ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 1987
REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2024
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval)**:** March 2030
Course outline form version: 28/10/2022

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: GEOG 233	**Number of Credits:** 3 Course credit policy (105)
Course Full Title: Geography of a Selected Region **Course Short Title:** Geography of a Selected Region	
Faculty: Faculty of Science	**Department:** Planning, Geography and Environmental Studies

Calendar Description:

A comprehensive introduction to the regional geography of a major world region with an emphasis placed on the physical processes, cultural influences, as well as economic stimuli and political realities that led to the formation of a distinct regional landscape and use this knowledge in understanding the current and future human-environment interactions in the region.

Note: Field trips outside of class time may be required. Please refer to the department website for field trip scheduling information.

Note: This course will be offered under different letter designations (e.g. C-Z) representing different topics. This course may be repeated for credit provided the letter designation differs.

Prerequisites (or NONE):	None.
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	

Antirequisite Courses *(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)*

Former course code/number:

Cross-listed with:

Equivalent course(s):

(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours

Lecture/seminar	20
Experiential (field trip)	5
Tutorials/workshops	20
Total hours	**45**

Scheduled Laboratory Hours

Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: ☒ No ☐ Yes

Course Details

Special Topics course: **Yes**
(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)

Directed Study course: **No**
(See policy 207 for more information.)

Grading System: **Letter grades**

Delivery Mode: **May be offered in multiple delivery modes**

Expected frequency: **Every other year**

Maximum enrolment (for information only)**: 36**

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

PLAR is available for this course.

Transfer Credit *(See **bctransferguide.ca**.)*

Transfer credit already exists: **Yes**

Submit outline for (re)articulation: **No**
(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)

Department approval	**Date of meeting:**	September 2023
Faculty Council approval	**Date of meeting:**	February 2, 2024
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	**Date of meeting:**	March 1, 2024

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate familiarity with fundamental concepts in, and approaches to, regional geography.
2. Describe relationships between cultures and their environments, past settlement patterns, and current economic, ecological, and socio-economic issues in the region under study.
3. Address a research question of relevance to the region under study using primary and secondary source materials.
4. Present results of their research in visual and written presentations.
5. Explain the significance of regional study, and the transferability of regional research to further geographic study and research.
6. Identify indigenous perspectives and principles of diversity, equity, and inclusiveness that may help explain the geography of a selected region.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Quizzes/tests:	25%	Final exam:	30%	Project:	20%
Assignments:	25%		%		%

Details:

Assignments: field trip report/written assignment (20%); seminar participation (5%)
Midterm (25%)
Project: research presentation (20%)
Final: take-home perspective paper (30%)

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

This course is offered in a lecture, seminar, and small group discussion format. It will include, when feasible, a field trip to a location within the Lower Mainland or Northwest Washington State. Such field trips may be to an area temple, cultural society, ethnic neighbourhood, etc.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. Open Educational Resources (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)*

	Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1.	Textbook	Bushra Afzal Abbasi	Geography of South Asia	2022
2.	Journal	Edited by Maitrii Aung-Thwin	Journal of southeast Asian Studies	2023
3.	Online resource	David McCloskey, Cascadia Institute	The Cascadia Bioregion	2023
4.	Online resource	PCS Library	Geological formation of Vancouver Island	2023
5.	Online resource	American Museum of Natural History	New York City and Regional Geology	2023

Course Content and Topics

Example for *South Asia:*

- Physiographic features of Indian sub-continent (South Asia, Himalayas to coastal plains)
- South Asia as a cultural realm: a justification; historical and political geography
- Population growth; basic needs; planning and environment
- Urban map/urban issues: new towns and unplanned towns
- Informal sector; economic geography
- Culture and change; social geography
- Globalization and development
- City of change
- Form conceals reality; migration trends

Example for *East Asia:*

- Introduction
  - What is regional geography?
  - The definition of East Asia
  - Identification of major issues today
  - East Asia and Canada: making the connections
- Physical geography of East Asia
  - Overview of major physical features of region
  - Plate tectonics and the Ring of Fire
  - Climate and watersheds
  - Biogeography of the region

- Historical geography of China and Japan
    - Overview of geopolitical history (dynasties, conflicts); pre-Meiji (Japan); pre-Republic of China
    - World War II, and the post-war reindustrialization of Japan
    - The Great Leap Forward and the reorganization of rural spaces in China
    - The Korean War and two very different futures
- Settlement and population policies
    - China's population growth and the One Child Policy
    - Rural to urban migration
    - The aging of Japan's population
    - South Korea's demographic transition
    - Sex ratios, and the role of women in East Asia societies
- Different identities, common cultural threads: China, Japan, and the Koreas
    - Linguistic diffusion
    - Agricultural production and food ways
    - Ethnic diversity and the region's faiths
- Current issues, future challenges: China
    - The capitalist transition and the growth of China's manufacturing sector
- Current issues, future challenges: China and Taiwan
    - Manufacturing, migration, and the massive growth of China's cities
    - China and its claim on territory: Taiwan, Tibet, Hong Kong, Macau, and the western provinces
    - Taiwan: In the shadow of China, and the island's political fate
- Current issues, future challenges: North and South Korea
    - North Korea's geopolitical futures and the nuclear threat
    - Agricultural inefficiencies and the risk of starvation
    - South Korea: the digital society
    - The potential for reunification
- Current issues, future challenges: Japan
    - Japan's automobile and electronic sectors: surviving economic turmoil
    - A shrinking population: an insurmountable challenge?
    - The future of agriculture in Japan
- Ecological challenges within the region
    - Resource depletion, including land degradation
    - Energy: the search for sustainability
    - Pollution management and urban sprawl
    - Water: too much, too little: Three Gorges Dam and the South-North Diversion Project
    - Toxic air pollution, acid rain, and climate change