

UBST 591 Capstone in Urban Studies

Winter 2022 classes: January 10th – April 12th, 2022
GFC HOURS (3-3)

Section	Days	Time	Location
LEC 01	TR	9:30-10:45AM	ES 342
Lab 01	M	8:00-10:45AM	ES 319

Instructor: Victoria Fast	Office: ES-452
Telephone: 403-220-8353	Email: Victoria.fast@ucalgary.ca
Email communication will be through your UCalgary email address.	Office hours: virtual* Wednesday 11 AM to 12 PM and as needed; please reach out during class or via email to schedule. *See D2L for zoom link.

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>

I am committed to creating a teaching and learning environment and community that decolonizes the curriculum, and does better at building systems of justice, inclusion, and empowerment.

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

What does it mean to be an “urban studies” graduate? What sorts of knowledge and skills do you acquire in the course of this sort of degree? What does it mean to be an urban studies professional after you leave the university?

In this course we reflect on these sorts of questions and put into practice a range of skills you’ve developed, all with the aim of segueing into the next steps: a career, graduate school, specialist certificates, etc. We will work on making our knowledge’s and skills *legible* to employers, colleagues, graduate school mentors, and the public. We will think broadly and ambitiously about what urban studies graduates can do in the world, and produce tangible skills to help us convey those aspirations to multiple communities.

The experiential project developed throughout the course focuses on a partnership with the Federation of Calgary Communities and community associations (CA) in Calgary. Students are paired with a CA and tasked with the development of a community-relevant tactical urbanism (TU) projects: a process that works to improve the urban environment while promoting the interaction of community members through temporary, low-cost, pop-up structures or events that can possibly grow into something more given the right circumstances. Students lead community engagement sessions, develop a community-relevant TU proposal, and “pitch” for real money to implement the project in their community.

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 to which they contribute, and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO(s)*	Level(s)**
Lead and manage a service-based, community-integrated learning project	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Interact and coordinate with group members and project partners	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Learn and apply community engagement techniques	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Develop and refine professional, facilitation, and public speaking skills	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Produce knowledge and materials to support community-engaged tactical urbanism	1,2,3,4,5,7,8	3
Evaluate urban problems from multiple conceptual and methodological angles, such as disability and inclusive design	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, and 3 = Advanced.

Prerequisites

90 units and admission to the Urban Studies Major or Minor

Course Format

Regular, in person attendance during scheduled lectures and labs is mandatory. If we are mandated to move online, regular remote synchronous attendance during scheduled lectures and labs is mandatory.

You are also expected to attend 3 (virtual) meetings outside of class time; all efforts will be made to accommodate work, family, and other commitments.

Learning Resources

All required readings will be posted or linked on the course D2L. Please check course website regularly for updates.

Assessment Methods

Course Component	Weight
Exploring Communities project	45%
- Proposal	- 10%
- Proposal presentation	- 5%
- Pitch night presentation	- 5%
- Final project: report	- 20%
- Peer & self-evaluation	- 5%
Weekly Labs	50%
	- 10 labs, 5% each
Urban News	5%

Notes: See course schedule for details and due dates.

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.

Grading System

A+	4.00	>96	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	90-95	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	86-89	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	81-85	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	76-80	Good performance
B-	2.70	71-75	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	67-70	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	63-66	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	60-62	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	1.30	55-59	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses
D	1.00	50-54	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses
F	0.00	<50	Failure. Did not meet course requirements

Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade)

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-3.html>

Additional Course Information

In the event that a student misses course work due to illness or extenuating circumstances, I am willing to make reasonable accommodations and grant extensions provided the student arranges accommodations with the instructor **ahead of the due date**. The same for deferred assignments.

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.

Submitting Assignments & Posting of Grades

- All assignments will be handled through D2L – both individual and group assignments.
- 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.

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

Supplementary Fees No supplementary fee has been assessed for this course.

Referencing Standard

In written work presented in this class, the accepted method for referencing the work of others will be APA Manual of Style:

<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/references/examples>

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and receive a tuition fee refund is **Thursday, January 20th, 2022**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Tuesday, April 12th, 2022**. No classes February 20 – 26th, 2022.

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Writing support

Please note writing support resources provided by the Student Success Centre <https://ucalgary.ca/ssc/resources/writing-support> and the library <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/writinghelp>

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.

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. 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

Not applicable.

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).

Use of internet and electronic devices in class

You are welcome to use laptops and devices during lecture and lab when needed. Please silence all devices.

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

Every effort will be made to support an in-person learning environment. If we are required to move online during the term, we will be using Zoom, 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/>.

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.

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. It is recommended that students keep their camera on during lecture, labs, and presentations. This will facilitate meaningful discussion, group and team building, and shared learning—essential to a 500-level course.

Media Recording

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

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) and Faculty course evaluation forms. Students are also welcomed and encouraged to share their feedback throughout the term.

Accessibility

I will make every effort to ensure the learning environment is accessible to all students. Please let me know if any accessibility accommodations are required at the start of the term.

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 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
- Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts – 403-220-3913, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
- Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: 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>. The muster point for both labs and lecture is the ICT footcourt.

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.