

## GEOGRAPHY FINAL COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2021

### GEOGRAPHY 699.02

GFC HOURS (3-2)

#### Seminar in the Philosophy and Nature of Physical Geography

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	We	2:00PM – 4:45PM	Web-based synchronous

Instructor: Shelley Alexander	
	Email: <a href="mailto:smalexan@ucalgary.ca">smalexan@ucalgary.ca</a>
Email communication will be through your UCalgary email address.	

The **Department of Geography** condemns the longstanding and continued injustices against those marginalized by racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, xenophobia, able-bodied normativity, mental health profiling, and other forms of prejudice. We are pained by the fact that injustices are unevenly borne. <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/news/anti-racism-statement>

#### **Territorial Acknowledgement**

The Department of Geography would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region

III. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/cultural-protocol>

#### **Official Course Description**

In the first part of the course, we explore the philosophy and nature of science. Next we review and analyze the history of physical geography and key developments in our discipline. This includes readings and discussion on elements of human geography. Scientific method is explored; in particular, we examine how key research issues (spatial/temporal scales, experimental method, modelling etc.) relate to the study of physical geography. Finally, we will investigate the perceived divide between human and physical geography and possibilities for and benefits from closing the divide.

#### **Prerequisites**

Consent of the Department.

#### **Course Format**

- Course will be offered online, synchronous, as scheduled by Registrar and indicated above. There will be no alternative online offerings. This is a discussion-based course in which participation and weekly written submissions are graded as part of the final mark.
- Learning will occur through written reflection that is submitted by individual students prior to each scheduled lecture time, and through moderated student discussion and instruction by the professor.

#### **Learning Resources**

Weekly readings are posted to D2L for download. No textbooks required.

#### **Assessment Methods**

Weekly written submission (individual and equal weight)	40%
Weekly participation in discussion	20%
Final written project (individual)	40%
Total	100%

There is no final examination for this course.

A passing grade is required on each component of this course in order to pass the course as a whole.

### **Exemptions to the Examination and Tests Regulations (if applicable)**

There are no examinations or tests in this class.

### **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

### **Additional Course Information**

Students may ask for an accommodation at least 1 week in advance of any assignment due date. In the event that a student has not made an accommodation and misses any course work due to illness, supporting documentation, such as a medical note or a statutory declaration may be requested <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>. Please refer to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals/student-faq> for frequently asked questions concerning the provision of a medical note/statutory declaration.

### **Exams & Deferrals** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams>

### **Supplementary Fees**

Not applicable

### **Referencing Standard**

In written work presented in this class, the accepted method for referencing the work of others will be the Chicago Manual of Style: <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course and receive a tuition fee refund is **Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Thursday, December 9th, 2021**.

For additional detailed course information posted by the instructor, visit the course Desire2Learn page online at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>.

### **University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University 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 university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

### **Plagiarism, Cheating, and Student Misconduct**

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

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 at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html](https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html). 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 adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre:  
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation in Alberta disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, such as outside an 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 must provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

### **Research**

There is to be no human research conducted as part of the assignments in this course.

### **Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments**

Graded assignments will be returned by the instructor or teaching assistant personally during scheduled lecture or laboratory periods, unless they are made available electronically through the course D2L webpage. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office and assignments cannot be dropped off at the Department Office.

Assignment delivery will be described by the professor at the first lecture. Assignments are submitted by email to the professor on the day of and BEFORE the start of the class for which a paper is written. Final papers are usually due within one week of the final day of class, but an extension may be agreed upon through discussion with the class. Assignments are returned individually via email to the student.

### **Academic Accommodations**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations, according to the university policies and procedures listed in the University Calendar.

The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-1.html>

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing to their instructor or the Department Head (email: [freeman@ucalgary.ca](mailto:freeman@ucalgary.ca)).

### **Online courses**

#### **Learning Technologies and Requirements**

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology.

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updates web browser
- Webcam (built in or external)
- Microphone and speaker (built in or external) or headset with microphone
- Broadband internet connection

#### **Use of internet and electronic devices in class**

During class time students are expected to be present and dedicated to discussion and not engaged in alternative use of internet, laptops or other devices during this time.

#### **Timed Assessments for Online and Blended Courses**

Not applicable

#### **Guidelines for Zoom Sessions**

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the

opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published with the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behavior in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. Student Non Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your Zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

#### **Media Recording (if applicable)**

Not applicable

#### **Course evaluations and student feedback**

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI), Faculty course evaluation forms, and through voluntary in person or email feedback to the professor.

#### **Accessibility**

Students need to be able to hear the lecture and be able to speak during discussions. Video presence is preferred. Yuja will not be used.

#### **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Act.

#### **Wellness and Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness, and academic success and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support, or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to email the **Student at Risk line** if they or others appear to need wellness assistance: [sar@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sar@ucalgary.ca) For more immediate response, please call: 403-210-9355 and select option #2.

#### **Sexual Violence Policy**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

#### **Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation**

- Student Union VP Academic 403-220-3911, [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca)

- Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts – 403-220-3913, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)
- Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: [www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/)

#### **Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points**

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management> . Muster Point is ICT foyer.

#### **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 station, 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.