Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
GEOG 6001: Doctoral Core Seminar – Geography, Society and the Environment
Research and Professional Practice
Course Syllabus / Winter Term 2018

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Seminar: Mondays, 11:35 am – 2:25 pm, January 8 – April 11
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 8)
2. On geography in the Anthropocene (January 15)
3. On publishing (January 22)
4. On developing a teaching philosophy (January 29)
5. On drafting a thesis proposal (February 5)
6. On engaged scholarship (February 12)
   6.1  February 19 (no class, Winter Break)
7. On lay dissemination and research impact (February 26)
8. On non-academic careers (March 5)
9. On reconciliation and decolonizing the academy (March 12)
10. One-on-one meetings (March 19)
11. On confrontational conversations (March 26)
   11.1  April 2 (no class, Easter Monday)
12. Major project presentations (April 9)

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>
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<tr>
<td>Design Spine (10%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation (10%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Submission (20%)</td>
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<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
- F   = Below 50
- 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
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:** 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 Equity Services website: [http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

**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 Equity Services website: [http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

**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](mailto: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)*. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam *(if applicable)*.

Academic Standing and Conduct

Students must familiarize themselves with the regulations concerning academic standing and conduct in the 2017/2018 Carleton University Graduate Calendar. This document can be accessed online at: [http://calendar.carleton.ca/grad/](http://calendar.carleton.ca/grad/)

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.
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.

(Note 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.