



## UBST 591: Capstone in Urban Studies Winter 2020

Section	Days	Times	Location
LEC 01	TuTh	09:30 – 10:45	ST 064
LAB 01	Mo	08:00 – 10:45	ES 319

Instructor: Victoria Fast	Office: ES 452
Telephone: 220 8353	Email: <a href="mailto:Victoria.fast@ucalgary.ca">Victoria.fast@ucalgary.ca</a>

**Please note: The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for classes taught in Science Theaters is Professional Faculties Food Court, and for classes taught in Earth Sciences it is ICT Food Court.**

### Official Course Description:

Capstone course applying the broad interdisciplinary training of the Urban Studies Program to selected problems in Urban Studies. Collaborative research and analysis is stressed.

### Course Objectives:

This is the capstone course for Urban Studies majors and minors, dealing with sustainability and what it means in an urban context. The “key to sustainability,” according to Gwendolyn Hallsmith, is to understand the city “as a whole system... one that is composed of numerous subsystems.” The variety of subsystems that shape cities do not operate independently, rather are mutually interactive, modifying each other over time. These subsystems—economic, social, environmental, cultural, political—operate at a variety of scales, reverberating back upon the city. However, planning interventions cannot be conceived as discrete actions, rather must be considered in terms of system-wide implications.

In this course, students will study Calgary’s community model as subsystems that have critical implications for planning sustainable cities. Rooted in urbanism and sustainability theories, students will complete an applied “Engaging Communities” project, where students will work individually and in groups to assess, explore, and engage Calgary communities. Students will apply data gathering, analytical, community engagement, critical reflection, professionalism, and grant writing skills to propose a tactical urbanism project for the community. Partnering with the Federation of Calgary Communities to support community-engaged learning, together we will build toward a meaningful vision for individual communities.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of at least 90 Units (15.0 full-course equivalents) and admission to the Urban Studies Major or Minor.

### Learning Resources

Individual readings assigned weekly. Please check course website regularly for updates.

### Course Learning Outcomes:

The Department of Geography is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Students should be able to conceptualize and apply the multiple dimensions of sustainability to communities and environments .	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Students should be able to conceptualize the multiple ways they are confronted with the word or concepts relating to sustainability on a daily bases.	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Students should be able to apply concepts for maintaining and sustaining healthy communities and environments.	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Students should be able to evaluate various scenarios for the future of cities including Calgary.	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Students should be able to produce through collaborative group work a viable and useful community project focusing on a community in Calgary	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3

**PLOs = Program Learning Outcomes:** 1 = reflect and communicate diverse human-environment perspectives, 2 = identify and explain human-environment processes, 3 = implement sampling, data collection, analyses and communication methods, 4 = analyze spatial and temporal aspects of human-environment systems, 5 = employ knowledge, arguments, and methodologies for solving human-environment problems, 6 = evaluate geospatial data and manipulate it to create cartographic products, 7 = communicate geographic concepts using oral, written, graphic, and cartographic modes, and 8 = demonstrate literacy skills. **Levels:** (1) Introductory, (2) Intermediate, (3) Advanced.

Course Component	Weight
Site visit report	14%
<b>Exploring Communities project</b>	<b>40%</b>
- Proposal	- 10%
- Proposal presentation	- 5%
- Pitch night presentation	- 5%
- Final project: application	- 15%
- Federation, community, peer, self-evaluation	- 5%
Term Test	15%
Weekly In Class Engagement	10% (1% each, up to 11%)
Weekly Labs	16%
Urban News	5%

**Notes:** It is not necessary to pass each course component in order to pass the course.

There is no final examination for this course.

Late assignments will be assessed a 20% penalty per day.

Only pens, pencils and erasers are allowed in the term test. No other materials or devices are allowed.

## GRADING SYSTEM

<b>A+</b>	4.00	>96	Outstanding performance
<b>A</b>	4.00	90-95	Excellent performance
<b>A-</b>	3.70	80-89	Approaching excellent performance
<b>B+</b>	3.30	77-79	Exceeding good performance
<b>B</b>	3.00	74-76	Good performance
<b>B-</b>	2.70	70-73	Approaching good performance
<b>C+</b>	2.30	67-69	Exceeding satisfactory performance
<b>C</b>	2.00	64-66	Satisfactory performance
<b>C-</b>	1.70	60-63	Approaching satisfactory performance
<b>D+</b>	1.30	56-59	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses
<b>D</b>	1.00	50-55	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses
<b>F</b>	0.00	<50	Failure. Did not meet course requirements

In the event that a student misses a midterm or any course work due to illness, supporting documentation, such as a medical note or a statutory declaration will be required see: <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.

### Submitting Assignments & Posting of Grades

- All assignments will be handled through D2L.
- Grades will be available to each student on D2L by password access. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office.
- *You are responsible for submitting assignments to the correct Dropbox. Submissions to the wrong Dropbox folder will be treated as not submitted.*

### Policy regarding rounding of final grades

In an effort to be fair to all students in the class, your individual grade will not be rounded up, regardless of how close you are to a grade break. In short, the final grade breaks are hard breaks. This policy minimizes ambiguity and ensures the grading is as fair and clear as possible.

### Deferred Exams or Assignments

As listed in the Deferral of final Examinations section of the University of Calgary Calendar are illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you miss an assignment or examination and you provide me with the appropriate documentation, you will have one opportunity to make arrangements for the missed work. Without appropriate documentation, you will receive a zero for that portion of your grade.

### Supplementary Fees

No supplementary fee has been assessed for this course.

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

## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **Principles of Conduct**

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](http://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](http://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: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html).

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf>

### **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.

### **Human subjects**

Not applicable.

### **Internet and electronic communication device information**

There are not restrictions on the use of laptops and tablets in class if they are used to take notes or find information relevant to the class, and if there is no disturbance or distraction of other students or the instructor. Phones must be turned off during class, unless you have previously identified yourself to the instructor as a health care or law enforcement professional.

## **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: [www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy). 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: [www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf).

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: [david.goldblum@ucalgary.ca](mailto:david.goldblum@ucalgary.ca)).

## **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) 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/>).

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

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

## **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.