



The Department of
GEOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE WINTER 2009
GEOGRAPHY 619
H(3-2)

Spatial Ecology

Instructor: Shelley Alexander
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Room: ES 460
Telephone: 220 5597

Official Course Description:

This course applies GIS and remote sensing techniques to the study of bio geographical patterns, processes, and environmental change. Wildlife are used as an entry point to understanding species-environment relationships and the effects of landscape change. However, techniques used in this class may be extended to any spatial phenomena and therefore should be of interest to students from a broad range of disciplines (e.g. urban development, planning and management, transportation science, as well as wildlife management and conservation). Topics include quantifying habitat fragmentation, species-environment relationship modelling, parametric and non-parametric statistics in ecological analysis, information theoretic approaches, and spatial decision support systems. Labs combine GIS and statistical evaluation to reinforce theory covered in lecture. Readings are assigned for group discussion, and are chosen to support lab and lecture content. Other aspects of this course include the evolution of spatial ecology as a discipline and the use of indicator, umbrella keystone and flagship species in conservation.

Prerequisite: consent of department

Text(s)/Readings: selected readings will be posted to Blackboard.

Grading (Weighting):

Labs	45%
Project Presentation	15%
Project Written Submission	40%

State whether: *There is no final examination for this course*

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

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 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](mailto: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.