

GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2019
GEOGRAPHY 365
H(3-0)

Political Geography

Section	Days	Times	Location
LEC 01	TuTh	11:00 – 12:15	ES 443

Instructor: Dr. W.N. Holden	Office: ES 416	Hours: T & R 14:30-16:45
Telephone: 403 220- 4886	Email: wnholden@ucalgary.ca	

Please note: *The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT Food Court.*

Official Course Description:

Spatial study of political systems, structures and processes and their relationship to geographic factors.

Course Objectives

The objective of this course is to provide the student with a solid grasp of the underlying principles, and concepts, of political geography.

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)
Learn the main purposes of maps	1,4,5,6,7	2
Learn the concept of map scales	1,4,5,6,7	2
Learn the difference between absolute and relative distance	1,4,5,6,7	2
Learn the attributes of the different types of map projections	1,4,5,6,7	2
Learn the concepts of state, nation, nation-state, and stateless peoples	1,4,5,7	2
Understand the different types of territorial morphologies and boundaries	1,4,5,7	2
Understand the difference between unitary and federal systems of government	1,4,5,7	2
Learn the principles of electoral geography	1,4,5,7	2
Understand about indigenous peoples and the challenges they face	1,4,5,7	2
Learn the concepts of colonialism and the post-colonial world	1,4,5,7	2
Learn the major paradigms of geopolitics, military geography, including insurgency/counterinsurgency warfare	1,4,5,7	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.

Prerequisites: One of Geography 251, 253, Urban Studies 253 (or consent of the Department)

Learning Resources: Readings will be posted on D2L.

Grading Determination and final Examination Details:

This course will have **two closed book midterms**, each worth 25%, and a two (2) hour **Registrar scheduled closed book final examination** worth 50% that will be held during the final examination period in a gymnasium. No aids, such as textbooks, calculators, or laptops are permitted. It is not essential to pass all examination in order to receive a passing grade in the course. Students are ***strenuously*** advised not to make travel plans until they know their examination schedule.

The midterm and final examinations will be marked on a numerical (percentage) basis. The course grade is calculated by using the weights indicated above and then converted into a letter grade. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+ 100, **A** 90 to 99, **A-** 85 to 89, **B+** 80 to 84, **B** 75 to 79,
B- 70 to 74, **C+** 65 to 69, **C** 60 to 64, **C-** 55 to 59, **D+** 50 to
54, **D** 45 to 49, **F** 0 to 44

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

Dates for the midterms and assignments will be announced during the first week of classes.

The midterm examinations will involve written questions and the final examination will also involve written questions.

Students must comply with the University regulations concerning "Intellectual Honesty," "Examinations," "Plagiarism," etc., which are published in the University Calendar.

The midterm examinations will be held in class on dates to be announced. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED EXAMINATIONS** under any circumstances, nor may the examinations be written early. Students unable to write a midterm examination because of documented illness; family emergency or religious observance will have the midterm examination weight shifted to the final examination. Arrangements for the re-weighting of a missed midterm examination must be made with the instructor within 15 days after the grade has been returned in class.

Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work ***cannot*** discuss their work with the Instructor within the first 48 hours after the grade has been returned in class and ***must*** discuss their work within 15 days after the grade has been returned in class. Unclaimed work will be available from the instructor during office hours.

Should the writing of a midterm examination for an entire lecture section become impossible due to events beyond the control of the instructor (such as, and not exclusively consisting of; inclement weather, instructor's illness, unavailable facilities, or other "acts of fate") the midterm examination will be written one week later.

WARNING: THIS IS NOT A CORRESPONDENCE COURSE! It is your responsibility to ensure that you attend class. It is not my responsibility to "fill you in" on what you miss if you are absent from a class. I will not answer questions that, in my opinion, are the result of nonattendance or lack of attention in class.

WARNING: THIS COURSE IS NOT AN "EASY A" The instructor of this course strictly adheres to the definition of letter grades in the University of Calgary Calendar. If you are taking this course in expectation of a high grade so as to facilitate dentistry school, law school, medical school or veterinary school admission, please take something else. This course may be "only an option" for you, it is not "only an option" for the instructor.

Examinations will be returned in class. Grades will not be posted on D2L nor will they available in the Geography Office.

Human subjects

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

Supplementary Fees

No supplementary fees will be assessed.

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.

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 the Department Head (email: 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.

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.

Internet and electronic communication device information

All emails to the instructor must be sent from a ucalgary.ca email address. The instructor will not reply to email messages that are sent from non-ucalgary.ca email addresses. The instructor will not reply to email question in the last twelve (12) hours before an examination. The email class list on D2L has been disabled but should it become available to students any use of it to communicate with other students is **strictly prohibited**. A violation of this policy [will be regarded as an act of non-academic misconduct](#).

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. 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

- Student Union VP Academic –403-220-3911, [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@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/

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). Your responses make a difference, so please participate in USRI surveys.