

## GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2021

### GEOGRAPHY 483

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

#### Ways of Knowing in Geography

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	Asynchronous		Web-based
TUT 01	Asynchronous		Web-based

Instructor: Dr. Victoria Lukasik	Office: ES438 ( <i>available by appointment only</i> )
	Email: vlukasik@ucalgary.ca
	Office hours: By Appointment, online via Zoom

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**

Conceptualizing human-environment realities into research: an introduction to philosophical foundations of ways of thinking and critical perspectives; qualitative and mixed methods approaches. Examination of 'rules' of research and the challenges of real world complexities. In-depth examples of human-environment research from theory to practice, broad research design and proposal writing practice.

#### **Course Objectives**

An exploration of the practice used by geographers to observe, measure and interpret human-environment-animal relationships in the world (i.e. ways of knowing). A key objective is to expose students to alternative ways of collecting data than they may have been exposed to in their specializations (e.g. media, art, expert knowledge, decision support, univariate and multivariate regression, traditional ecological knowledge) to understand complex geographic relationships. The assignments engage critical reflecting on the nature of methods used and knowledge gained. In sum, the course focuses on applying theory to practice, explores qualitative to quantitative methods, with a goal of opening students up to alternative ways of "knowing" geography.

#### **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 a set of different "ways of knowing" from western science to traditional knowledge	1	1, 2
Use and critically evaluate qualitative methods (content analysis)	1, 2, 3	2, 3
Use experiential learning to explore complex geographic problems	1, 2	1, 2
Explore the various ways of knowing from western to traditional	1, 4, 5	1
Identify how worldviews relate to acceptance in science	1, 5	1
Explore the nature of "objectivity" in science	1, 2	2, 3
Re-situate self to other perspectives, exploring animal perspectives	1, 2, 7	1, 2, 3

Experience and explore traditional ecological knowledge	1, 2, 5	1
Enhance critical thinking and group decision-making	1, 2, 5	1, 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 Geography 251, 253, Urban Studies 253 or courses labelled Geography at the 300 level.

Experience in either basic qualitative or quantitative analysis is helpful. The following are required:

- Use of online technology (i.e., D2L, Zoom, YuJa), and Office Suite (i.e. PowerPoint, Word, Excel, or equivalent software) will be required to participate in the course and complete assignments;
- Ability to communicate verbally (e.g., in project presentations/video assignments, with classmates and instructor through online video conferencing platforms) and by written communication (e.g., using D2L and email);
- Internet capacity to access online materials, communicate with instructor and classmates, and post assignments.

### Course Format

- This course will be held completely online. There are no pre-scheduled synchronous (i.e., real-time/“live”) classes, but there will be opportunities for synchronous group activities and office hours. These will be arranged according to student and instructor availability.
- In lieu of scheduled classes, students will be responsible for keeping up with course material that will include readings and videos posted through D2L, as well as all course activities, tutorials, and assignments. Expectations and deadlines will be summarized weekly on D2L to remind students where they should be in their course progression. A course calendar containing assignment deadlines will be posted on D2L by the start of classes (i.e., Sept 7, 2021).

### Learning Resources

There are no required textbooks for this course. However, the following book (available at the TFDL) is a recommended writing resource:

Northey, Margot, Draper, Dianne L., and Knight, David B. Making Sense: a Student's Guide to Research and Writing: Geography and Environmental Sciences. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2012.

Required reading material will be posted to D2L as required.

***Lecture material, video lectures, course information, assignments, and course discussion boards will be posted and available through the course Desire2Learn page online at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>. This site will be updated regularly and students are expected to login at least twice weekly to ensure they stay current with the course.***

### Assessment Methods

#### **Grading (Weighting)**

1.	Critical Reflections (Written)	15%
2.	Tutorial Assignments / Labs (5)	45%
3.	Term Project	40%
		<b>100%</b>

***There is no registrar scheduled final examination for this course***

- It is not essential to pass all components to pass the course as whole
- Late assignments without prior arrangement will be penalized 15% per day.

## 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>

## Additional Course Information

As a 400-level course, students are expected to write at a university-level. All writing submitted – including online discussion board posts – must first be edited for grammar, spelling, and sentence structure. Online and in-person writing support is available through the Student Success Centre. All students are encouraged to use these resources to improve their writing skills. See: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/virtual-writing-question> and <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>.

In the event that a student misses any course work due to illness, supporting documentation, such as a medical note or a statutory declaration may be requested <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>  
Please refer to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals/student-faq> for frequently asked questions concerning the provision of a medical note/statutory declaration.

## Exams & Deferrals

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams>

## Supplementary Fees

Not applicable

## 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> (author-date system)

## Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and receive a tuition fee refund is **Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

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

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

For students wishing to know more about 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 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.

### **Research**

- Students in the course may be expected to participate as researchers and/or subjects during the course.
- Students may be audio or video recorded for lesson capture, assessment of student learning, and/or self-assessment of teaching practices. Students will always be alerted prior to any recording taking place, and videos will be deleted after the end of term and final submission of all student grades.

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

Graded assignments 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 and assignments cannot be dropped off at the Department Office.

### **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>  
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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

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](mailto:freeman@ucalgary.ca)).

### **Online courses**

Because this is an online course, the following are required for all students:

#### **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
- Webcam (built in or external)
- Microphone and speaker (built in or external) or headset with microphone
- Broadband internet connection
- At minimum, word processing (e.g., Microsoft Word), presentation (e.g., Microsoft PowerPoint), and video conferencing (e.g., Zoom) software installed and ready to use

#### **Use of internet and electronic devices in class**

Students are expected to avoid any distractions not directly related to the course when participating in any synchronous activities, such as group work and office hours.

### **Timed Assessments for Online and Blended Courses**

There are no timed assignments in this course

### **Guidelines for Zoom Sessions**

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, 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 Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), 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 Zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom 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 live activities in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom 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 Zoom 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 Zoom 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)**

The following policy on recording of students will be adhered to: [https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP\\_FINAL.pdf](https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf). Recordings of students will be deleted after the term is complete and all marks are finalized.

### **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. There will be opportunities for students to provide informal feedback during the course as well.

### **Accessibility**

Students will need to be able to see and hear video lectures, and be able to read pdf documents, in order to obtain all course material. Any students who believe their vision or hearing will prevent them from fully understanding all course material are expected to contact Dr. Lukasik as soon as possible so that appropriate adjustments can be made. YuJa will be used, and for these videos captioning will be available.

### **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**

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/>).

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

### **Sexual Violence Policy**

The University recognizes that 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/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

### **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/)

### **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>. **Please be aware of your Muster Point anytime you are working on campus.**

### **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.