

GEOG 430 LEC01 Animal Geography

GFC Hours 3-1T

Winter 2023 classes: January 9th – April 12th

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TR	11:00-12:15PM	ES443
T01	T	12:30-1:20PM	ES355
T02	W	10:00-10:50AM	ES355
T03	R	2:00-2:50PM	ES355
Instructor: Dr. Shelley Alexander		Office:	
Telephone:		Email: smalexan@ucalgary.ca	
Email communication will be through your UCalgary email address.		Office hours: on request	

The **Department of Geography** condemns the longstanding and continued injustices against those marginalized by racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, xenophobia, able-bodied normativity, mental health profiling, and other forms of prejudice. We are pained by the fact that injustices are unevenly borne. <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/news/anti-racism-statement>

Territorial Acknowledgement

The Department of Geography would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/cultural-protocol>

Official Course Description

Explores the socio-spatial relationships between humans and animals, with the goal of elucidating the ecological, economic, political, social, and cultural pressures shaping these relations, and the conflicts arising from human-animal interactions. Inter-species bonds and emotional lives of animals are also covered.

Course Objectives

The primary objective of this course is to build core competency understanding how humans relate to animals. We examine how ethics, culture, historical practice, social context, and worldviews impact the lives and welfare of animals (domestic, feral and wild). Topics include food production, pet ownership, livestock husbandry, animal assisted therapy, wildlife research and conservation, as well as animal sentience and emotional lives. Key learning will be gained through skill building techniques, such as interpreting animal play and communication. The course integrates a variety of methods, such as: qualitative, inquiry based and group role playing into five assignments, to explore the complexity of our engagements with certain animals (e.g., coyotes, sharks, wolves, horses). Final presentations provide students the opportunity to explore a human-animal relationship in depth, as well as the myriad of challenges facing animals in society. The course evaluates student's ability to synthesize data collected through media or literature, and provide concrete skills in analysis (e.g., media content analysis).

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)
Explain the history of Animal Geography around the world with a specific focus on North America	1,2	3
Describe historic and contemporary theories describing human and animal relationships	1,2	2

Use multiple methods to explore complex human-animal relationships (e.g. media content analysis, film reaction, role playing of stakeholders in a coyote cull hearing, among others)	3,4	1,2, 3
Identify ethical frameworks that influence choices about engagement with animals (wild, pets, livestock, feral)	2	2
Understand the role of media in affecting our perceptions about animals, using media content analysis techniques)	2, 3, 4	2
Develop a skill set to interpret the complex language used by dogs in play, as a means to understand animal sentience.	2, 5	2
Articulate how human disturbance affects animal survival, using regional examples aimed at co-existence	7	2
Describe how contemporary pet and domestic livestock ownership evolved and its relationship to social constructs, and power imbalances at local, international and global scales	3, 4, 5	2
Communicate how research approaches in conservation affect animal welfare	2	2
Use inquiry-based learning to explore the complex relationships between humans-animal-landscape in the procurement of food and water security for humans	1, 7	2,3

**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 from courses labelled Geography at the 300 level or above. Computer skills, library digital search, basic math, communication, and presentation skills

Learning Resources

Urbanik, Julie. 2012. Placing Animals, An Introduction to the Geography of Human-Animal Relations. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. Maryland. 191pp.

Bekoff, Marc. 2007. The Emotional Lives of Animals: a leading scientist explores animal joy, sorrow, and empathy, and why they matter. New World Library, Novato, CA. 214pp.

Assessment Methods

Assignment	Start Date	Due Date	% final grade
Assignments 1(I/II)	Jan 19/26	Jan 26/31	12.5%
Assignments 2	Jan 31	Feb 09	12.5%
Assignments 3	Feb 09	Feb 18	10%
Assignments 4	Feb 16	Feb 28	10%
Assignments 5	Mar 14	Mar 16	10%
Final Project	Mar 21	Apr 06	30%
Final Reflection	Apr 6	Apr 20	15%
TOTAL			100%

Final Examination: There is NO final examination for this course

- It is essential to pass all components to pass the course as whole
- Only pens, pencils and erasers are allowed in exams. No other materials or devices are allowed.
- Late assignment policy – accommodations are made for medical or other emergency issues, or a minimum of 1 week prior arrangement with the professor.

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

Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-3.html>

Exams

Student accommodation for missed exams or course work

If you miss one of the course assessments (exam or tutorial assignment) and possess a legitimate excuse, email Dr. Alexander smalexan@ucalgary.ca

Medical notes/statutory declarations are not required, but frequently asked questions about accommodations and other information is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals/student-faq>.

Supplementary Fees

no supplemental fees

Additional Course Information

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

Exams & Deferrals <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams>

Referencing Standard

In written work presented in this class, the accepted method for referencing the work of others will be the Chicago Manual of Style: <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and receive a tuition fee refund is **Thursday, January 19th, 2023**. The last day to add or swap a course for Winter 2023 is **Friday, January 20th, 2023**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Wednesday, April 12th, 2023**. Please note that the University is closed on **Monday, February 20th** for Family Day. Term break is **February 19th – 25th**. The University is closed **Friday, April 7th** and **Monday, April 10th** for Easter.

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

Resources and Writing support

Please note writing support resources provided by the Student Success Centre <https://ucalgary.ca/ssc/resources/writing-support> and

the library <https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/guides/>

University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. 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.

[University of Calgary : K. Integrity and Conduct \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Student Misconduct

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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For information on what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation in Alberta regulates the return of term assessments. 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. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office and assignments cannot be dropped off at the Department Office.

Research

n/a

Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

Graded assignments will be returned by the instructor or teaching assistant personally during scheduled lecture or laboratory periods, unless they are made available electronically through the course D2L webpage.

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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-1.html>

Within the first week of classes, students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should register with Student Accessibility Services [Accessibility | Home | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#) 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: freeman@ucalgary.ca).

Learning Technologies and Requirements

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology.

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updates web browser

- Broadband internet connection
- Optional technology: webcam (built in or external) / microphone and speaker (built in or external) or headset with microphone

Use of internet and electronic devices in class

Computers are permitted in class. Tablets and phone permitted only for use on course activities.

Guidelines for Video Sessions

Video sessions may be used in the event of instructor absence, for work within peer groups, or for other communication related to course obligations. To help ensure video sessions are private, do not share link or password with others via any medium, including social media platforms. Links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Recordings and materials presented, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering video conferencing sessions, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment.

Please be mindful of how your behavior in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. Student Non Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your sessions visit: [eLearn @ UCalgary](#)

If you are unable to attend a session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a class session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Media Recording (if applicable) https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

Course evaluations and student feedback

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms.

Accessibility

Students need to be able to attend the lecture to complete some assignments, and alternate arrangements would be necessary for accessibility issues (please arrange with Professor). Information can be gained from listening to lectures but is more complete with observing visual supporting materials. Some assignments require visually viewing photos or other materials to complete.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> 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

Mental health plays a pivotal role 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,

Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services> and the Campus Mental Health

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to email the **Student at Risk line** if they or others appear to need wellness assistance: sar@ucalgary.ca For more immediate response, please call: 403-210-9355 and select option #2.

Sexual Violence Policy

All members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy>

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- Student Union VP Academic 403-220-3911, suwpaca@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/

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management> Students should download the UC emergency app. Our Muster Point is ICT main foyer.

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.