



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE FALL 2009
GEOGRAPHY 525
H(3-0) Area II

The Politics of Environment: Policy and Political Ecology

Timetable: WF 10:00 - 11:15 ES 920

Please note: The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT Food court.

Instructor: Dr Conny Davidsen	Office: ES318, office hours after each class or arranged by email
Telephone: 220 5591	Email: davidsen@ucalgary.ca

Official Course Description:

Key issues in environmental policy, focusing on the power and interest mechanisms that determine environmental resource access and sustainable use. Case-specific applications explore the dynamic roles of the global and the local including international development paradigms, indigenous resource rights, common-pool resource management, powerful policy networks, and local communities struggling in between.

Prerequisites: GEOG 321 plus one of (361, 421, 425); or consent of the Department

Supplementary Fees: (*field trips etc*). N/A.

Textbook/ Readings:

Required books: *Dryzek, John S. 2005. The Politics of the Earth – Environmental Discourses. Oxford UK.*

The readings and assignments will be posted for each session, and made available electronically where possible. All course information and further material are posted by the instructor on Blackboard: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>

Grading (Weighting):

(1)	In-class participation:	30%
(2)	Short assignments:	40%
(3)	Topic presentation:	10%
(4)	Project paper:	20%

ad (1) In-class participation 30%

For a good grade in this class, you are expected to participate actively throughout the semester. This includes engagement in discussions, thorough preparation of the readings, and a critical reflection on the course material and presentations. Mere presence in class is not sufficient to pass this class component.

ad (2) Short assignments 40%

Over the course of the semester, you are expected to prepare week-to-week assignments that may include, but are not limited to, small group projects, short presentations and/or papers. The assignments will be specified during class and posted on Blackboard.

ad (3) Topic presentation 10%

You will act as presenter and discussant for one topic during the semester. This includes the preparation of an in-class presentation, a 2-page handout, reading suggestions and questions for discussion in class. Possible topics and schedule for the presentations will be discussed in the first weeks of the semester.

ad (4) Project paper 20%

Over the semester, you will write a project paper (4,500-6,000 words) that address a key topic from an analytical perspective pertinent to the course. The paper will be developed over the course of the semester and may be related to some aspects of your topic presentation. Potential topics need to be discussed with the instructor.

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

If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal, the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart if the instructor, at the instructor's discretion, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- Grades will be available to each student on Blackboard by individual password access.
- Non-electronic posting of grades will be at the discretion of the instructor and, if posted, they will be scrambled.
- Grades will **not** be available at Geography's main office.
- The graded assignments can be picked up during the hours announced on Blackboard.
- To receive your assignment back via mail, please include an appropriately sized self-addressed, stamped envelope with your assignment when handing in to the instructor.

Plagiarism

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. Quite 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 proper referencing and 3) using work completed for another course. This activity will not be tolerated in this course and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar.

Disability Resource Centre Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- SU VP Academic Phone: 220-3911 and e-mail: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

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, 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.