



COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2012
COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED: February 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

Table with 3 columns: COURSE NAME/NUMBER (GEOG 493), FACULTY/DEPARTMENT (Geography), UFV CREDITS (4). Includes COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE: Honours Research Project in Physical Geography/ GIS

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course is devoted to the completion of a Physical Geography Honours project, building on a research completed in a previous semester as part of GEOG 491 or an equivalent third-year internship or fourth-year research-intensive course approved by the department.

PREREQUISITES: Enrolment in the Physical Geography Honours program; GEOG 491 or one of GEOG 400G, GEOG 400J, GEOG 402, GEOG 410, GEOG 417, or GEOG 458; and instructor's permission.

COREQUISITES:
PRE or COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):

- (a) Replaces:
(b) Cross-listed with:
(c) Cannot take: GEOG 492 for further credit.

SERVICE COURSE TO: (department/program)

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 60

STRUCTURE OF HOURS: Table listing Lectures, Seminar, Laboratory, Field experience (20 Hrs), Student directed learning (35 Hrs), Other (specify) consultation with supervisor (5 Hrs).

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:

Length of course:
Hours per day:

OTHER:

Maximum enrolment: 6
Expected frequency of course offerings: On demand
(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): Claire Beaney / Olav Lian

Department Head: Michelle Rhodes

Supporting area consultation (pre-UEC)

Curriculum Committee chair: Norman Taylor

Dean/Associate VP: Ora Steyn

Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval

Date approved: April 8, 2011

Date of meeting: December 2, 2011

Date approved: December 16, 2011

Date approved: January 13, 2012

Date of meeting: February 3, 2012

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

- Demonstrate, in a thesis project and related oral presentation, an advanced (fourth-year or graduate school equivalent) level of geographic interpretation and analysis of findings of research completed in GEOG 491 or equivalent course.
- Engage in sound and effective argumentation that supports the central research hypothesis.
- Clearly identify the limitations of their data, particularly issues of data collection, data error and the importance of appropriate analysis techniques.
- Situate their original research within the broader field of related research, and identify areas for further research.
- Confidently and legitimately present their research in written, oral and visual form appropriate to an academic setting.
- Identify and expand upon the issues and theories in a given geographic subject area, and skills in data collection, commensurate with graduate and/or professional work in geography or a related field.

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

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

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): 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.

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

None

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

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

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

Each research project is tailored to the student's research interests. However, the final project evaluation will be based on the following components (weighting of elements is approximate only):

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| 1. Effective identification and utilization of secondary research materials, as part of a literature review | 30% |
| 2. Effective data collection (if not completed in earlier course), compilation, and original analysis of research materials, as part of the findings section | 35% |
| 3. Overall quality (including proof-reading and formatting) of written and visual (e.g. maps and models) presentation within a thesis format | 10% |
| 4. Formal presentation of research findings before an academic audience | 15% |
| 5. Visual presentation of research findings, as part of a research poster or alternative medium | 10% |

Each student will work directly with a faculty supervisor to identify the timeline for completing any primary data collection, and the presentation of final research compilation. In most cases, data collection will need to be completed during the previous term or over two terms. When this is the case, then research design and evaluation of data collection will take place in both GEOG 491 and GEOG 493.

The final research project mark will be assessed primarily by the student's Honours supervisor in consultation with the second reader (who will be determined by the supervisor and the student).

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

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