

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

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

Course Code and Number: GEOG 492		Number of Credits: 4 Course credit policy (105)															
Course Full Title: Honours Research Project																	
Course Short Title: (Transcripts only display 30 characters. Departments may recommend a short title if one is needed. If left blank, one will be assigned.)																	
Faculty: Faculty of Science		Department: Geography and the Environment															
Calendar Description: In this course, an Honours student will demonstrate advanced library and field data collection and interpretation skills and conduct a written and visual analysis in a particular geographic subject area.																	
Prerequisites (or NONE):		Admission to the Geography Honours program, (GEOG 491 or one of the following: GEOG 396, GEOG 398, GEOG 400G, GEOG 400J, GEOG 402, GEOG 410, 419, GEOG 440, or GEOG 458), and instructor's permission. Note: As of January 2021, prerequisites will change to: Admission to the Geography Honours program, GEOG 491, and instructor's permission.															
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: Dual-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.)		Special Topics (Double-click on boxes to select.) This course is offered with different topics: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, topic will be recorded when offered.) Independent Study If offered as an Independent Study course, this course may be repeated for further credit: (If yes, topic will be recorded.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, repeat(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, no limit Transfer Credit Transfer credit already exists: (See bctransferguide.ca) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Submit outline for (re)articulation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, fill in transfer credit form.) Grading System <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter Grades <input type="checkbox"/> Credit/No Credit Maximum enrolment (for information only): 6 Expected Frequency of Course Offerings: On demand (Every semester, Fall only, annually, etc.)															
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar hours</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tutorials/workshops</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supervised laboratory hours</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Experiential (field experience, practicum, internship, etc.)</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supervised online activities</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other contact hours: Meetings with supervisor; student-directed learning; conference presentation</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total hours</td> <td>75</td> </tr> </table>				Lecture/seminar hours		Tutorials/workshops		Supervised laboratory hours		Experiential (field experience, practicum, internship, etc.)	15	Supervised online activities		Other contact hours: Meetings with supervisor; student-directed learning; conference presentation	60	Total hours	75
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Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes																	
Department / Program Head or Director: Claire Hay		Date approved: April 2019															
Faculty Council approval		Date approved: April 12, 2019															
Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte		Date approved: April 12, 2019															
Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)		Date of posting: June 21, 2019															
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval		Date of meeting: November 22, 2019															

Learning Outcomes:

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

- Demonstrate an advanced (fourth-year or graduate school equivalent) level of geographic interpretation and analysis of findings of research completed in GEOG 491.
- Engage in sound and effective argumentation that supports the central research hypothesis.
- Situate their original research within the broader field of related research, and identify areas for further research.
- Present their research in written form and in a formal oral presentation in an academic setting.
- Articulate the issues and theories in a given geographic subject area,
- Demonstrate skills in data collection, commensurate with graduate and/ or professional work in geography or a related field.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

☐ Yes ☒ No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because the Honours project is an integrative, capstone project that takes place at the end of one's program, and which requires instructor supervision and evaluation of a research project over two terms.

Typical Instructional Methods (*Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department's discretion.*)

Independent study involving one-to-one consultation between Honours project supervisor and student; self-directed compilation, analysis, and presentation of research findings.

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

Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials (*If more space is required, download Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.*)

This varies a great deal with the student, and no example will be typical. A recent example:

Author (surname, initials)	Title (article, book, journal, etc.)	Year
1. Browne, M.A., Galloway, T., and R. Thompson.	Microplastic-An Emerging Contaminant of Potential Concern? Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management 3 (4): 559-566	2007
2. Voss, B.M., Peucker-Enhrenbrink, B.,Englington, T.I., Spencer, R.G.M. Bulygina, E., Galy,V.,Lamborg, C.H., Ganguli, P.M., Montlucon, D.B., Marsh, S., Gillies, S.L., S.L., Fanslau,J., Epp,A., and R L.Luymes,.	Seasonal hydrology drives rapid shifts in the flux and composition of dissolved and particulate organic carbon and major and trace ions in the Fraser River, Canada. Biogeosciences 12: 5597-5618	2015
3.		

Required Additional Supplies and Materials (*Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.*)

Specific to research project; some travel and/or equipment fees (e.g. batteries) may be incurred by student.

Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting

Assignments: 65%	Other: 35%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compilation and original analysis of research materials (findings), 45% • Overall quality/ formatting/ proofreading of full thesis, 20% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal presentation of research findings before an academic audience, 15% • Visual presentation of research findings, as part of a research poster or alternative, 20%

Details (if necessary):

Each student will work directly with their instructor to identify the timeline for completing original research. In some cases, data collection will need to be completed over two terms. If this is the case, then evaluation of data collection will take place in both GEOG 491 and GEOG 492/493.

The final research project mark will be assessed primarily by the student's Honours supervisor, with additional assessment and approval of the final grade by the standing departmental Honours Assessment Committee (HAC). A final grade acceptable to both the supervisor and HAC will be submitted on the student's behalf.

Typical Course Content and Topics

Course content varies by research project. The requirements of the individual project will be devised in consultation with the student's Honours supervisor.

A recent example was an analysis of the presence of microplastics in the Fraser River.