

## GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2019

### GEOGRAPHY 321 H(3-0)

#### Geography and our Environment

| Section | Days   | Times         | Location |
|---------|--------|---------------|----------|
| LEC01   | MoWeFr | 11:00 – 11:50 | ICT 121  |

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Instructor: Aaron Williams | Office: ES 420  |
| Tel: 403 220 7483          | Email: <a href="mailto:awill@ucalgary.ca">awill@ucalgary.ca</a> |

**Please note: The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in ICT is Social Science 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.

#### Course Objectives:

The primary objective of geography 321 is to assess 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.

#### Course Learning Outcomes:

The Department of Geography is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate and the expected level of achievement.

| Course Learning Outcomes  | PLO(s)      | Level(s) |
|---|-------------|----------|
| Students should be able to explain concepts and values critical to the study, management and understanding of our environment.  | 1,2,3,4,5,7 | 2        |
| Students should be able to conceptualize the distribution, use, extraction and impact of global natural resources, the effects of human activities on a range of natural resources globally, and aspects of the uncertainty, complexity and conflict that characterize both the use and management of resources globally. | 1,2,3,4,5,7 | 2        |
| Students should be able to apply concepts for maintaining and sustaining the environment as a resource.   | 1,2,3,4,5,7 | 1        |
| Students should be able to evaluate environmental problems and issues of sustainability within select world regions through case study examples.  | 1,2,3,4,5,7 | 2        |
| Students should be able to explain the basic fundamentals of globalization in relationship to the environment.  | 1,2,3,4,5,7 | 2        |

**PLOs = Program Learning Outcomes:** 1 = reflect and communicate diverse human-environment perspectives, 2 = identify and explain human-environment processes, 3 = implement sampling, data collection, analyses and

communication methods, 4 = analyze spatial and temporal aspects of human-environment systems, 5 = employ knowledge, arguments, and methodologies for solving human-environment problems, 6 = evaluate geospatial data and manipulate it to create cartographic products, 7 = communicate geographic concepts using oral, written, graphic, and cartographic modes, and 8 = demonstrate literacy skills. **Levels:** (1) Introductory, (2) Intermediate, (3) Advanced.

**Prerequisite:** N/A

**Learning Resources:**

Links to supplemental readings will be posted on **Desire2Learn**. Course-related assistance and reference materials will also be placed in the Geography Department Collections Room (ES457).

**Grading (Weighting)**

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Mid-term exam 1- February 13 <sup>th</sup> .....                    | 30%                             |
| Mid-term exam 2...March 21st.....                                   | 30%                             |
| Class presentation and written report, March 25 <sup>th</sup> ..... | 30%                             |
| Final examination (in class final exam) .....                       | April 10 <sup>th</sup> .....10% |

**Exemptions to the Examination and Tests Regulations**

- It is not essential to pass all elements/components to pass the course as a whole.
- Only pens, pencils and erasers are allowed in exams. No other materials or devices are allowed.
- **THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED EXAMS OR QUIZZES** under any circumstances, nor may the examinations be written early. Students unable to write an exam because of documented illness; family emergency or religious observance will have the weight shifted to another component.
- There is no Registrar-scheduled final examination in this course.

**Communication and course etiquette:**

Regarding e-mail and other communication with the Instructor and other students. Please make sure your e-mails are polite and respectful. Any abusive or disrespectful e-mails or other communication deemed so will be reported and you may face non-academic or academic misconduct if they are deemed to be abusive or bullying in nature.

The Instructor expects students to show up for class. If you missed important information it is best that you attempt to obtain that information from your peers. If it because of illness or other extenuating circumstances contact the Instructor during office hours, after class, or set up an alternate time to meet. Sending e-mails expecting long responses from your Instructor because of your absence may go unanswered. This is especially true immediately before exams when the information has been given multiple times in class or by e-mail to the class.

It is a student’s responsibility to follow the course schedule and the readings that have been detailed in the course schedule in the outline. This schedule might change through the term so make sure you follow these changes that may be outlined in class. The material in the readings, videos and the lectures **are all** testable material regardless if the material in the readings or videos were not covered in the lecture or the lecture covered different material that is not in the readings or videos. Keep in mind as well that lecture slides are just headings of what the Instructor is discussing. You will need to take notes to

understand the material. Reading the slides and not coming to class or not taking notes will not adequately prepare you for the exams.

If you have questions about the exams please see the Instructor in his/her office hours. The policy for reviewing an exam is within two weeks of receiving the grade on D2L. No other reviews will be permitted following the two-week period.

### 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  |

### Human subjects

Students in the course will not be expected to participate as subjects or researchers when research on human subjects may take place.

### Supplementary Fees

N/A

*For additional detailed course information posted by the instructor, visit the course Desire2Learn page online at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>.*

## SUPPLEMENTAL 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, faculty members can and should consider quality of writing as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by Writing Support Services can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance: [www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing\\_support/overview](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/overview).

### Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations, according to the university policies and procedures listed in the University Calendar.

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy). 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: [www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf).

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Department Head (email: [geograph@ucalgary.ca](mailto:geograph@ucalgary.ca)).

### **Principles of Conduct**

The University 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 university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

### **Plagiarism, Cheating, and Student Misconduct**

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

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 at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html). 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 adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html).

### **Internet and electronic communication device information:**

There is no restriction on the use of laptops and tablets in class if they are used to take notes or find information relevant to the class, and if there is no disturbance or distraction of other students or the instructor. Phones must be turned off during class, unless you have previously identified yourself to the instructor as a health care or law enforcement professional. The use of any calculators and/or devices during examinations will not be allowed.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation in Alberta disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, such as outside an 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 must provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

### **Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments**

Graded assignments will be returned by the instructor or teaching assistant personally during schedule lecture or laboratory periods, unless they are made available electronically through the course D2L webpage. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The 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](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which provides detailed information about common academic concerns.

For guidance on course registration (add, drop, swap), information about paying fees, and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-7625 or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

#### **Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation**

- SU VP Academic Phone: 220-3911 and e-mail: [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@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: [www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/)

#### **Wellness and Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness, and academic success and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support, or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

#### **Documentation for Absences or Missed Course Assessments**

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform the instructor as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-1.html>.

#### **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 station, 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.

#### **USRI Surveys**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference, so please participate in USRI surveys.