

GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: SPRING 2020

GEOGRAPHY 324 GFC HOURS (3-0)

Society and Environmental Change

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TBA	TBA	TBA

Instructor: Aaron Williams	Email: awill@ucalgary.ca
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Official Course Description

Environmental and resource issues, with emphasis on topics such as climate change, 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 324 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. Using the framework of political ecology, 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 to which they contribute, 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 and theories surrounding political ecology 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, and 3 = Advanced.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites required. There are no prerequisite skills for this course. All students should have access to a computer with a microphone and video (recommended). A stable internet connection is important as all the components are delivered on the internet.

Learning Resources

There is no required textbook for this course. Links and/or bibliographic information for readings and videos will be posted on D2L as the term progresses.

Grading (Weighting)

Online quizzes 35% (best 5 of 6 are counted) Administered online via D2L

Term project 40% (group and individual components)

Final exam 25% Administered online via D2L

- It is **not** essential to pass all components to pass the course as a whole.
- The final exam will take place during the Registrar's scheduled period.
- Exams and quizzes are open book and administered through D2L. Students are not allowed to confer with anyone else about the quiz content.

Grading System

92 – 100	A+	76 – 79	B	60 – 63	C-
88 – 91	A	72 – 75	B-	56 – 59	D+
84 – 87	A-	66 – 71	C+	50 – 55	D
80 – 83	B+	64 – 67	C	0 – 49	F

Missed deadline

- If you miss an online quiz, inform the instructor within 24 hours of the deadline, the instructor will outline the options for making up the missed quiz.
- Late term project components will be assessed a 20% penalty per day (or portion thereof) unless accompanied with a valid reason.

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.

It is a student's responsibility to follow the course schedule and the readings that have been detailed in the course schedule. This schedule might change through the term so make sure you follow these changes. 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 even though it is delivered online.

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

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.

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. 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.

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.

Human subjects

Students will not participate as subjects or researchers on human subjects in this course.

Posting of Grades

Graded assignments are made available electronically through the course D2L webpage.

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. 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.

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing to their instructor or the Department Head (email: david.goldblum@ucalgary.ca).

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Act.

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 (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- Student Union VP Academic 403-220-3911, suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts – 403-220-3913, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
- Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/