OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.

Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department – see course syllabus available from instructor.

GEOG 421

Geography

Borderlands

COURSE NAME/NUMBER

FACULTY/DEPARTMENT

UFV CREDITS

4

COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course studies the geographical character of the Fraser Lowland cross-border region (CBR) and is set within the wider literature on Borderlands. The course is usually taught in conjunction with the Environmental Studies Department at Western Washington University (WWU), and the class consists of students from both UFV and WWU. Extensive travel in the area of the Fraser Lowland, as well as to WWU, is required. Please refer to department website for field trip scheduling information. This course is often offered in an independent studies format.

PREREQUISITES:

60 credits including four credits of 300/400-level Geography courses.

COREQUISITES:

PRE or COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):

(a) Replaces: GEOG 433 prior to 2007
(b) Cross-listed with:
(c) Cannot take: for further credit.

SERVICE COURSE TO: (department/program)

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 60

STRUCTURE OF HOURS:

Lectures: 25 Hrs
Seminar: 10 Hrs
Laboratory: Hrs
Field experience: 25 Hrs
Student directed learning: Hrs
Other (specify): Hrs

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:

Length of course: 
Hours per day: 

OTHER:

Maximum enrolment: 20
Expected frequency of course offerings: Every winter semester (every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only) Yes No
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department) Yes No
TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE: Yes ☑ No

Course designer(s): Dr. John Belec

Department Head: Dr. Michelle Rhodes Date approved: March 26, 2012
Supporting area consultation (Pre-UEC) Date of meeting: April 13, 2012
Curriculum Committee chair: Tetsuomi Anzai Date approved: April 13, 2012
Dean/Associate VP: Dr Jacqueline Nolte Date approved: April 13, 2012
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval Date of meeting: June 22, 2012
LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
• Identify the major physical and human geographical features of the Fraser Lowland.
• Systematically assess how the Fraser Lowland functions as a unified biophysical region.
• Explain how public policy tools can be used to manage bi-national resources in the Fraser Lowland within an international team setting.
• Situate the cross-border issues of the Fraser Lowland within the wider context of Borderland studies.

METHODS: (Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)
The course combines traditional lecture, at both UFV and WWU, together with extensive field study, seminar, and student presentation. These take place over a condensed 9-week period, as WWU operates on a quarter system. Additional time in weeks 10-14 of the UFV semester is given to completion of assignments and final exam.

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):
☒ Examination(s)
☒ Portfolio assessment
☐ Interview(s)
☐ Other (specify):
☐ PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s):

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:
Textbooks, references, materials continued:


SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

STUDENT EVALUATION:

[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

Group poster/paper 30%
Reading quizzes 15%
Reading and field trip reports 25%
Participation 10%
Final exam 20%

COURSE CONTENT:

[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

1. Introduction to the course: the Fraser Lowland as a geographical region.
2. The physical geography of the Fraser Lowland.
3. The historical geography of the Fraser Lowland.
4. The Fraser Lowland as a cross-border region: key themes in the literature.
5. Cross-border regions in international perspective.
7. International treaties and cross-border regions.
8. Trade, security and smuggling: the post 9/11 border.
10. Comparing the built environment in the Fraser Borderland.
11. The future of the Fraser Borderland.