



## GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2013

### GEOGRAPHY 313 H (3-2)

#### Soils and Vegetation

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TuTh	09:30 - 10:45	ES 443
LAB 01	We	14:00 - 15:45	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: <a href="mailto:mstrack@ucalgary.ca">mstrack@ucalgary.ca</a>

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 or consent of Geography department

#### **Course Content:**

We will introduce concepts of soil formation, general classification and controls on physical, chemical and biological properties. Global pattern of vegetation structure and productivity and its relationship with climate and soils will be investigated.

Labs support course material concisely with activities investigating fundamental 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, 14<sup>th</sup> Ed., 2007 (Note: this will be a required text for Geog 413)
2. Schultz, The Ecozones of the World, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., 2002

Supplementary reference material will be posted on Blackboard

**Grading:**

Tests (3 × 10%)	30% of course
Labs (5 × 7%)	35% of course
Final Exam	35% of course

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.

**Late policy:**

Lab assignments are required to be prepared individually. They are due on the date listed on the lab assignment either in lab or in the dropbox located on the third floor of ES. Late submissions will cause penalty @ -10% marks per day. Medical reasons will require a note from physician.

**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/>

**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: