regional geography, and the new trends such as globalization will be addressed.

Text(s)/Readings:

D. Livingstone (1992) *The Tradition of Geography*. Blackwell. BUY. Copies in Bookstore
Other readings will be provided *throughout* the class from various journal articles and books especially:

W.K.D. Davies, *Writing Geographical Exploration*. University of Calgary Press (2003) Chapters 2 and 3

J. Matthews and D. Herbert, *Unifying Geography: Common Heritage, shared Future* (2004)

In addition, parts of other books will be used, such as P. Cloke et al (1991) *Approaching Human Geography*. A. Holt-Jansen "Geography: History and Concepts", R. Peet (1998) "Modern Geographical Thought" (1998), D. Gregory (1996) "Geographical Imagination"

Prerequisites:

Consent of the Department/Instructor

Grades:

Class attendance/participation: 10%. Project or Essay 20%

Final Take-Home Exam: 4 exam essays of 6-7 pages (30 lines per page) each. (This will **not** be scheduled by the Registrar's office) **70%**. Students will have a week to complete from receipt of examination. The time of this examination is to be arranged by mutual consent in the last two weeks of term.

It is not necessary to pass all parts of the course to obtain a passing final grade.

The official University of Calgary Grading System will be used

i.e. A=4.0 Grade Points, B=3.0 (or 75%), C=2.0 (or 50%), D=1.0 (or 25%)

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).
- If you would like to receive your assignment through the mail, please include an appropriately sized self-addressed, stamped envelope with your assignment when you hand it in to the professor.
- Posting of grades will be at the discretion of each Professor and, if posted, they will be scrambled. Please note: grades will not be available in the Geography office.

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

It is the student's responsibility to request academic 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.

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.