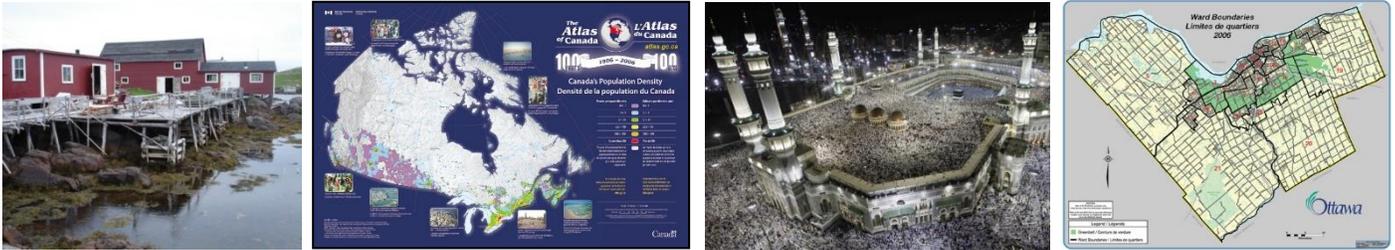


Mapping culture, place and landscape

Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
Carleton University, Winter 2023

(Course topics and schedule subject to change. Last updated August 8, 2022.)



Schedule: Wednesdays, 9:35-11:25 am
Room 615 Southam Hall and via Zoom

Course instructor: Derek Smith, B449 Loeb Building
Email: dereka_smith@carleton.ca
Telephone: (613) 520-2600 x 8131
Office hours by appointment

Calendar description: Selected topic or field of inquiry concerning the geographic dimensions of culture, identity and place.

Prerequisites: GEOG 3021 and fourth-year Honours standing in Geography or permission of the Department.

Course description:

The purpose of this online seminar course is to examine the geographic dimensions of culture, place and landscape. Together we will examine the many connections between culture and social identities (e.g., race, gender) on the one hand, and space, place, landscapes and regions, in both urban and other contexts, and at different scales. As part of this, we will examine how maps can be used to represent these relationships – not merely as tools for communication, but also in terms of the social and political dimensions of mapping that at times further the interests of certain groups over others. We will also explore participatory, activist and artistic “counter” mappings that are employed to empower marginalized communities, recognize local geographic knowledge, and present alternative narratives.

Course objectives and learning outcomes:

- To gain knowledge and ability to apply key concepts in cultural geography;
- To become familiar with the field of critical cartography, and to develop skills in analyzing and “deconstructing” maps;

- To enhance critical thinking, writing, and presentation skills.

Course format

The format of this seminar will be a combination of in person seminar meetings, three online zoom meetings (from March 1 to 15th only), and asynchronous independent work. In person and online class meetings will consist of lectures, class discussions, and small group activities. In between these meetings there will be required readings, short written assignments, and additional asynchronous work. Student participation is an important element of the seminar, and it is very important that you do this work before class so that you are prepared to participate effectively. Lecture slides will be made available on Brightspace *after* each class. You will be notified of any updates or changes to seminar activities by email, so please check your Carleton email regularly.

Brightspace and communications:

The Brightspace site for this course will contain the course outline, lecture slides, assignment instructions, and marks. If needed, for support, go to <http://carleton.ca/students>. Technical questions can be directed to Computing and Communication Services at 613-520-3700 or at ccs_service_desk@carleton.ca.

Announcements will be communicated by email. The best way to reach me is to send an email, and I would be very pleased to meet you in person in my office, via Zoom, or by telephone – by appointment. Whenever possible, I will return email inquiries within 24-36 hours (but note that I will not respond over the weekend). Please use your Carleton email account for all course-related correspondence, and place “GEOG 4021” in the subject heading.

Required readings:

The required readings for the course will be selected from a range of books and journals and represent a broad array of theoretical debate, concepts, issues, and case studies. All readings will be made available through the Brightspace learning platform (look under the “Tools” menu, and select “ARES Reserves”), or directly from a website link sent my email and/or provided in the lecture slides. Some of the readings have been determined, and others will be assigned as the term progresses, but always with a minimum of one week advance notice. In addition to the required readings, students will also be responsible for seeking additional materials for their assignments.

For students who wish to review introductory material in cultural geography or examine concepts in more depth, the following book is useful. Physical copies of both books are available in the library reserves.

Atkinson, David, editor (2005) *Cultural Geography: A Critical Dictionary of Key Concepts*. New York: I.B. Tauris.

For an overview of the fundamentals of map design, the following is a useful guide:

Slocum, Terry A. (2009) *Thematic Cartography and Geovisualization*. Prentice Hall series in geographic information science. Pearson Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ. (*Full text available through the library, at Hathi Trust*)

For additional library research on the topics addressed in class or in your assignments, the following library subject guide is a useful place to begin: <http://www.library.carleton.ca/research/subject-guides/geography>.

Evaluation (subject to change)

Percent

Short written assignments (5 in total)	40
Class participation	20
Student presentation	10
Final term project	30

Please submit all assignments using Brightspace, and in addition, please submit a hard copy of your assignment at the beginning of class on the day that it is due, unless otherwise instructed. Assignments will be graded on a scale from A+ to F. The evaluation will take into account the content in relation to the purpose of the assignment, as well as the quality of written expression and overall presentation. Whenever possible, assignments will be returned to you with feedback one week after they are submitted. Please include a title, your name and student number, the course number and instructor's name, and the date on all of your written assignments at the top of the first page.

The short written assignments include commentaries on specific readings, one or more "take-home essays," an independent project proposal. More details will be provided during seminar meetings and in separate documents that will be provided.

Given that writing is a critical component of this course, I strongly encourage all students to take advantage of the free one-on-one writing consultations provided by the university (see: <https://carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>). In addition, the following is a very useful Canadian writing guide available through the library. Ebooks and used copies are easy to find for under \$10.

Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada. 1997. *The Canadian Style: A Guide to Writing and Editing*. Toronto, Ontario: Dundurn Press in co-operation with Public Works and Government Services Canada Translation Bureau.

Late policy

Late assignments will be subject to a deduction of 10% per calendar day and will not be accepted after 7 days. If you have a medical issue or there are extenuating circumstances, please contact the course instructor as soon as possible well before the deadline to discuss the situation.

Course topics and schedule (subject to change):

Week 1 (January 11) - Introduction to the course / Culture and geography

No required reading

Week 2 (January 18) – Culture and geography (continued)

Required reading:

Jones, Rhys (2019) Place and identity: Wales, 'Welshness' and the Welsh language. *Geography*, 104(1): 19-27.

Week 3 (January 25) – What is a map? / Critical cartography / Map design

Required reading:

Tyner, Judith (2018) Persuasive map design. In, *The Routledge Handbook of Mapping and Cartography*, Alexander J. Kent and Peter Vujakovic, editors, Chapter 32, pp. 439-449. Routledge.

Swords, Jon, Mike Jeffries, Holly East and Sebastian Messer (2019) Mapping the city: Participatory mapping with young people. *Geography*, 104(3): 141-147. ** Note – you are only required to read the section “Brief history of understanding maps” (pp. 142-143).

Week 4 (February 1) - Cultural regions

Required reading:

Hogue, Michel (2017) The Métis homeland. *Canadian Geographic*, November/December, pp. 54-62.

** Written commentary on “The Métis homeland” due at the beginning of class.

Week 5 (February 8) - Cultural landscapes

Required readings:

Prosper, Lisa (2007) Wherein lies the heritage value? Rethinking the heritage value of cultural landscapes from an Aboriginal perspective. *The George Wright Forum* 24(2): 117-124. Available online at: www.georgewright.org/242prosper.pdf.

Nagata, Akira and Bixia Chen (2013) Urbanites help sustain Japan’s historic rice paddy terraces. *Development & Society*, May 22, 2013. Available at: <https://ourworld.unu.edu/en/the-people-who-sustain-japans-historic-terraced-rice-fields>.

** Final project proposal due at the beginning of class.

Week 6 (February 15) - People and nature

Required readings:

Ekers, Michael (2018) The social construction of nature. In *Companion to Environmental Studies*, N. Castree, M. Hulme and J. D. Proctor, editors, pp. 243-248. London/New York: Routledge.

Clayoquot Sound Trust (2019) What is a UNESCO biosphere region? Website available at: <https://clayoquotbiosphere.org/our-biosphere-reserve/overview>. Please pay particular attention to the map of the biosphere reserve and watch the embedded video “Canada’s Biosphere Reserves” produced by the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association and the University of Saskatchewan (1 minute, 55 seconds).

** Take-home essay on the theme of “cultural landscapes” due at beginning of class.

February 22 – Winter break, no class

Week 7 (March 1) *VIA ZOOM* – Place / Sense of place / Toponyms

Required readings:

Cresswell, T. (2009) Place. In *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography*, edited by Rob Kitchin and Nigel Thrift, pp. 169-177. Amsterdam, The Netherlands: Elsevier.

Cogos, Sarah, Marie Roué, and Samuel Roturier (2017) Sami place names and maps: Transmitting knowledge of a cultural landscape in contemporary contexts. *Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research*, 49(1): pp.43-51.

** Written commentary on “Sami place names” reading is due at the beginning of class.

Week 8 (March 8) *VIA ZOOM*- Geographies of identity

Required reading:

Christie, Maria Elisa (2006) Kitchenspace: Gendered territory in central Mexico. *Gender, Place & Culture* 13(6): 653-661.

Burgesson, Alfred and Grant Ruffinengo (2020) What is environmental racism? Talking with Nova Scotia's Ingrid Waldron. *The Chronical Herald*, February 26, 2020. Available at: <https://www.thechronicleherald.ca/salt/what-is-environmental-racism-talking-with-nova-scotias-ingrid-waldron-416132/>

Week 9 (March 15) *VIA ZOOM*- Indigenous geographies / Local geographic knowledge

Required reading:

Smith, Derek A., Peter H. Herlihy, Aida Ramos Viera, John H. Kelly, Andrew M. Hilburn, Miguel Aguilar Robledo, and Jerome E. Dobson, 2012. Using Participatory Research Mapping and GIS to Explore Local Geographic Knowledge of Indigenous Landscapes in Mexico. *FOCUS on Geography* 55(4): 119-124.

**** Take home essay on the theme of "geographies of identity" due at the beginning of class.**

Week 10 (March 22) - Urban spaces

Required readings:

Bridge, Gary and Sophie Watson (2011). Reflections on division and difference. In *The New Blackwell Companion to the City*, edited by G. Bridge and S. Watson, pp. 501-510. Wiley-Blackwell.

Francis, Robert A. (2018) Urban ecology. In *Companion to Environmental Studies*, N. Castree, M. Hulme and J. D. Proctor, editors, pp. 471-476. London/New York: Routledge.

Week 11 (March 29) - Final project presentations

Week 12 (April 5) - To be determined

**** Final projects due at the beginning of class**

More details will be provided as we go through the term, as a way to assign readings that take into account student interests. You will receive email notifications when updated schedule details become available in a revised course outline.

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own." This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;

- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course. The Academic Integrity Policy can be accessed at <http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity>.

Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Department of Equity Services website: <http://www.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Department of Equity Services website: <http://www.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). **Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.** After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website (www.carleton.ca/pmc) for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

You can visit the Department of Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www.carleton.ca/equity/>.