OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE (page 1)

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 1996
COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2013
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED: June 2018
(six years after UEC 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 452	Geography	4
COURSE NAME/NUMBER	FACULTY/DEPARTMENT	UFV CREDITS

Advanced Field Methods and Techniques
COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students apply concepts and techniques acquired in previous human and physical geography courses to research problems in the field. Working both in the classroom and in field sites in Southwest B.C., students will define and formulate research questions, collect and analyze appropriate data, and design and write formal research reports on their findings. The course is offered in multiple versions, with each version addressing a specific issue area, e.g. natural hazards risk along the Sea-to-Sky corridor; environmental history and landscape change in the Fraser Valley; etc. Multiple field trips outside of classroom time will be required. Please refer to department website for field trip scheduling information.

PREREQUISITES: GEOG 252; GEOG 250 or GEOG 253; and a minimum of 60 university-level credits.
COREQUISITES:
PRE or COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):
(a) Replaces:
(b) Cross-listed with:
(c) Cannot take: for further credit.

SERVICE COURSE TO: *(department/program)*

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 75

STRUCTURE OF HOURS:

Lectures:	24	Hrs
Seminar:	27	Hrs
Laboratory:		Hrs
Field experience:	24	Hrs
Student directed learning:		Hrs
Other (specify):		Hrs

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:
Length of course:
Hours per day:

OTHER:
Maximum enrolment: 25
Expected frequency of course offerings: Once every 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): **Drs. Olav Lian and Garry Fehr**
Department Head: **Dr. Michelle Rhodes** Date approved: **March 26, 2012**
Supporting area consultation 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:
1. Explain the role of fieldwork and field research in geography, from both scientific and human perspectives, with emphasis on both analysis and synthesis of regional topics.
2. Define and describe a major field research question applicable to the study issue and region selected for a study.
3. Investigate selected field questions in a given study region, evaluate and apply appropriate methodologies, and complete associated field reports.
4. Compose a written and verbal argument for the complementary roles of theoretical and applied geography in the explanation and understanding of contemporary geographical research.

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

This course will use a lecture, seminar and field experience format. Seminars will introduce topics and field problems, review methods and techniques required for investigation and encourage student interaction in problem solving. Field experience will involve students in four supervised field sessions.

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): Course is unique to a particular issue/ area and combination of techniques used.

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS: *[Textbook selection varies by instructor. Examples for this course might be:]*

Haring, I.L., Lounsbury, J.F., and Frazier, J.W., 1992, Introduction to Scientific Geographic Research, 4th edition, Dubuque, IA: Wm. C. Brown.

Northey, M. and Knight, D.B. , 2010, Making Sense in Geography and Environmental Studies: A Student's Guide to Research, Writing and Style, 4th ed. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

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

Sample evaluation, for Natural Hazards Risk along the Sea-to-Sky Highway:

Literature review and research report	40%
Ethics review submission and response	10%
Coded database	5%
Analysis of Data and Report	25%
Final report (integration of literature review and data)	20%

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

Sample outline, for Natural Hazards Risk along the Sea-to-Sky Highway

Unit 1 (weeks 1-4):
Introduction to theme, key concepts and issues
Key techniques in the field
Developing research questions
Introduction to ethics review
Survey data and/ or questionnaire design

Unit 2 (weeks 5-8):
Data collection (conducted during two day-long field trips, and in the laboratory using remote sensing techniques)
Data compilation and preliminary analysis

Unit 3 (weeks 9-14):
Data coding, analysis, and write-up
Presentation and discussion of data