



COURSE OUTLINE
Geog 315: Geocaching

Lectures: MacLaurin D283. **Meet 9:30am Monday May 6th** (see attached schedule for lecture schedule).

Labs: David Turpin A251 (see attached schedule for lab schedule).

Office Hours: The instructor will be with the class during lectures and labs. For all other times between 9:30 and 4:20 (excluding lunch hour) Monday to Friday the instructor will be available to answer questions in either DTB A251 (lab), DTB B204 (office), or via email.

Contact: smaxwell@uvic.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the activity of geocaching, along with the fundamentals of GPS navigation and GPS data collection. Emphasis will be placed on geocaching, the history and workings of GPS and associated navigation systems, map datums, coordinate systems, and basics of GPS data management. Students will gain hands-on experience working with GPS and geocaching, through a variety of activities and assignments.

This course is suitable for students from any background. Willingness to work in a group environment and availability from Monday to Sunday is fundamental to success in this course.

***Please note:** students are required to have a smart phone or smart tablet for the course. If this is a barrier please contact the instructor PRIOR to the start of the course.

KEY THEMES: GPS, geocaching, data collection, navigation.

TIMELINE: The course runs Monday to Friday 8:30-4:30, with assignments due up until Sunday night. Assignments are due at 9pm on Mon/Tues/Wed/Fri/Sun. See the full schedule below. Students are expected to be available Monday to Friday to complete lectures, labs, exams, and the group project.

REQUIRED TEXT(S)

There is no required text for this course, however Days 1, 2, and 3 have links to readings and videos that are required (optional resources are marked as such). Students will benefit from reviewing these learning resources prior to the start of the course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Explain basic aspects of coordinate systems and datums;
- Discuss the history and development of satellite navigation;
- Manage and display personal GPS data using a variety of formats;
- Carry out essential functions of a handheld GPS (collecting waypoints, recording tracks, navigating to a position, etc.); and
- Participate in both the creation and consumption aspects of geocaching activities.

EVALUATION

[1] Final Exam	30%
[2] Lab Assignments (3)	25%
[3] Geocaching Reflection Essay	5%
[4] Practical Exam	10%
[5] Group Geocache Project	30%

Students must complete all evaluation components to obtain credit. Failure to complete an evaluation component without permission from the instructor will result in an 'N' grade for the course, which equals a grade point value of 0.

Final Exam: A closed book independent exam will be given on the Friday morning of the course. The test will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer type questions. The test will cover material from the lectures, labs, and readings assigned in class.

Practical Exam: A timed practical exam will take place on Friday after the written final exam. It is independent and will test your competency with handheld navigation and data gathering.

Group Project: The group project is due Friday at 9pm. Each group member is expected to contribute equally and be available during the week to work on the project. Please inform the instructor promptly should you have any concerns about your group.

Reflection Essay: Students will complete a short essay evaluating three group projects. This is due Sunday night.

GRADING SYSTEM

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
A+ A A-	9 8 7	90-100% 85-89% 80-84%	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-	6 5 4	77-79% 73-76% 70-72%	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+	3	65-69%	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
C	2	60-64%	
D	1	50-59%	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
F	0	0-49%	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	0-49%	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO

- Geography Department website: uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/
- Geography Department Chair: geogchair@uvic.ca
- Geography Undergraduate Advising: geogadvising@uvic.ca

COURSE SCHEDULE

Attached at end of document.

BRIGHTSPACE

Course Page: <https://bright.uvic.ca/d2l/home/347364>

Brightspace learning management systems (LMS) will serve as the main avenue of communication (<https://www.uvic.ca/systems/services/learningteaching/brightspace/index.php>). Please monitor the page on a regular basis for course announcements. If you are having difficulty logging in contact the Computer Help Desk Email: helpdesk@uvic.ca, Tel: 250-721-7687

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments and/or project work will be penalized 20% per day (including weekends). Exceptions will only be granted for medical or compassionate reasons. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible. Only the course instructor can grant exceptions.

Conflicts with work, holidays or travel plans are not considered an acceptable reason to apply for a deferred assignment or project extension.

POLICY ON ATTENDANCE

Attendance is expected for all lectures and labs. *Attending class throughout the entire week is integral to successfully completing this course.*

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is every student's responsibility to be aware of the university's policies on academic integrity, including policies on **cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized use of an editor, multiple submission, and aiding others to cheat.**

Policy on Academic Integrity: web.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html

If you have any questions or doubts, talk to me, your course instructor. For more information, see uvic.ca/learningandteaching/cac/index.php.

Unless otherwise stated students are expected to complete assignments independently.

ACCESSIBILITY

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

POSITIVITY AND SAFETY

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

SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AT UVIC

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR; Sedgewick C119

Phone: 250.721.8021

Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca

Web: uvic.ca/svp

COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEY (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. 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 online and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device.

SELF CARE

A note to remind you to take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone.

Counselling Services - *Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university*

experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students. uvic.ca/services/counselling/

Health Services - *University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.* uvic.ca/services/health/

Centre for Accessible Learning - *The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations* uvic.ca/services/cal/. *The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.*

Elders' Voices - *The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.*

uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/index.php

COURSE SCHEDULE

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat - SUN
Lecture: The World of GPS and How Maps Work 9:30 am - 12:00 pm	Lecture: Introduction to Geocaching 9:30 am - 10:45 am	Recorded Lecture: Geocaching and the Environment 9:30 - 10:30 am Lecture: Group Project Q & A	Group Project Work time	Final Exam 9:30 am – 11:30 am Practical Exam 11:30 am – 12:15 pm Can be started once you complete the final exam It is a 45-minute timed activity	Deliverables Due: Geocaching Experience Reflection Essay due Sunday 9:00 pm
	Lunch 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Lab: Geocaching (Assignment 3) 11:00 am -12:00 pm			
Lunch 12:00-1:00 pm	Lab: Managing Data (Assignment 2) 12:00 - 4:30 pm	Lunch 12:00-1:00 pm	Lunch 12:00-1:00 pm	Group Project Final Work 1:00 - 4:30	
Lab: GPS Basics (Assignment 1) 1:00 - 4:30 pm		Lab cont: Geocaching (Assignment 3) 1:00 - 4:30 pm	Group Project Work 1:00 - 4:30	Deliverables Due: - Complete Final Exam (time above) - Group Project 9:00 pm	
Deliverables Due: Assignment 1 9:00 pm	Deliverables Due: Assignment 2 9:00 pm	Deliverables Due: Assignment 3 9:00 pm			

Lectures: MAC D283

Labs: DTB A251

Final Exam: DTB A102

DISCLAIMER: The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.