



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2016
GEOGRAPHY 403
H(2-2)

Physical Oceanography and Climate Variability

Section	Days	Times	Location
LECO1	WeFr	13:00 – 13:50	ES 319
LAB01	Mo	10:00 – 11:50	ES 407

Instructor: Brent Else	Office: ES 340
Telephone: 220 2484	Email: belse@ucalgary.ca

Teaching Assistant: Elena Favaro	Email: elena.favaro@ucalgary.ca
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Please note: *The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT Food court.*

Official Course Description:

Oceanic circulation and air-ocean interactions as controls of climate. Wave and current dynamics. Role of sea-ice in energy transfers. Climatic variability in historic time and the instrument period.

Course Goals:

Students in this course will learn to:

1. Understand basic ocean circulation, and how it is controlled by air-sea interactions and the underlying properties of seawater.
2. Analyze how ocean circulation impacts climate on various spatial and temporal scales.
3. Critically analyze and respond to reports (particularly non-scientific) about climate change, climate variability, and our oceans.
4. Identify reliable sources of scientific information, and construct knowledge from primary sources.
5. Effectively communicate scientific ideas using sound technical writing techniques.
6. See how the oceans' impact on climate affects their lives, and the lives of everyone else on the planet.
7. Become unique prairie inhabitants who are actually interested in the Earth's oceans!

Required Texts:

No required texts. Readings will be made available through D2L.

Prerequisite: Geography 305

Grading (Weighting):

There is a final examination, to be scheduled by the Registrar's Office. It is not essential to pass all elements/components to pass the course as a whole.

- Lab Assignments: 35%
- Quizzes: 20% (5 quizzes, top 4 will be used @ 5% each)
- Midterm Exam: 15%
- Final Exam: 30% (Scheduled by registrar)

Grading System:

94-100	A+	74-78	B	60-63	C-
86-94	A	70-74	B-	55-50	D+
82-86	A-	67-70	C+	50-55	D
78-82	B+	63-67	C	0-50	F

In this course, most assignments will be assessed using a rubric. Rubrics communicate expectations for course work, and provide a framework for assessment. This approach applies to the course as a whole, and students can expect letter grades to reflect the following criteria of achievement:

Grade	Criteria
F	Student cannot display a basic understanding of course materials
D	Student displays only a basic understanding of course materials
C	Student has a modest understanding of course materials, and can apply those understandings in basic problem solving.
B	Student has a good understanding of course materials, and can make connections between various course topics to solve interconnected problems.
A	Student has an excellent understanding of course material, and can solve problems not directly discussed in lectures/readings/assignments.

Course Schedule: TBA

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

USRI

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 - please participate in USRI Surveys.

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 Support Services 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>

Academic Accommodations:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the university policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf

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. The procedure can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities_0.pdf

Students needing an accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, in writing, to the Instructor.

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 D2L or personally.
- Their own grades will be available to each student on D2L 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: 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.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new 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 has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210 7625 or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca