



GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE: SPRING 2010

GEOGRAPHY 597.23 H (2-1) AREA II International Field Work In Geography

Timetable: MoTuWeThSaSu 08:30:17:00 ES.443

Instructor: Aaron Williams	Office: ES.302
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Course Content

Course Modules:

1) Introduction to critical observation and interpretation of human and physical landscapes. Academic skills essential for research, coursework and conducting fieldwork in a foreign environment. Site specific examples from select destinations on Geography field school program for 2011.

2) Practical Aspects of International Travel. Conducting fieldwork in selected cultural realms. Emphasis on travel preparation, documentation, money, risk, safety, security, legal issues, liability, health and effective logistics.

3) Travelling, Working, Researching: Cultural Interaction in Overseas Settings
Geographic analyses and overviews of selected cultural realms: understanding worldviews, perceptions, misunderstandings, customs, and traditions; demographic, socio-economic and political change; flashpoints and disparities; environmental, social, and development issues; cultural sensitivity. Examples from numerous culture realms. Guest speakers from the Department of Geography TBA.

4) Conducting Geographical Field Work Abroad.

Qualitative and quantitative fieldwork methods and techniques in human and physical geography. Emphasis on methods which can be utilized while in international field settings. Guest speakers from the Department of Geography, cognate disciplines, industry, and government.

5) The Impacts of International Tourism on Cultural and Physical Landscapes.
Fragile ecosystems and environments: natural reserves and parks, wildlife reserves, and endangered plant and animal species. Impacts of tourism: economics, development, heritage sites, sustainability. A focus on the balance between the economic benefits, social and cultural effects, and the impacts on the environment.

6) Lectures and case studies on important subject matter and concepts for 2011 Geography Field schools.
Subject matter will be based on required reading list provided to students in February 2011.

Four assignments based on 'virtual field trips' using scanned slide banks and movie footage available on Blackboard and DVD. Topics from selected regions will include the following: environmental degradation, land use, housing, landscape change, and the impact of tourism

Blackboard: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>

Required Texts NA.

References/Possible texts/Readings:

Butler, D.R., Wilkerson, F.D. 2000. Comments: In Praise of Off-Season Field Trips, *Journal of Geography* 99: 6-42.

Delyser, D., Starrs, P.F. 2001. Doing Fieldwork: Editor's Introduction, *Geographical Review* 91: 4-9.

Hart, J.F. 1968. The Undergraduate Field Course: Field Training in Geography. Washington, D.C. Association of American Geographers, Commission on College Geography Teaching, Paper No, 1, 29-04.

Jenkins, A. 1994. Thirteen Ways of Doing Field Work with Large Classes, *Journal of Geography in Higher Education* 18: 143-154.

Jones, P.A. (1969) *Field Work in Geography*, London: Longman's Green and Co. Ltd.

Lounsbury, J.F., Aldrich, F.T. (1979) *Introduction to Geographic Field Methods and Techniques*, Columbus: Charles F. Merrill Publishing Company.

Mayborn, K.R., Leshner, C.E. 2000. Teaching the Scientific Method Using Contemporary Research Topics as the Basis for Student-defined Projects, *Journal of Geoscience Education* 48: 145-149.

Parsons, J.J. 1977., *Geography as Exploration and Discovery*. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 67(1): 1-16.

Northon, C. 2001. *Geography Undercover*. *Geographical Review*, Vol, 91 Issue 1/2.

Platt, R.S. (1959) *Field Work in American Geography*, Chicago: University of Chicago.

Shoemaker, M.W. 2000. *Russia, Eurasian States, and Eastern Europe*. Harpers Ferry: Stryker-Post Publications.

Robertson, I., Richards, P. 2003. *Studying Cultural Landscapes* London: Hodder Arnold Publishers.

Rundstrom, R.A., Kenzer, M.S/. 1989. The Decline of Field Work in Human Geography, *Professional Geographer* 41(3): 294-303.

Grading (Weighting)

40%	4 Virtual, 1 actual field trip assignments. Field assignments worth 08% each
	May 1 st , assignment 1, due May 3 rd May 2 nd assignment 2, due May 5 th May 3 rd , assignment 3, due June 25 th May 4 th , assignment 4, due June 28 th
30%	Mid-Session Examination May 3 rd . Based on lecture material, required readings, and guest speakers.
30%	Final Examination May 6 th . Based on lecture material, required readings, and guest speakers.

It not essential to pass all elements to pass the course. Final exam in class May 6th.

Grading System:

A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject
A-	3.70	↑ Good - clearly above average performance
B+	3.30	
B	3.00	
B-	2.70	↑ Satisfactory performance – basic understanding of the subject
C+	2.30	
C	2.00	
C-	1.70	
D+	1.30	
D	1.00	Minimal Pass-marginal performance
F	0	Fail - - poor performance

For additional detailed course information posted by the Instructor see Blackboard at:
<http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>

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.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- Assignments will be handed back only in class or by the Professor at pre-arranged time(s).
- To receive your marked assignment back via mail, please include an appropriately sized self-addressed, stamped envelope with your assignment when handing in to the professor.
- Posting of grades will be at the discretion of each Professor and, if posted, they will be scrambled. Grades will **not** be available at Geography's main office.

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.