Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
GEOG 6001: Doctoral Core Seminar – Geography, Society and the Environment
Research and Professional Practice
Course Syllabus / Winter Term 2020

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Seminar: Thursdays, 2:35 pm – 5:25 pm, January 9 – April 2, 2020
Location: Loeb A220

GEOG 6001 [0.5 credit] – Doctoral Core Seminar – Research and Professional Practice

Calendar description: Geographical perspectives on the development of society/environment interrelations in Western thought and critiques thereof. The course is designed to represent and address integrative issues in the two fields of the program, the geography of social change and the geography of environmental change.

Format: Seminar, three hours per week.

Core Objectives

- To situate geographical research interests and perspectives within a broader intellectual context, both philosophically and methodologically;

- To develop an area of inquiry and begin to conceptualize dissertation research;

- To foster an environment of collegiality, mutual respect and appreciation for the intellectual benefits of exploring a broad range of interests and perspectives related to the geography of social change, the geography of environmental change, and their inter-relations;

- To develop a community of scholars with an appreciation of the challenges and rewards of doctoral-level research.

- To explore various aspects of professional practice (engaged scholarship, applied research, career trajectories, among others).
Class Schedules
(topics tentative, subject to change)
1. On becoming a geographer (January 9)
2. On geography in the Anthropocene (January 16)
3. On reconciliation and decolonizing the academy (January 23)
4. On publishing (January 30)
5. On developing a teaching philosophy (February 6)
6. On drafting a thesis proposal (February 13)
---------- February 20 (no class, Winter Break February 17-21)
7. On engaged scholarship (February 27)
8. On lay dissemination and research impact (March 5)
9. On academic and non-academic careers (March 12)
10. One-on-one meetings (March 19)
11. On confrontational conversations (March 26)
12. Major project presentations (April 2)

Readings

Required readings are detailed in the Course Outline. Some readings will be available through MacOdrum Library (either as electronic holdings or on reserve); other readings with public URLs will be available online.

The following text can be purchased online or accessed on reserve at MacOdrum Library:

Distribution of Grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation:</th>
<th>Value:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1: Reading Discussant</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2: Reading Discussant</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major Project:</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design Spine (10%)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation (10%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Submission (20%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
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Your confidential grades will be sent by e-mail as soon as they are available. Please notify your professor of any omissions and/or inaccuracies. Detailed guidelines for each assignment and project will be available through cuLearn.

Assignments will generally be issued and received online, through cuLearn. Late assignments will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a doctor’s note. Otherwise, if you are late for a due date, hand the assignment as soon as you are able for small penalty (it is still well worth your while to complete the course work).

Work submitted must be in your own words. Any reference to the work of others should be carefully acknowledged with full credit given to the source.

**Participation**

Representing 30% of your total grade, your participation will be evaluated in equal measure as follows:

- **Attendance** (a simple tally of the number of classes attended); multiplied by,
- **Participation** (a qualitative assessment of your contribution to class).

NB In a graduate-level, seminar setting, it is imperative that students complete the assigned readings prior to class; attend all classes; engage positively and respectfully in class discussions and group work; raise questions; complete voluntary activities when requested; bring in relevant materials to share with peers; and maintain their personal integrity and academic honesty throughout.

**Deferred Assignments**

Only official deferrals petitioned through the Office of the Registrar will be honored. Students who are unable to complete an assignment or final project because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, may apply within five working days to the Registrarial Services Office for permission to extend a deadline. Permission can be granted only if the request is fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documents.

**Grades**

In accordance with the Carleton University Calendar, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

- A+ = 90-100
- A  = 85-89
- A - = 80-84
- B+ = 77-79
- B  = 73-76
- B - = 70-72
- C+ = 67-69
- C  = 63-66
- C - = 60-62
- D+ = 56-59
- D  = 53-56
- D - = 50-52
- F   = Below 50
WDN = Withdrawn from the course
ABS = Student absent from final exam
DEF = Deferred
FND = Failed, no Deferred

(Student could not pass the course even with 100% on final exam)

Final grades are subject to the Chair’s and Dean’s approval.

**Requests for Academic Accommodations**

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

**Pregnancy obligation**
Please contact your instructor 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 and Inclusive Communities: [https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf) or the homepage of the Department: [https://carleton.ca/equity/](https://carleton.ca/equity/)

**Religious obligation**
Please contact your instructor 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 and Inclusive Communities: [https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf) or the homepage of the Department: [https://carleton.ca/equity/](https://carleton.ca/equity/)

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. [carleton.ca/pmc](http://carleton.ca/pmc)

**Survivors of Sexual Violence**
As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](http://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

**Accommodation for Student Activities**
Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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. [https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf](https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf)

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](http://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)

### Academic Standing and Conduct

Students must familiarize themselves with the regulations concerning academic standing and conduct in the 2019/2020 Carleton University Graduate Calendar. This document can be accessed online at: [http://calendar.carleton.ca/grad/](http://calendar.carleton.ca/grad/)

### Retain Copies of Work Submitted

Students are strongly advised to retain a hard copy (and electronic backup) of all assignments and final projects in the event of loss for whatever reason.

### University Regulations Regarding Cheating and Plagiarism

University regulations stipulate that allegations of plagiarism, cheating or any violations of examination conduct rules will be thoroughly reviewed. Each case must be reported to the Dean, who investigates each allegation. If there is no resolution following this investigation at the Dean’s level, a tribunal will be appointed by the Senate to review the case and make a final decision.

(Nota on Plagiarism):
Webster’s Dictionary defines plagiarism as stealing. *Plagiarism is the submission of someone else’s writing/ideas/work as your own.* All ideas presented which are not your own must be properly referenced. While forms of plagiarism may vary, each involves verbatim or near verbatim presentation of the writings or ideas of others’ as one’s own without adequately acknowledging the original source. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to): copying from a book, article or another student; downloading material or ideas from the Internet; or otherwise submitting someone else’s work or ideas as your own.