

GEOG 536 LEC01 Environment and Behaviour

GFC Hours 3-0

Winter 2023 classes: January 9th – April 12th

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TR	12:30-1:45PM	ES342

Instructor: Dr. Dan Jacobson	Office: ES 306
Telephone:	Email: dan.jacobson@ucalgary.ca
Email communication will be through your UCalgary email address.	Office hours: 2.30-3.30 TR

*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

An approach to human geography that attempts to understand human activity in space, place, time, and the environment through the lens of the individual. Focus on how humans perceive the environment around them in both perceptual, cognitive, physical and behavioural terms, and how they use this information when making judgments and choices that lead to spatial behaviour.

Course Objectives

This course introduces behavioral geography, an approach that explores human-environment relationships from the perspective of the individual. Drawing on theoretical and applied examples, the course examines how humans make decisions in geographic space. The course seeks to explain. How do we navigate? What is the role of perception and cognition, the availability of maps, language and other representations of geographic space? How do mapping technologies, our experiences, society, and culture affect decisions? What is the relationship between individuals and the environment, and how can we measure this?

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 how behavioural geography relates to other theoretical and methodological approaches within geography.	1, 2, 7	2, 3
Describe the importance of perception, cognition, language, maps, and navigation in the development of spatial and environmental knowledge.	1, 2, 8	2, 3
Explain mechanisms for navigation and wayfinding in built and natural environments.	2, 5	2, 3
Implement, assess, and critique techniques for measuring individual spatial awareness and cognitive map knowledge.	3, 4, 5, 7, 8	3
Demonstrate the utility of behavioral and cognitive approaches to geographic information science, cartography, and information communication	1, 7, 8	2, 3
Critique, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize the arguments in a key piece of literature by conducting a literature review.	7, 8	3
Design, plan, discuss and communicate a research study that utilizes both qualitative and quantitative methods that is applicable for studying human-environment relationships.	1, 3, 5, 7, 8	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 341, 351, 365, 452, 454, 456, 458

Recommended prerequisite skills:

Computer: Students undertaking this course are expected to possess basic computer skills. For example, students should be able to navigate the contents of a drive, create folders, copy files, create and unpack .zip archives, etc. Students must also possess basic proficiency with standard office productivity software, such as Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint (or similar alternatives).

Research: This course assumes that students have advanced library skills for searching and citing information. Multiple resources exist at the library and online if you require assistance.

Learning Resources – Readings

There are no required textbooks.

Required and recommended readings from other sources will be assigned – notifications will be posted online in D2L, and additional readings will not require purchase and be available through the UofC Library.

Assessment Methods

Students will be evaluated in three areas: (1) Their knowledge of lecture materials and assigned readings.

(2) Classroom participation, discussion, and presentations. (3) Written assignments.

Grading (Weighting)

The distribution of marks will be:

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----------------------|
| 1. <i>Take home and in class assignments</i> | 20% | (see schedule on D2L) |
| i. 4 x 5% | | |
| 2. <i>Literature bibliography, presentation, and discussion</i> | 15% | (see schedule on D2L) |
| i. Selection of papers to review | 2% | |
| ii. Annotated bibliography | 8% | |
| iii. Presentation and discussion | 5% | |
| 3. <i>Collaborative Research proposal</i> | 30% | (see schedule on D2L) |
| i. Outline | 10% | |
| ii. Presentation and discussion | 10% | |
| iii. Written research plan | 10% | |
| 4. <i>Group seminar presentation, and discussion</i> | 35% | (see schedule on D2L) |
| i. Abstract/Outline | 10% | |
| ii. Presentation and discussion | 10% | |
| iii. Final research proposal | 15% | |

There is no final examination for this course.

It is not essential to pass all components to pass the course as whole

Late Assignments Policy:

All assignments must be submitted by the specified due date and time. A 10% grade reduction will be applied for every 24 hours an assignment is late. The D2L dropbox will be closed at the deadline listed in the course timetable.

Late assignments will not be accepted without prior arrangements having been made, except in the case of an emergency. If an emergency arises that prevents you from completing an assignment on time, please email Dr. Jacobson as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made. Supporting documentation, such as 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>

Grading System

The University of Calgary Undergraduate Grading System will be used:

See: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html> for more information

A+	4.00	96-100	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	91-95	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	86-90	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	81-85	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	76-80	Good performance
B-	2.70	71-75	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	66-70	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	61-65	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	56-60	Approaching satisfactory performance.
D+	1.30	51-55	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	1.00	46-50	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0.00	0-45	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

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

Additional Course Information

Attendance and Participation Expectations:

Participation is strongly recommended and encouraged. Students must be present, to receive marks for in-class presentations, discussions and for providing feedback on peer presentations.

Expectations for Writing:

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, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work.

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/>

Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:

Assignments are due as outlined in the course schedule. Unless otherwise noted, all assignments will be submitted in a PDF format through D2L. Detailed guidelines will be posted.

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>.

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 \(ucalgary.ca\)](https://ucalgary.ca/k-integrity-and-conduct)

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

Students will NOT participate as subjects or researchers on human subjects.

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

Laptops / tablets can be used during lectures for taking notes and activities related to the class. Laptops will be required for certain components of the course. Electronic devices such as smartphones are to be switched to silent. Using electronic devices that disturb the class (instructor or fellow students) may be considered a violation of the academic code of conduct.

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.

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.

Course Accessibility

The course will be delivered in person with associated visual presentation materials such as PowerPoint. Students requiring non-visual access to materials should contact the instructor in the first week of classes and liaise with Student Accessibility Services.

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), <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 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, suvpaca@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> The Muster Point for ES 342, and Earth Sciences is the ICT Food Court.

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.