

Geography 101A

Environment, society and sustainability

Fall Term 2020

Course Instructors Dr. Phil Dearden (pdearden@uvic.ca), Dr. Lisa Kadonaga (geog101a@outlook.com), Dr. Sophia Carodenuto (technical assistance)

Office hours: On-line Monday, Thursday

T 08:30-10:20	B02	Matt Fuller	mtfuller@uvic.ca
T 12:30-14:20	B03	Matt Fuller	mtfuller@uvic.ca
T 14:30-16:20	B04	Kinga	maleeaacker@gmail.com

R 8:30 - 10:20	B07	Shelly Selivanov	

th Edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press. Only use the 6th edition. The book is available to rent or buy on-line (<https://www.redshelf.com/book/160>)

copy from the UVic bookstore. In this course we use most book chapters but not all. However, GEOG 209, the follow-up course uses the additional chapters.

Course The course will be a hybrid of synchronous (real-time) and asynchronous (flexible) activities. We will hold live lectures and labs at the designated times to encourage student interaction with each other and the instructor. These lectures will be recorded and made available on Brightspace for those who cannot attend the live lecture. We highly encourage synchronous participation and the recordings are intended for those with extenuating circumstances (such as different time zone).

Structure: The laboratory sessions will include reporting on your own research, discussions and projects. These laboratory sessions form an integral part of the course since they enable a more detailed discussion of topics relevant to the course and are intended to complement, not repeat the course. Furthermore, they are intended to counter the anonymity often experienced in the large lecture section.

On-line notes:

You can find useful information on online learning at the [UVic Learn Anywhere](#) portal.

The online format can seem strange and awkward at first, but we will do everything possible to make this a **comfortable and effective learning environment**. Keep in mind that we are all new to this format and we all need to be forgiving, open-minded, and adaptable. We're in it together.

Ensure you have a **distraction-free** space at home (or elsewhere) for the online classes.

The synchronous or **“live” portion** of the course will involve lectures, break-out group sharing, class discussion, and time for questions and answers. Please listen carefully to directions given at the beginning of class around the process for engaging. When you are not actively contributing, please ensure you “mute” yourself to reduce ambient noise.

Please be respectful, constructive, and professional in all your online interactions. No falling into troll-mode.

This course outline provides an introduction to GEOG101A. More detailed information on the course including the labs can be found in the lab manual available on the course site

COURSE CONTENT

The goal of Geography 101A is to introduce students to the way

1. Have a basic understanding of fundamental planetary processes such as energy flows and biogeochemical cycling;
2. Appreciate the ways in which humans change these processes, the implications of so doing, and potential solutions to these problems;
3. Understand the historical development of environmental problems and differences in spatial occurrence;
4. Develop critical and analytical thinking techniques and apply these to environmental problems;
5. Be able to critically analyze environmental problems from differing perspectives;
6. Understand the role of values in environmental decision making;
- 7.

Lisa Kadonaga grew up in Ontario and completed her PhD here at the University of Victoria. Her research interests include global environmental change, natural hazards, agricultural biodiversity, foodways in human culture, and environmental perception in art and literature. She has published research papers in physical and cultural geography, and contributed chapters to the Popular Culture and Philosophy book series. Earlier she worked in wildlife rehabilitation at the University of Guelph's Wild Bird Clinic, helped establish a community seed bank in Afghanistan, and was one of the founders of UVic's original Campus Community Garden. She is also an executive producer with Doggie Dream Productions, a film/TV production company.

EVALUATION

Lab marks

1. 101A-scapes

a. Posts and responses – 20%

b final presentation -10%

c. synthesis paper – 15%

2. Participation – 10%

3. Ecoaction presentation – 5%

Exams

1. Mid term 10%

2. Final 30%

TOTAL:

100%

* The lab participation grade is assigned by your lab instructor and reflects the amount and quality of your contribution to lab sessions. Although attendance is part of this grade, students who attend but who do not contribute in a meaningful fashion can expect no more than *half* marks.

BEWARE!! Experience has shown that to obtain a respectable grade in this course it is
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Please let us know as soon as possible if you are in a non- North American/Central American/South American time zone. You are expected to attend lab SYNCHRONOUSLY as we do many interactive activities and your presence is needed. If you cannot attend synchronously because of time zone issues, we will try to figure out the best ways to make things work and support you. Email Kinga at kmenu@uvic.ca

Please do not schedule work during lab time. You are expected to attend synchronously as much of what we do is interactive.

You must have functional access to the internet as most of what we will be doing is synchronous.

Make sure you are respectful of the privacy of others.

Please make sure you have the text book (see syllabus for text)

Make sure you carefully read over the syllabus so you know what the course is about and also so you do not have any unexpected surprises regarding expectations and grades etc.

Please make sure you have the zoom link for

You are

You are in professor's office

You

You

The syllabus is posted and available through the course website

You must log in to Blackboard through your UVic account. Hope you will be able to do this directly from Blackboard. We are working on that right now. Otherwise go to uvic.ca and log in from there. Meetings safe and allowed to be recorded if you can

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We are using a work around for due dates so please read this carefully. Your assignments will normally be due on your next lab day. So if you have an assignment due in lab 3 week of *****, it is due by the beginning of your lab time, that day. **This is the tricky part: The Brightspace assignment due date will not be correct for most of you. It will be the date of the last lab that week (say the Friday) . But your assignment is due in that week , by the time of your lab section.** Your TA will help explain.

The labs are posted on Brightspace in the Module labelled Labs, and have all the information you need regarding what to do and how to do it, and how and where to submit assignments and activities.

Please be on time to the Labs and Lectures. We are intending them to be open a few minutes early so you can come in and get comfortable.

Academic integrity is very important and I urge you to read over your obligations regarding integrity in the syllabus.

Be kind to yourself and to your lab mates and to your instructional team. We are all doing our best in very challenging times, with what for many of us, are brand new tools. There will be glitches. We are working very hard to have as few as possible.

Assignments are due by the beginning of the lab. ***Late assignments will be deducted 10% per day.*** Exceptions to the late policy will only be granted by your lab instructor for verified illnesses (ie, doctor's note needed). *All assignments must be submitted to get a passing grade in the laboratory component.*

As with any course which includes laboratory work, students will be required to make satisfactory standing in both parts of this course. Results in laboratory work will be announced by the department concerned prior to the final examinations, and students who have not obtained a grade of at least D in their laboratory work will NOT be permitted to write the examination, nor receive any credit for the course.

DEPARTMENT POLICY ON GRADE EXPECTATIONS

The performance expectations for a given letter grade should be consistent with the level of the course (100, 200, 300, 400). The higher the course level, the more should be expected when assigning a letter grade. First class letter grades (**A-**, **A**, **A+**) are assigned for performance above expectations, *i.e.*, demonstrating a thorough understanding of most, or all, aspects of course material. Letter grades of **B-**, **B**, and **B+** are assigned for performance that is about as expected, *i.e.*, demonstrating a good understanding of the key, but not all, aspects of the course material.

A passing grade of **D**, **C**, or **C+** is assigned for performance that is marginally acceptable.

A **failing grade** is assigned for performance that is not acceptable.

Calendar). If you are having personal or medical problems and cannot complete your assignments on time or cannot write the exams, it is your responsibility to request assistance from the Counselling Centre, or our lecturers, senior lab instructor, or your lab instructor, at the earliest possible opportunity.

Grading – Uvic Policy

The table below shows the official grading system used by UVic instructors in arriving at final assessments of student performance.

Undergraduate Grading		
Passing Grades	Grade Point Value	Description
A+ A A-	9 8 7	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	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	3 2	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
D	1	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
COM	Excluded Grade	Complete (pass). Used only for 0-unit courses and those credit courses designated by the Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
Failing Grades	Grade Point Value	Description
E	0	Conditional supplemental.
F	0	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.
N/X	Excluded Grade	Did not complete course requirements by the end of the term; no supplemental. Used only for co-op work terms and for courses designated by Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings. The grade is EXCLUDED from the calculation of all grade point averages.

F/X	Excluded Grade	Unsatisfactory performance. Completed course requirements; no supplemental. Used only for co-op work terms and for courses designated by Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings. The grade is EXCLUDED from the calculation of all grade point averages.
Temporary Grades	Grade Point Value	Description

INC	N/A	Incomplete. Used only for those credit courses designated by the Senate, to be replaced with a final grade by June 1. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
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well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey you will receive an email inviting you to do so. You will need to use your uvic netlink id to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. We will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

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