

## GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2020

### GEOGRAPHY 428 GFC HOURS (3-1T)

#### Sustainability and Political Ecology

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	MoWeFr	11:00 – 11:50	MS 319

Instructor: Conny Davidsen	Office: ES 318
Telephone: 403 220 5591	Email: <a href="mailto:davidsen@ucalgary.ca">davidsen@ucalgary.ca</a>

*Please note: The emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Math Sciences is Social Science Food Court.*

#### Official Course Description

Exploration of the challenges associated with environmental management and governance, particularly in terms of achieving sustainability. Emphasis is placed on ongoing local, regional, and global environmental problems, using political ecology perspectives to understand power, discourse and interest mechanisms behind environmental rights, controls, and sustainability needs.

#### Course Objectives

The course expands on key concepts, knowledge and different perspectives on socio-political systems and contemporary environmental problems, with a critical focus on power and sustainability aspects.

#### 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 to which they contribute, and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Students should be able to explain concepts and values critical to the study, management and understanding of our environment.	1,2,3,4,5,7	3
Students should be able to conceptualize the distribution, use, extraction and impact of global natural resources, the effects of human activities on a range of natural resources globally, and aspects of the uncertainty, complexity and conflict that characterize both the use and management of resources globally.	1,2,3,4,5,7	2
Students should be able to apply concepts for maintaining and sustaining the environment as a resource.	1,2,3,4,5,7	3
Students should be able to evaluate environmental problems and issues of sustainability within select world regions through case study examples.	1,2,3,4,5,7	2
Students should be able to explain the basic fundamentals of globalization in relationship to the environment.	1,2,3,4,5,7	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, and 3 = Advanced.

Prerequisites: 3 units in courses labelled Geography at the 300 level or above.

### Learning Resources

- 1) Required: Paul Robbins 2012. Political Ecology: A Critical Introduction. Wiley-Blackwell, Malden MA (see D2L for access details)
- 2) *Recommended: Richard Niesenbaum 2019. Sustainable Solutions – Problem Solving for Current and Future Generations. Oxford University Press, New York NY*

Further materials will be posted on D2L throughout the term.

### Grading (Weighting) modified March 19, 2020 due to COVID-19 related term changes:

18%	<b>20%</b>	In-class & tutorial activities
35%	<b>45%</b>	Midterm (Feb 26)
35%	<b>20%</b>	Final exam (Apr 1) <b>Final take-home paper (Apr 6 -9)</b>
12%	<b>15%</b>	Final project

There will be no final exam scheduled by the Registrar's Office. It is not essential to all components to pass the course as a whole.

### Grading Expectations and Tips

1. Check D2L regularly for new class resources, announcements and updates.
2. Attend all class sessions. Attendance is closely linked to successful learning. Textbook readings, other used materials and documentaries are intended to enrich and reinforce input presented in the class, but they are not substitutes for attending the sessions. Similarly, posted class materials are just brief summaries or foundations of what the class discusses. Listen, take notes, ask questions, discuss with others, and critically review the material, to learn.
3. Know your class colleagues, and be in touch with them. Discuss the material together. Consider meeting regularly as a study group. You can build your own support system that makes learning easier, more effective, and helps you fill gaps when you miss something.

### Grading System

96 – 100	A+	76 – 80	B	58 – 61	C-
91 – 95	A	71 – 75	B-	54 – 57	D+
86 – 90	A-	66 – 70	C+	50 – 53	D
81 – 85	B+	62 – 65	C	0 – 49	F

The instructor reserves the right to adjust grading in order to reflect student performance more fairly.

### Missed or Late Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (exams, presentations, assignments, participation activities) should inform the instructor as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided; for regulations see further below under supplemental information. At the discretion of the instructor, accommodations may be offered such as an extension or deferral at a set time. A deferred exam should be completed within five business days of your return to campus. Late assignments without granted deadline extension will be subject to a 5% late penalty per started 12 hours.

## Supplementary Fees

n/a

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

## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **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).

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf>

### **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.

### **Human subjects**

Students in the course will not be required to engage as participants or researchers in any research on humans.

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

There are no restrictions on class-related use of laptops and tablets whenever they are needed 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.

### **Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments**

Course assessments and grades will be made available electronically through the course D2L webpage. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office.

### **Documentation for Absences or Missed Course Assessments**

If a student misses an exam or other grading assessment due to illness, supporting documentation, such as a medical note or a statutory declaration, will be required see: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>. For frequently asked questions, please refer to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals/student-faq> concerning the provision of a medical note/statutory declaration.

### **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 their instructor or the Department Head (email: [david.goldblum@ucalgary.ca](mailto:david.goldblum@ucalgary.ca)).

### **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Act.

### **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/>).

### **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/)

**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.