

**GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2019  
GEOGRAPHY 421  
H(3-0)**

**Renewable Resources, Natural Environments and Sustainability**

Section	Days	Times	Location
LEC 01	MoWeFr	11:00 – 11:50	ES 319
Instructor: Dianne Draper		Office: ES 910	
Telephone: 220 5586 (note: no voice mail)		Email: <a href="mailto:draper@ucalgary.ca">draper@ucalgary.ca</a>	

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

**Official Course Description:**

Sustainability approaches and praxis in renewable resources and natural environments; case studies and research projects in topics such as urban natural areas, wilderness parks and reserves, freshwater resources and others.

**Course Content and Objectives:**

This course focuses on: exploring human connections and responses to the natural world; examining concepts such as biophilia, stewardship and sustainability and their links to human efforts to manage natural resources; and undertaking applied research projects. Students should be able to explain major concepts studied in the course and apply those concepts within the research projects to contribute solutions to current sustainability issues.

**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)
By the end of this course, students should be able to: • discuss the basis of their personal biophilic connections with nature to identify interconnectivity among humans, the natural and built environments	1, 2	2
• investigate and differentiate the major categories of experience of nature that comprise the biophilic design framework, and use local examples to illustrate biophilic design principles 'in action'	1, 2, 3	2
• use written and visual media to communicate the connections they have made among biophilia and biophilic design principles	7, 8	2
• investigate how and why incorporating natural environment elements into the built environment affects the health and well-being of human and non-human living entities of the environment	1, 2	2
• analyze the nature of environmental management approaches in Canada (and elsewhere) to critique past and current political and institutional decisions regarding stewardship and sustainability of natural environments	2, 4	2
• describe additional approaches to managing renewable resources and natural environments to broaden the basis of decision making	2, 4	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.

**Prerequisite:** Geography 321

**Learning Resources**

There is no required textbook for this course. Links to or copies of required readings will be posted on D2L.

Recommended: Northey, M., Draper, D. and Knight, D. (2015). *Making Sense: A Student’s Guide to Research and Writing; Geography and Environmental Sciences*. Sixth Edition. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press. (7<sup>th</sup> edition is expected to be available January 2019). Copy is available in Geography Collections Room.

**Grading/Weighting:**

Evaluative component	Weighting	Due Date (2019)
Photo Essay 1	15%	February 1
Photo Essay 2 (poster at Geography Dept Annual Conf.)	30%	March 8
Photo Essay 3 (presentations & paper)	25%	April 3-10; April 12
Reflective Research Journal (2 parts, 10% each)	20%	March 15, April 12
Professional Behaviour and Participation	10%	ongoing

**Notes:** 1. There is no final examination in this course. 2. To obtain a passing grade in this course, students must complete and receive a passing grade in each of the evaluative components. Details of assignments are provided in class and on D2L.

**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

**Human subjects:**

Students may volunteer to provide input to classmates’ research projects (but there is no requirement to do so).

**Supplementary Fees:**

Not applicable

**For additional detailed course information posted by the instructor, visit the course Desire2Learn page online at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>.**

## **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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html).

### **Internet and electronic communication device information**

There is no restriction on the use of laptops and tablets in class if they are used to take notes or find information relevant to the class, and if there is no disturbance or distraction of other students or the instructor. *Phones must be turned off during class*, unless you have previously identified yourself to the

instructor as a health care or law enforcement professional. Note that the audio or video recording of lectures and taking pictures of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are NOT permitted without explicit authorization. To do so without the instructor's authorization constitutes academic misconduct, according to the University of Calgary Calendar. For more information, see: <http://wtww.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5-1.html>.

### **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](mailto: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:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca)
- Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts – 403-220-3913, [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)
- Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: [www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/](http://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](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference, so please participate in USRI surveys.