



GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2017

GEOGRAPHY 321 H(3-0)

Geography and our Environment

Section	Days	Times	Location
LECO1	MoWeFr	11:00 – 11:50	ENA 103

Instructor: Conny Davidsen	Office: ES 318
Tel: 220 5591	Email: davidsen@ucalgary.ca

Please note: The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Engineering A is ICT Food Court.

Official Course Description:

Environmental and resource issues, with emphasis on topics such as sustainability; ethics; planning; policy and decision making; and management strategies. Case examples highlight issues in resource sectors such as freshwater, oceans, parks and wildlife, tourism and recreation, forests and energy.

Prerequisite: N/A

Course Content:

This course focuses primarily on the impact of human activities on the environment, the challenges involved in achieving environmental sustainability, and on policies, plans, and strategies devised to move society and environment toward a sustainable future. This course integrates dimensions of human and physical environmental problems and highlights the roles of critical reflection, local action, stewardship and cooperative problem solving in environmental management.

Objectives:

- To study and understand key concepts, knowledge and different perspective surrounding the human-environment interface and its inquiry.
- To gain an understanding of the effect of human activities on a range of natural resources globally, and aspects of the uncertainty, complexity and conflict that characterize their use and management globally.
- To gain a deeper understanding of the global and local dynamics driving current environmental problems and issues of sustainability through case study examples worldwide

Text(s)/Readings:

Robbins, Paul; John Hintz and Sara A. Moore (2014) environment and Society – A Critical Introduction. Second Edition. Wiley Blackwell, Malden. MA (Required)

Hulme, Mike (2014) Can Science Fix Climate change? Polity Press, Cambridge MA. (Recommended)

Notes: Available as a textbook package at University of Calgary Bookstore. Readings and links to further materials will be posted on D2L.

Grading (Weighting):

Mid-term exam 1	30%
Mid-term exam 2	30%
Final examination	40%

All three exams will be based on multiple choice questions. You do not need to pass every exam to pass the course. If you are unable to attend an exam due to medical reasons, a doctor's note is required to avoid a 0% grade. For non-medical reasons, instructor permission needs to be granted prior to the exam. Notify the instructor as soon as you know, i.e. in many cases long before the exam. Exam make-up arrangements area at the discretion of the instructor.

Grading System:

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

The instructor reserves the right to adjust grading in order to reflect student performance more fairly.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- All assignments will be handled through D2L or personally.
- Course grades will be available to each student on D2L by password access.
- Grades will **not** be available at Geography's main office.

For additional detailed course information posted by the Instructor Desire2Learn at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>

Hints (how to excel in Geog 321):

1. Attend all lectures. Attendance is closely linked to success in any course.
2. Be ready to engage in the course material and ask questions. Consider forming a study group to make learning easier and more effective; this also means better support and information should you ever be unable to attend class.
3. Textbook readings, other materials and documentaries are intended to supplement and reinforce the concepts presented in the lecture. They are not substitutes for attending the lecture.
4. Check D2L news often for lecture slides, further readings, current updates, grades, corrections, class cancellations, announcements etc.

Contacting your instructor

Ask questions in class – for clarification, different points of views, and lively discussion in general. That is why we are here. Your professors welcome this interaction in class as well as right after their lectures for any further follow up. We urge you to take advantage of these opportunities for a two-way conversation, better engagement, and active learning. This is the easiest and most effective form of communication. If you need to contact your instructor outside class, please send your emails (formal style) to dauidsen@ucalgary.ca, clearly stating GEOG 321 in your subject line and your full name in the text body. This makes it easier to identify your emails easily in the flood of emails that professors receive every day. Please appreciate that you may not receive a response immediately; emails will be responded to during weekday hours (9:00am – 5:00pm) and possibly not within the same day. General questions (e.g. on

specific course content or exams) will also be copied into D2L and/or announced and answered in class so that all class participants can benefit from this information.

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 instructor reminds each of us to: *'work. study. play. with integrity.'* 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>

Academic Accommodations:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the university policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf

Students needing an accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. The procedure can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities_0.pdf

Students needing an accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, in writing, to the Instructor.

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.

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: arts1@ucalgary.ca
- The students ombudsman office information can be found at:
<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/su-structure/contact-info>

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. 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 3rd 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, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

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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.