



COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2010  
 COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED: January 2010  
*(four years after UPAC approval)* *(month, year)*

**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 440	Geography	4
COURSE NAME/NUMBER	FACULTY/DEPARTMENT	UFV CREDITS
Advanced Research Topics in Urban Geography		
COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE		

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides an opportunity for students to study a topic in urban geography at an advanced level of analysis. Potential topics include housing in North America, urban policy and the geography of local governance, transportation in the North American city, sustainable urban development, and demographic change in urban settings. The topic selected by the course instructor will be publicized in the semester prior to the start of the course.

PREREQUISITES: Any one of the following: GEOG 343, 344, 345, 360, or 361, SCMS 325, or instructor's permission.

COREQUISITES:  
 PRE or COREQUISITES:

**SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):**

- (a) Replaces: GEOG 444
- (b) Cross-listed with: \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) Cannot take: \_\_\_\_\_ for further credit.

**SERVICE COURSE TO:** *(department/program)*

**TOTAL HOURS PER TERM:** 60

**STRUCTURE OF HOURS:**

Lectures:	<u>30</u>	Hrs
Seminar:	<u>20</u>	Hrs
Laboratory:	_____	Hrs
Field experience:	<u>10</u>	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 other year  
*(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): <u>John Belec</u>	Date approved: <u>November 19, 2009</u>
Department Head: <u>Ken Brealey</u>	Date of meeting: <u>November 27, 2009</u>
Supporting area consultation (Pre-UPAC)	Date approved: <u>January 2010</u>
Curriculum Committee chair: _____	Date approved: <u>January 2010</u>
Dean/Associate VP: <u>Jacqueline Nolte</u>	Date of meeting: <u>January 29, 2010</u>
Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee (UPAC) approval	

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

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

- explain the substance of the special topic and its place within, and relevance to, the sub-field of urban geography.
- critically apply the geographer's approach to the topic, with particular emphasis on the methods of urban geographic analysis.
- strengthen field and library research techniques in urban geography.
- critically review relevant literature and evaluate its contribution to the larger topical research project.
- demonstrate an understanding of course themes and concepts as part of group discussion and/or through examination.

**METHODS:** *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

GEOG 440 is primarily an advanced lecture, seminar, and research methods course. Students will be expected to read a sizable portion of the course reading list, critically research, assess and summarize material, and present reflections and conclusions in class. Depending on course content, fieldwork will likely be expected.

**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:** *[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example for this course might be:]*

Varies according to special topic. An example of texts used for GEOG 440A: Housing the North American City would be: Homeplace: The Making of the Canadian Dwelling over Three Centuries by Peter Morley Ennals and Deryck William Holdsworth

**SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:**

Geog. 440 will have mandatory field trips with additional fees. Details are available on course outlines distributed in class.

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

Evaluation for this course will vary according to instructor and course subject matter, but will include evaluation of the student's understanding of course materials, field observations, collection of field data, and other research.

Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	30%
Research project/ poster	30%
Research presentation	10%
Participation	10%

**COURSE CONTENT:** *[Course content varies depending on the urban topic selected and the instructor. Some examples are:]*

The following is a sample outline for GEOG 440C: The Geography of Housing in the North American City:

1. Historical context: an overview of shelter in post-colonial North America.
2. Theoretical perspectives on the urban geography of housing: the political economy of housing.
3. Origins of housing as a "commodity": forms of housing consumption.
4. Housing policy (a): the federal role.
5. Housing policy (b): the provincial/state and municipal roles.
6. How do houses get built in North America? The construction sector.
7. Architecture and design: (a) the Arts and Crafts bungalow.
8. Architecture and design: (b) mid-century modern.
9. Meaning and operation of the housing "market".
10. Non-market approaches to housing.
11. Current trends and alternatives in residential design.

The following is a sample outline for a course on Urban Policy:

- Weeks 1-3: An introduction to the study of the selected topic within the context of urban geography; key concepts, theories, and methodologies; current debates in the literature.
- Weeks 4-5: Role of the selected topic in the history and current context of the North American city.
- Weeks 6-7: Urban policy responses to issues related to the selected topic.
- Weeks 8-9: Local applications related to the selected topic – focus on the urban form of the Vancouver urban region, including Abbotsford, Mission, and Chilliwack.
- Weeks 10-12: Additional research perspectives and application of selected topic in the field; urban site visits.
- Week 13: Presentation of term research projects.