



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: SPRING 2012
GEOG 597.23
H(3-7)

International Field Work In Geography

2012/04/30 - 2012/08/07

Instructor: Aaron Williams	Office: ES 456
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Official Course Description:

Field research and reconnaissance survey of techniques applied to regions outside North America. Group travel-study combined with formal instruction and seminars.

Prerequisite:

Consent of the Department

MAY BE REPEATED FOR CREDIT

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 2012.

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 2012 Geography Field schools.

Subject matter will be based on required reading list provided to students in February 2012.

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 System:

A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject
A-	3.70	↑
B+	3.30	↑
B	3.00	Good - clearly above average performance
B-	2.70	↑
C+	2.30	↑
C	2.00	Satisfactory performance – basic understanding of the subject
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/>

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, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

Principles of Conduct

The University of Calgary 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 the University's property. This statement applies in all situations where the members of the University community are acting in their University capacities. All Members of the University Community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with this statement which is available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j-2.html>

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

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.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

FOIP: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside 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 provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- All assignments will be handles on Blackboard.
- Their own grades will be available to each student on Blackboard by password access. 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: suypaca@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.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca