

Department of Geography - University of Victoria
Course Outline - Geography 101b
Introduction to Human Geography
A01 Fall 2015

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

Instructor Dr. Ian J. O'Connell (ianoc@uvic.ca, SS&M B322, Local 7338)

Lab Assistants Kinga Menu (Senior Laboratory Instructor) kmenu@uvic.ca

Class time Monday 8:30 - 9:50 DTB A110
Thursday 8:30 - 9:50 DTB A110

Office Hours See CourseSpaces or *by appointment*

Course Objectives to introduce key geographical concepts and definitions relevant to human geography;
to develop an appreciation for the spatial world we live in and the reciprocal relationships that exist between people and places;
to explore issues of culture, world population, demographics, health, urban development ;
to look at how geographic scale influences processes and patterns across the landscape.

Learning Outcomes appreciation of data collection and presentation;
introductory presentation skills;
appreciation of critical thinking and report writing;
ability to correctly reference academic works;
basic mapping and research skills.

COURSE TEXTBOOK:

Required Course Text: Norton, W. 2013. *Human Geography* 8th Edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is structured to represent key components of human geography. It is designed to give you an introduction into the main themes of Human Geography. Obviously the richness of all human geography may not be covered in just one course - but provided here are themes that you may wish to pursue later in more detail as part of your degree program.

Class Meetings Lectures will be twice a week (Mondays and Thursdays). Attendance in class is expected in order for you to understand and complete lab assignments, and to pass examinations.

Lab Meetings Labs will be weekly. Attendance in labs is mandatory. Lab material is examinable in both midterms and final.

NOTE: No Audio or Video recordings of Lectures or Labs permitted without the instructor's prior written permission.

MARK ALLOCATION FOR GEOG 101B

	Marks	Important Dates
Lab Exercises	45%	See Below

Note: There will be both individual and group based assignments

Midterm I	5%	Thursday October 15 th in Class
Midterm II	10%	Thursday November 12 th in Class
Final Exam	40%	University Exam Period- will be posted later

Laboratory sessions form an integral part of the course because they enable a more detailed examination of ideas that are covered in the lectures, as well as introducing various practical geographic skills. The labs materials are designed to be both **supplemental** and **complementary** to the lectures and assigned readings. Ranges of experiences are covered in the laboratory sessions including computer-based exercises, discussions, reports, presentations, videos, and debates. Furthermore, they are intended to counter the anonymity often experienced in the large lecture sections. Although most of your contact will be with your individual lab instructor, it is important to remember that your lecturer and in fact all Geography Faculty are accessible to you as students. Therefore, you are encouraged to seek them out for additional assistance whenever necessary.

Lab exercises' mark distribution

Introduction lab

Week of Sept 14 Introduction to lab, map library, introduction to academic writing 2%

Urban analysis project 15%

Week of Sept 21 Exercise using data, maps, census, research and graphing, intro to expectations for Urban Analysis (part 1 of Urban Project) 3%

Week of Sept 28 Fieldtrip to introduce urban landscape interpretation and primary research parameters (part 2 of Urban project) 1%

Week of Oct 5 Work block. Recommended as time to do primary research on study area. (part 3 of Urban project) 1%

Week of Oct. 12 Thanksgiving, no lab time

Week of Oct 19 Urban analysis presentations and assignments due (part 4 of Urban Project) 10%

Health Debates 10% (Attendance mandatory at both)

Week of Oct 26 Debate 1

Week of Nov. 2 Debate 2

Week of Nov. 9 Reading break, no lab time

Development and Economics project 13%

Week of Nov 16 Introduction to economics and development project (part 1)

Week of Nov 23 Work block for project (part 2)

Week of Nov 30 Presentation of projects & assignments due, Reflections activity, evaluations. (part 3) 12% + 1%

5% participation

2.5 Urban Analysis Project (September 21 to October 19)

2.5 Development and Economics Project (November 16 - November 30)

Late Assignments:

Deadline for submission of lab assignments will be given to you during labs. Lab assignments are due in the 1st **10 minutes** of a lab. Students submitting assignments late will be penalized. The initial late penalty is **15%**. For every day after that, you will lose **15%** per day. **All** assignments must be submitted. Exceptions will only be granted for medical reasons (requiring a written report from a medical practitioner stating your inability to attend class as soon as possible). Exceptions can only be granted by the course instructor **not** your lab instructor.

Warning: Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. It is expected that students, faculty members and staff at the University of Victoria, as members of an intellectual community, will adhere to these ethical values in all activities related to learning, teaching, research and service. Any action that contravenes this standard, including misrepresentation, falsification or deception, undermines the intention and worth of scholarly work and violates the fundamental academic rights of members of our community. Students are advised to consult the university's Policy on Academic Integrity in the University Calendar. The instructor reserves the right to use plagiarism detection software programs to detect plagiarism in papers.

LABORATORY ASSIGNMENTS

A major goal of the labs in this course is to guide students in conducting geographic research and the writing of research papers and reports. The labs are designed to introduce a variety of necessary techniques such as research and library skills, mapping and graphing data to address relevant questions in contemporary social and human geography.

The labs provide a forum for clarification of points raised in lectures and for sharing ideas and opinions on matters of local and global concern. While some of the exercises are clear-cut and factual, **there may also be scope for examining ethics and values inherent in more controversial questions such as those concerning “quality of life” and the impacts and desirability of “development”.**

Provisional General Readings : Specific pages and chapters will be assigned in class

<i>Subject Material</i>	<i>Textbook Chapters</i>
Introduction, “What is Human Geography”, and “Studying Geography”	Introduction, Chapter 1, and Chapter 2
Geography of Population and Demographics (Fertility, Mortality, etc.)	Chapter 5
Geography of Disease (Pandemics, Epidemics, Wellness, etc.) Health	Chapter 6
Urban Geography (Diffusion, Transportation, Origins and Growth of Cities, Government and Planning, Neighbourhoods, etc.)	Chapter 11, Chapter 12, and Chapter 13
Geography of Development (Globalization, Industrial landscapes, agriculture, etc.) Economic Geography	Chapter 3, Chapter 9, Chapter 10 and Chapter 14
Cultural Geography (Communities, Language, Religion, etc.)	Chapter 7 and Chapter 8

Undergraduate Grading

<i>Passing Grades</i>	<i>Description</i>
A+ A A-	Exceptional, outstanding and excellent performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
B+ B B-	Very good, good and solid performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
C+ C	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
D	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
COM	Complete (pass). Used only for 0-unit courses and those credit courses designated by the Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings.

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
90-100%	85-89%	80-84%	77-79%	73-76%	70-72%	65-69%	60-64%	50-59%	49% or Less

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

Geography Departmental web site: <http://geography.uvic.ca/>
GEOPLAN planning guide: <http://www.geog.uvic.ca/moodle/> [Login as a guest]
Undergraduate Advisor: Dr. Phil Wakefield (philw@geog.uvic.ca)
Graduate Advisor: Dr. Denis Jelinski (jelinski@office.geog.uvic.ca)

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Resource Centre for Students with a Disability (RCSD) as soon as possible. The RCSD staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations <http://rcsd.uvic.ca/>. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.