



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2009

GEOGRAPHY 357 H(3-3) Area III

Geographic Information Systems I

Instructor: Greg McDermid
Email: mcdermid@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Friday 11:00AM-12:00PM or by appointment

Room: ES 320
Telephone: 220 4780

TA: Melissa Peters
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CA: Bart Hulshof
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Room: ES 402
Office Hours: TBA

Official Course Description:

The technical and theoretical foundations of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Explorations of data types and structures (raster, vector, object based), data input and manipulation, analytical basics and visualization techniques will be carried out in lecture and laboratory. Case studies of GIS analysis form the basis of assignments.

Prerequisite:

Geography 231 or both 333 and 339

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

Text(s)/Readings:

Required Texts:

P. A. Longley, M. F. Goodchild, D. J. Maguire, D. W. Rhind, 2005: Geographic Information Systems and Science, 2nd Edition. Wiley.

Recommended Text:

Northey, M. and D. B. Knight, 2007: Making Sense, A Student's Guide to Research and Writing in Geography and Environmental Sciences, Third Edition. Oxford University Press.

Note: Readings from other sources may be assigned. Notifications of these will be posted on Blackboard.

Grading (Weighting):

Lab Assignments: 40% (5 labs worth 8% each)
ESRI Virtual Campus Courses: 10% (2 courses worth 5% each)
Midterm Exam: 20%
Final Exam: 30%

Note: The final exam will be scheduled by the registrar. You MUST complete the ESRI Virtual Campus component in order to pass the course as a whole. It is NOT necessary to pass other elements/components in order to pass the course.

The only acceptable reasons for missing an examination or assignment in this class, as listed in the Deferral of Final Examinations section of the University of Calgary Calendar (http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/2008/how/How_IF.htm), are illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction. If you miss an assignment or examination, and you provide me with the appropriate documentation, you will have one opportunity to make arrangements for the missed work. Without appropriate documentation, you will receive a zero for that portion of your grade.

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

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.

Disability Resource Centre Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic 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.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- All assignments will be handles on Blackboard.
- 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: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

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.