



**GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: SUMMER 2012  
GEOGRAPHY 392  
H(3-7)**

**Overseas Field Studies in Physical and Environmental Geography – Part I**

**Southeast Asia and China**

**2012/07/03 - 2012/08/07**

<b>Instructor:</b> Aaron Williams	<b>Office:</b> ES 446
<b>Telephone:</b> 220 6200	<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:awill@ucalgary.ca">awill@ucalgary.ca</a>

**Official Course Description:**

Field research and reconnaissance survey of techniques applied to regions outside North America. Group travel-study combined with formal instruction and seminars.

**Prerequisite:** Consent of the Department

**MAY BE REPEATED FOR CREDIT**

**Geography 392 Summer Session, 2012**

**Course content:** Geography 392 will be offered during the Overseas Field School, Summer Session, 2012.

This half-course centres on data collection techniques and field research applied to geographical phenomena in regions outside North America. The tremendous variety of physical landscapes included in this itinerary provides spatial settings for diverse studies and comparative analyses. Topics will include climate, climate change and extreme weather, regional biogeography with an emphasis on moisture differences as related to vegetation systems and their impacts on commercial and subsistence agriculture and commercial animal use, mountain building and degradation, freshwater lake environments, and glacial, fluvial, deltaic geomorphology.

The following pre-session components are included: one assignment, one paper, and introductory and topical lectures; *en route* components will include lectures, seminars, one-on-one student-instructor consultations, group study tours, and lectures by local experts. While overseas, students must complete one oral presentation, three field study assignments, an extensive field notebook, and a final examination. **Note:** Group travel study is interspersed with numerous opportunities for small group and individual instructor-approved studies.

**The final course grade includes these components:**

one pre-session assignment, based on selected required readings .....	05%
a pre-session paper .....	10%
an on-site oral presentation .....	15%
three field assignments.....	30%
a field notebook .....	30%
a final examination .....	10%

It is **not** necessary to pass each component in order to pass the course.

The Registrar will **not** schedule the Final Exam: it will be scheduled on the last day of the Field School.

**599.XX-level courses associated with GEOG 392**

Those enrolled in the associated 500-level course will be required to complete all these components but will be held to more rigorous marking criteria for them, including incorporation of more theoretical aspects of geography. In addition, they must complete a proposal for field research, including a literature review, prior to departure. An interim report on data collection will be due half-way through the field course, and a final report resulting from this research will be submitted no later than 6 weeks after the completion of the travel portion of the course.

Students enrolled in the 500-level courses will, in addition, be asked to assume a leadership position with respect to 300-level students, by being assigned to a small group and helping with background information and concept interpretation as required during the course. They will be responsible for submitting a diary of time and content of such activity, which will count toward their final grade.

**Expectations:**

By the conclusion of the program, a successful student will have acquired

- an understanding of field reconnaissance techniques,
- the ability to produce an academic field notebook,
- a good understanding of the geography of Northern Eurasia
- insights into physical and environmental processes, and the impacts of various forms of human activities on the environment.

A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject
A-	3.70	↑
B+	3.30	↑
B	3.00	Good - clearly above average performance

B-	2.70	↑ Satisfactory performance – basic understanding of the subject
C+	2.30	
C	2.00	
C-	1.70	
D+	1.30	
D	1.00	Minimal Pass-marginal performance
F	0	Fail - - poor performance

**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.

### **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 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: [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: [socialsciirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialsciirep@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.

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

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:**

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

