

**GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: WINTER 2019**  
**GEOGRAPHY 465**  
**H(3-0)**  
**Science, Nature, Politics**

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	We	14:00 – 16:45	ES 319

Instructor: Gwendolyn Blue	Office: ES 322
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**Please note: The emergency evacuation assembly point for classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT Food Court.**

**Official Course Description:**

Examines competing claims about knowledge, authority and expertise that occur in environmental and other science-based controversies. Introduces core concepts and debates surrounding risk, uncertainty and democratic engagement in techno-scientific contexts, with a focus on the shifting role of citizens and more generally, publics, in geography, environmental decision-making and urban planning.

**Course Objectives:**

This course seeks to enhance students' understanding of the human geography of climate change, defined as the ways in which spatial processes, representations, and power shape societal responses to environmental change. The course will address the following questions: What meanings are attached to climate change and how do these meanings inform how we act as individuals and make collective decisions? How is climate change defined, managed, and governed across various scales and domains, and in accordance with whose interests?

**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)
Identify and evaluate the role of representation in framing climate change for collective decision making	1, 2, 4	2
Identify how power, context and scale influence how climate change is represented and understood across social groups	1, 2, 4	2
Recognize and identify the strengths and limitations of current knowledge about climate change	1, 2, 4	2
Communicate ideas clearly in written and oral form	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, (3) Advanced.

**Prerequisites:** 60 units (10.0 full-course equivalents)

### Learning Resources

Required and recommended readings are listed on extended course syllabus (available on D2L to registered students) and are available through the University library.

### Grading (Weighting)

**Book / Film Review: (20% of final grade)** A critical commentary and evaluation of a book or film that addresses climate change. Due: February 27, 2019. In class.

**Presentation: (20% of final grade)** In small groups, students will provide one presentation on an assigned topic area. Presentation must draw from, expand on and provide contemporary examples related to assigned readings on assigned week. Presentation involves creating and delivering a power point (or equivalent) presentation that is 20 minutes in duration. Power point slides must be submitted before class to D2L to meet assignment requirements. Dates: Throughout. Exact dates will be assigned in class.

**Final Research Essay (40% of final grade)** Research essay (or equivalent) based on secondary sources about a topic related to course. Due: April 10, 2019. Submit to D2L.

**Participation (20% of final grade)** Active participation in-class discussions and in-class assignments. Students are expected to have completed the readings prior to class and prepared to engage in productive dialogue about the key ideas.

**No final exam for this course**

**A passing grade on any one assignment is not required to pass the course as a whole.**

### Grading System

A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	Good performance
B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

### Human Subjects

Students in the course are **not** expected to participate as subjects or researchers when research on human subjects may take place.

### **Supplementary Fees**

No supplementary fees for this course.

**Late Policy** Assignments submitted after the stated deadline will be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each **class day** late. If assignments are due at the beginning of class and they are not handed in until the end, they are considered late. Exceptions to this policy must be discussed and confirmed with the lead instructor in advance of the due date. If a student fails to complete an assignment or similar set piece of work for legitimate reasons (for example: illness or domestic affliction), an alternative course of action must be discussed with the instructor in a timely fashion (at minimum, notification must be given before class is scheduled to begin). Failure to write examinations or give presentations on assigned days will result in a grade of zero (0), unless prior arrangements have been made.

*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. The use of any calculators and/or devices during examinations will not be allowed.

### **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 enhancing learning and teaching ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference, so please participate in USRI surveys.