



COURSE OUTLINE
GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH DESIGN AND PRACTICE

Instruction: Dr. Chris Bone
Lecture: Tuesdays 4:30 – 7:30pm, DTB B215
Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:00pm – 4:00pm
Office Location: DTB A237
Contact: chrisbone@uvic.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to equip graduate students with essential skills for effective research and professional development. The course covers a variety of topics including structuring and contextualizing a graduate research project, developing effective research communication, and building strategic presentation skills. Students will learn how to propose viable research projects, develop comprehensive work plans, and create impactful professional portfolios. Key activities include a visit from senior graduate students who will share their experiences, as well as workshops on designing meaningful Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) statements, understanding research etiquette and protocols, and utilizing research tools. The course will foster collaborative discussions and provide opportunities to exchange insights and strategies for moving forward in one's academic program. The course will culminate in a student-led conference, allowing students to present their research findings and engage with peers.

KEY THEMES: Research question definition; research proposal writing; research ethics; professional development.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- **Research Proposal and Planning:** Develop a comprehensive research project description and work plan that includes clearly defined objectives, methodologies, and timelines for successful project execution.
- **Professional Communication Skills:** Demonstrate effective storytelling and presentation skills by preparing and delivering impactful presentations that communicate research findings and engage a broad audience.
- **Research Ethics and Protocols:** Understand fundamental research ethics and protocols, ensuring responsible conduct in research practices, data management, and collaboration within the academic community.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

WEEK	DATE	
1	January 7	Research & Storytelling
2	January 14	Presenting Your Research
3	January 21	Proposing Your Research
4	January 28	Creating a Work Plan
5	February 4	Senior Graduate Student Visit
6	February 11	Building a Professional Portfolio
7	February 18	Reading Break – No lecture
8	February 25	Sharing Research Tools
9	March 4	Designing Meaningful EDI Statements
10	March 11	Research Etiquette and Protocols
11	March 18	Moving Forward with Your Program (split class)
12	March 25	Course Wrap-up
13	April 1	Student-led Conference

***Last day for adding courses: January 22nd for courses that begin in the second term.**

***Last day for dropping courses without penalty of failure: February 28th second-term courses.**

DELIVERABLES

1. Research Presentation V1	Monday, January 20 at 11:59pm	5%
2. Research Summary V1	Monday, January 27 at 11:59pm	5%
3. Work Plan V1	Monday, February 3 at 11:59pm	5%
4. Professional Portfolio	Monday, February 17 at 11:59pm	10%
5. Research Tools Presentation	Monday, February 24 at 11:59pm	10%
6. EDI Statement	Monday, March 10 at 11:59pm	10%
7. Presentation V2	Monday, March 17 at 11:59pm	10%
8. Research Summary V2	Monday, March 24 at 11:59pm	15%
9. Work Plan V2	Monday, March 24 at 11:59pm	15%
10. Final Presentation and Conference Day Participation	TBD	15%

GRADING SYSTEM

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
A+	9	90-100%	Exceptional, outstanding and excellent performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
A	8	85-89%	
A-	7	80-84%	
B+	6	77-79%	Very good, good and solid performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
B	5	73-76%	
B-	4	70-72%	
C+	3	65-69%	Satisfactory , or minimally satisfactory . These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
C	2	60-64%	
D	1	50-59%	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
F	0	0-49%	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	0-49%	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO

- Geography Department website: uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/
- Geography Department Chair: geogchair@uvic.ca

BRIGHTSPACE

Please visit the course site on Brightspace for information on course readings, assignments, and announcements.

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will not be accepted without consultation and approval from the instructor.

POLICY ON ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend lecture each week. Contact the instructor if you are not able to attend for extenuating circumstances.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is every student's responsibility to be aware of the university's policies on academic integrity, including policies on **cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized use of an editor, multiple submission, and aiding others to cheat.**

Policy on Academic Integrity: web.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html

If you have any questions or doubts, talk to me, your course instructor. For more information, see uvic.ca/learningandteaching/cac/index.php.

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a documented disability or health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) as soon as possible (uvic.ca/services/cal/). The CAL staff is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals, and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

POSITIVITY AND SAFETY

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AT UVIC

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR; Sedgewick C119

Phone: 250.721.8021

Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca

Web: uvic.ca/svp

COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEY (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed online and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

NOTE:

A note to remind you to take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone.

Counselling Services - Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students. uvic.ca/services/counselling/

Health Services - University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives. uvic.ca/services/health/

Centre for Accessible Learning - The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations uvic.ca/services/cal/. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Elders' Voices - The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.
uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/index.php

We acknowledge and respect the lək'wəḡən peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.