



**GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE  
GEOGRAPHY 681  
H(3-0)**

**Geographic Information Systems Project: Theoretical Issues**

Instructor (typically the student's supervisor):	
E-mail:	
Phone:	
Office:	
Office Hours:	

**Official Course Description:**

A critical and comprehensive review of information and literature on a GIS research topic. This course provides the conceptual basis for Geography 683.

**Prerequisite:**

Geography 633, 639 and 647 or consent of the Department

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

**Text(s)/Readings:**

To be arranged with the instructor.

**Title:** TBD \_\_\_\_\_

**Description:**

Students will prepare an original paper based on their review of current literature relevant to their selected MGIS research project (to be completed in Geography 683). Typically, the literature review would examine recent developments in both the application area and analytical techniques that are anticipated for the research project.

The format, style, and length of paper will be determined by the instructor, although it is recommended that students prepare their document following the style and format guidelines for MGIS Final Projects. A typical length of the Geog 681 paper is 15 – 25 pages (double-spaced, 12 pt font). [Suggested – to be discussed with instructor, as above]

Students are required to discuss their research project with their supervisor(s) prior to undertaking work for Geog 681.

**Evaluation:**

These components of evaluation are meant to be a guideline for students and supervisors, and may be modified if needed.

There will be three components submitted for evaluation of in this course. First, students will prepare a readings list and a brief (1 – 2 page) outline of their final paper that will summarize

structure of their literature review paper. The format of the readings list and outline should be discussed with the instructor at the beginning of the term. It is expected that, at a minimum, students adequately consult both the primary literature and technical literature associated with their project area. Second, students may optionally submit a preliminary draft of their paper for evaluation by their instructor, prior to submitting a final draft. If no preliminary draft is submitted, then the evaluation marks will be transferred to the final draft evaluation. Third, students will submit a final draft of their paper, which is typically due on the last day of lectures. There will be no final examination for this course.

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|--|-----|------------|
| 1. Preparation of readings list          | 10% | due: _____ |
| 2. Outline of literature review:         | 10% | due: _____ |
| 3. Preliminary draft of paper (optional) | 30% | due: _____ |
| 4. Final draft of paper                  | 50% | due: _____ |

**Grading Scheme:**

Grade	Percent	Graduate Description
A+	96.0 - 100	Outstanding
A	90.0 - 94.9	Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	85.0 – 89.9	Very good performance
B+	80.0 – 84.9	Good performance
B	75.0 – 79.9	Satisfactory performance
B-	70.0 – 74.9	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
F	<70.0	All grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.

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: [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto: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.