



The Department of
GEOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2011
GEOGRAPHY 357
(formerly Geography 447)
H(3-3) Area III

Geographic Information Systems I

Section	Days	Times	Location
LEC01	MoWeFr	15:00-15:50	ES 443
LAB01	Tu	11:00-13:45	ES 407
LAB02	We	08:00-10.45	ES 407

Instructor: Greg McDermid	Office: ES 320
Telephone: 220 4780	Email: mcdermid@ucalgary.ca
Teaching Assistant: Oleysa Elikan	Email: Contact through Blackboard
Teaching Assistant: Adam McLane	Email: Contact through Blackboard
Course Assistant: Bart Hulshof	Office: ES 402
Email: bhulshof@ucalgary.ca	Office Hours: T-F 8:30-4:30

Please note: The emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT food court.

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.

Required Text:

Longley, P. A., M. F. Goodchild, D. J. Maguire, D. W. Rhind, 2010: Geographic Information Systems and Science, 3rd Edition. Wiley.

Recommended Text:

Northey, M., D.B. Knight, D. Draper, 2010: Making Sense, A Student's Guide to Research and Writing, Fourth Ed. Oxford University Press.

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

Grading (Weighting):

1. Laboratory Assignments	40%
2. ESRI Virtual Campus Courses	10%
2. Midterm Exam	20%
3. Final Exam	30%

The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar.

Note: 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 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:

EITHER this type of grading system [numbers may be changed but you must include **all** the letter grades]

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/>

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 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>

Disability Resource Centre 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.

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
- 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>

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.

