



GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2011

GEOGRAPHY 695 H(3-0) Seminar in Geographic Research Methods -Qualitative Methods

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TuTh	09:30 - 10:45	ES 332

Instructor: Conny Davidsen	Office: ES 318
Tel: 220 5591	Email: davidsen@ucalgary.ca

Please note: the appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Earth Sciences is ICT food court.

Official Course Description:

This seminar course examines qualitative research methodology by focusing on a variety of methods and analytical techniques. Much of the material, particularly the empirical examples are firmly rooted in geography. Nevertheless, the major themes of the course connect to debates concerning qualitative research in all of the social sciences. The general themes are philosophy, methods of data gathering, analysis strategies, and evaluation (qualitative rigour).

Prerequisite:

Consent of the Department

MAY BE REPEATED FOR CREDIT

Supplementary Fees:

N/A

Readings:

Hay, Iain 2010 Qualitative Research Methods in Human Geography. Third Edition, Oxford University Press, Don Mills, ON. (required)

Creswell, John W. 2007. Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design – Choosing Among Five Approaches. Second Edition, Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks, CA (required)

All course information and further materials will be posted by the instructor on Blackboard: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>. The assignments for each session will be posted and readings made available electronically where possible.

Grading (Weighting):

(1)	In-class activities	15%
(2)	Short assignments	40%
(3)	Methods paper I	10%

(4)	Research presentation(s)	15%
(5)	Methods paper II	20%

There is no final examination for this course. It is not essential to pass all elements/components to pass the course as a whole.

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

If for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal, the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart if the instructor feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

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. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/honesty/plagiarism>

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 handled through Blackboard or personally.
- 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: arts1@ucalgary.ca
- The students ombudsman office information can be found at:
<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/su-structure/contact-info>

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.