



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2010  
 REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2018  
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED: (six years after UEC approval) December 2022  
 Course outline form version: 09/15/14

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

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

|   |  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
|---|--|----|------------------------------|----|------------------|--|------------------------|----|--|--|----------------------------|----|----------------------|--|--------------|-----------|--|
| <b>Course Code and Number:</b> GEOG 440   | <b>Number of Credits:</b> 4 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>   |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Course Full Title:</b> Advanced Research Topics in Urban Geography<br><b>Course Short Title (if title exceeds 30 characters):</b> Adv. Urban Geography   |  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Social Sciences  | <b>Department (or program if no department):</b> GATE  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Calendar Description:</b><br>Advanced research and analysis on a specific topic in urban geography. The topic selected by the course instructor will be publicized in the semester prior to the start of the course.   |  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Prerequisites (or NONE):</b>   | 60 university-level credits, including at least 6 credits in Geography, Anthropology, Business, History, Sociology, or Political Science.  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>   |  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>   |  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Equivalent Courses (cannot be taken for additional credit)</b><br>Former course code/number:<br>Cross-listed with:<br>Equivalent course(s):<br><i>Note: Equivalent course(s) should be included in the calendar description by way of a note that students with credit for the equivalent course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.</i>  | <b>Transfer Credit</b><br>Transfer credit already exists: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No<br>Transfer credit requested (OREg to submit to BCCAT):<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if yes, fill in transfer credit form)<br>Resubmit revised outline for articulation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>To find out how this course transfers, see <a href="http://bctransferguide.ca">bctransferguide.ca</a> . |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Total Hours: 60</b><br><b>Typical structure of instructional hours:</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr><td>Lecture hours</td><td style="text-align: right;">20</td></tr> <tr><td>Seminars/tutorials/workshops</td><td style="text-align: right;">20</td></tr> <tr><td>Laboratory hours</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Field experience hours</td><td style="text-align: right;">10</td></tr> <tr><td>Experiential (practicum, internship, etc.)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Online learning activities</td><td style="text-align: right;">10</td></tr> <tr><td>Other contact hours:</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: right;"><b>Total</b></td><td style="text-align: right;"><b>60</b></td></tr> </table> | Lecture hours  | 20 | Seminars/tutorials/workshops | 20 | Laboratory hours |  | Field experience hours | 10 | Experiential (practicum, internship, etc.) |  | Online learning activities | 10 | Other contact hours: |  | <b>Total</b> | <b>60</b> | <b>Special Topics</b><br>Will the course be offered with different topics?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>If yes, different lettered courses may be taken for credit:<br><input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, repeat(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, no limit<br><i>Note: The specific topic will be recorded when offered.</i><br><b>Maximum enrolment (for information only):</b> 28<br><b>Expected frequency of course offerings (every semester, annually, every other year, etc.):</b> every other year |
| Lecture hours   | 20   |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| Seminars/tutorials/workshops  | 20   |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| Laboratory hours  |  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| Field experience hours  | 10   |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| Experiential (practicum, internship, etc.)  |  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| Online learning activities  | 10   |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| Other contact hours:  |  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>60</b>  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Department / Program Head or Director:</b> Steve Marsh   | <b>Date approved:</b> November 2016  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Faculty Council approval</b>   | <b>Date approved:</b> November 2016  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)</b>   | <b>Date of posting:</b> December 9, 2016   |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Dean/Associate VP:</b> Jacqueline Nolte  | <b>Date approved:</b> November 2016  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |
| <b>Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval</b>   | <b>Date of meeting:</b> December 16, 2017  |    |                              |    |                  |  |                        |    |  |  |                            |    |                      |  |              |           |  |

**Learning Outcomes**

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

- Provide advanced written explanation of the substance of the special topic and its place within, and relevance to, urban geography.
- Critically apply the geographer's approach to the topic, with particular emphasis on the methods of urban geographic analysis.
- Effectively utilize field and library research techniques in urban geography.
- Integrate relevant literature into a major research project,
- Persuasively discuss central course themes and concepts.

**Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)**

Yes     No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because

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

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.

**Grading system:** Letter Grades:  Credit/No Credit:  Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: Yes  No

**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)**

| Author (surname, initials)  | Title (article, book, journal, etc.)  | Current ed.              | Publisher                               | Year |
|---|---|--------------------------|---|------|
| <i>For a section on Canadian Housing or Housing Policy, texts may include</i>                   |   |                          |   |      |
| 1. Ennals, Peter and D. W. Holdsworth   | Homeplace: The making of the Canadian dwelling over three centuries                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | University of Toronto                   | 2011 |
| 2. Pomeroy, S.  | A Time for Action: A National Plan to Address Aboriginal Housing  | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Aboriginal Housing Association | 2009 |
| <i>For a section on Big Box Stores and the Retail Landscape (GEOG 440d), texts may include:</i> |   |                          |   |      |
| 3. EIU  | Retail 2022: How the Economic Intelligence Unit Sees the Retail Landscape Changing over the Next Decade | <input type="checkbox"/> | The Economist                           | 2012 |
| 4. Ruane, J   | Introducing Social Research Methods: Essentials for Getting the Edge                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Wiley                                   | 2016 |
| 5. Parachuri, J, et al  | The Wal-Mart Effect: Wave of Destruction or Creative Destruction?                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Economic Geography</i>               | 2009 |

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

There may be mandatory field trips with additional fees. Details are available on Geography website and the course outlines distributed in class.

**Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting**

|                            |     |                        |     |                           |     |                  |      |
|----------------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|------------------|------|
| Final exam:                | %   | Assignments:           | %   | Midterm exam:             | 20% | Practicum:       | %    |
| Quizzes/tests:             | %   | Lab work:              | %   | Data Collection (Field) : | 15% | Ethics Exercise: | 10%  |
| Research Report or Poster: | 30% | Research Presentation: | 10% | Seminar Discussion:       | 15% | Total:           | 100% |

**Details (if necessary):**

**Typical Course Content and Topics****Sample outline for Geography of Housing:**

- Week 1: Historical context: an overview of shelter in post-colonial North America.  
 Week 2: Theoretical perspectives on the urban geography of housing: the political economy of housing.  
 Week 3: Origins of housing as a "commodity": forms of housing consumption.  
 Week 4: Housing policy (a): the federal role.  
 Week 5: Housing policy (b): the provincial/state and municipal roles.  
 Week 6: Aboriginal Housing Policy  
 Week 7: How do houses get built in North America? The construction sector.  
 Week 8: Architecture and design: (a) the Arts and Crafts bungalow; Architecture and design: (b) mid-century modern.  
 Week 9: Meaning and operation of the housing "market".  
 Week 10: Non-market approaches to housing.  
 Weeks 11-12: Current trends and alternatives in residential design.  
 Weeks 12-13: Presentations

**Sample outline for 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.

Sample outline for **Socio-Spatial Impact of Big Box Stores:**

- Week 1: Course format, expectations, and evaluation; introduction to retail geography as sub-discipline
- Weeks 2-3: Retail landscapes and globalizing forces: evolution, analysis, and change; Literature review—development and techniques
- Weeks 3-4: Mapping the lower mainland's retail geographies; Ethics in urban geography research; developing a question and conducting a research ethics review
- Weeks 5-6: Field work and data analysis in retail geography—methods and outputs; research design
- Weeks 7-8: The Post-2008 Expansion of American retailers (Target, Lowe's, Cabelas, etc.) into the lower mainland; Big Box on-line: Amazon's footprints in retail geographies and small community development (field trip: Sumas, WA).
- Weeks 9-10: The other landscape of retail consumption: the home space as 'big box' (renovations, storage, design); data evaluation (workshop critique)
- Weeks 11-13: Presentation of term projects; Self-evaluation of research process; Communicating one's findings to multiple audiences