



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2011

GEOGRAPHY 313 H(3-2)

Soils and Vegetation

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TuTh	09:30 - 10:45	ES 443
LAB 01	We	09:00 - 10:45	ES 355
LAB 02	Th	11:00 - 12:45	ES 355
LAB 03	Fr	13:00 – 14:45	ES 355

Instructor: Maria Strack	Office: ES 308
Tel: 220 5596	Email: mstrack@ucalgary.ca

The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT Food Court.

Official Course Description:

Soil: physical, chemical and biological properties, and the environmental and spatial relationships of vegetation patterns.

Prerequisite:

Geography 211

Supplementary Fees: (*field trips etc*). *N/A*.

Course Content:

Soil formation, classification and controls on physical, chemical and biological properties. Global pattern of vegetation structure and productivity and its link to climate and soils will be investigated

Labs support course material with activities investigating soil physical properties, global patterns of soil water availability and vegetation productivity and interaction between soils and vegetation.

Required texts: none

Recommended texts:

1. Brady and Weil, *The Nature and Properties of Soils*, 14th Ed., 2007 (Note: this will be a required text for Geog 413)
2. Schultz, *The Ecozones of the World*, 2nd Ed., 2002

Supplementary reference material will be posted on Blackboard.

Grading:

Tests (3 x 10%)	30%
Labs (5 x 7%)	35%
Final Exam	35%

The final examination will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office. It is not essential to pass all elements of the course to pass the course as a whole. Students must earn an overall 50% or higher to pass the course. No laboratory assignments will be accepted late without prior arrangement or a doctor's note.

Grading System:

Percentages below indicate the standard required for each letter grade; these standards may be lowered but will not be raised

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 **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>

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 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
- 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.