



# Geog 211

## Political and Economic Geography

**University of Victoria**

**Geography 211 A01**

January to April 2019

Course number: CRN 21625

**Instructor: Dr. Bernard Henin**

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Telephone: 250.721.3275

Lab sections: B01 21626; B02 21627; B03 21628; B04 21629

Labs: in DTB B307

B01 – T 2:30pm - 4:20pm

B02 – W 10:30am - 12:20pm

B03 – W 2:30pm - 4:20pm

B04 – F 12:30-2:20pm

Lectures in DTB A104:

Monday and Thursday

11:30am to 12:50pm

Office hours: Monday & Thursday 1:15pm to 2:00pm + appointment by Email

Course web page: CourseSpaces

### **Course description and objectives**

In this course, we explore the important interconnections between politics, economics and geography. One objective is to develop a critical understanding of how economic forces interact with the physical and human landscape in the context of the political environment. Economic activities—in agriculture, resource extraction, manufacturing and services—shape the development levels of nations and to a large extent underline the potential for human development. We investigate local, regional and global aspects of economic development from a theoretical and empirical perspective. We point to the specific economic processes at work in both developed and developing countries. We analyze the factors leading to gaps in development between countries and regions including the role of multinational corporations, government policy and financial institutions. We give special attention to Canada's economic geography.

A second objective is to explore key concepts of political geography in order to understand the broad political processes that are currently occurring globally. In particular we examine the phenomena of nationalism, regionalism, internationalism, geopolitics, ideology, conflict over land and resources, terrorism, refugee flows and democratization.

## Course structure

The course has three components: lectures, laboratory exercises, and research. Each of these components is meant to provide further understanding of economic geography.

### Tests

There will be one midterm on the material covered in lectures. Each examination will be on a specific number of topics. A final exam will be held in the exam period on the topics not covered in the midterm. See [timetable](#) below for dates and times of lectures, exam, and paper due.

### Laboratory exercises

There will be six laboratory exercises. They are described in the lab manual for the course, which will be made available to you at the beginning of the first lab. These exercises are designed to help you understand the material of the course more in depth. The assignments are to be submitted on the date specified by your lab instructor. Make sure that you are registered in a lab section.

### Research paper

You will write a research paper on an issue related to the contents of the course. This assignment will be explained in the first lab session.

## Student performance evaluation

1 midterm	18%
Lab exercises	30%
Research paper	20%
Final exam	32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

*Important Note: Students who miss a scheduled examination will be asked to produce a doctor's certificate or equivalent.*

## Policies on attending labs and tests

Your TA will establish attendance and late policies for labs. Contact your lab instructor at least four days before a midterm if you must miss (for legitimate, documented reason). There will be zero tolerance for missing the final exam.

## Textbook and course materials

Coe, Neil M., Philip F. Kelly, and Henry W.C. Yeung . 2013. *Economic Geography: A Contemporary Introduction*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn. Wiley.

Flint, Colin and Peter J. Taylor. 2018. *Political Geography: World Economy, Nation-State and Locality*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. Routledge.

Additional readings, including websites, are assigned to each topic. These will be listed in the topic outlines available on the Moodle shell for the course.

A number of videos will be shown in class to illustrate the course material and stimulate discussions in class.

## Class schedule

Week	Date (Mon)		Date (Thu)	
1	Jan 7	<b>Economic geography</b> Topic 1	Jan 10	Topic 1
2	Jan 14	Topic 2	Jan 17	Topic 3
3	Jan 21	Topic 3	Jan 25	Topic 4
4	Jan 28	Topic 4	Jan 31	Topic 5
5	Feb 4	<b>Midterm (Topic 1, 2, 3, 4) – 18%</b>	Feb 7	Topic 5
6	Feb 11	Topic 6	Feb 14	Topic 6
7	Feb 18	<b>Reading break</b>	Feb 21	<b>Reading break</b>
8	Feb 25	Topic 6	Feb 28	Topic 7
9	Mar 4	Topic 8	Mar 7	Topic 9
10	Mar 11	<b>Political geography</b> Topic 10	Mar 14	Topic 10
11	Mar 18	Topic 10 / Topic 11	Mar 21	Topic 11
12	Mar 25	Topic 11	Mar 28	Topic 12
13	Apr 1	Topic 12	Apr 4	Topic 12
<b>Paper due Thursday, April 5 (1:00pm) (20%)</b>				
<b>FINAL EXAM (32%) — Topic 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 — Scheduled in the examination period.</b>				

## Course syllabus

Topic 1. Introduction to economic geography

Topic 2. Approaches to economic geography

Topic 3. The capitalist economy: concepts, actors and processes

Topic 4. The industrialization process: world-system, industrialization strategies and geopolitics

Topic 5. The post-industrial economy: Deindustrialization, new industrial spaces and service centres

Topic 6. Internationalization of manufacturing and services: foreign investment, commodity chains, global retail, tourism and international finance

Topic 7. Agriculture: from traditional systems to global food markets

Topic 8. Canada's economic geography

Topic 9. Alternative economies

Topic 10: Political geography: States, nations, boundaries, international organizations

Topic 11: Political geography: Geopolitics, conflict over land and resources, political ecology

Topic 12: Political geography: Terrorism, refugee flows, democracy

## Lab schedule

Lab exercises are scheduled for every other week, starting on the second week of the term. The lab sessions are scheduled according to lab section:

<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Room</i>
Tuesday	14:30 – 16:20	DTB B307
Wednesday	10:30 – 12:20	DTB B307
Wednesday	14:30 – 16:20	DTB B307
Friday	12:30 – 14:20	DTB B307

## Performance report

The instructor will provide students with an updated report on their performance on a regular basis. Students are advised to consult the instructor before the last withdrawal day to ensure all available options have been reviewed.

## Grading system

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
<b>A+</b> <b>A</b> <b>A-</b>	9 8 7	90-100% 85-89% 80-84%	<b>Exceptional, outstanding and excellent</b> 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.
<b>B+</b> <b>B</b> <b>B-</b>	6 5 4	77-79% 73-76% 70-72%	<b>Very good, good and solid</b> 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>C+</b> <b>C</b>	3 2	65-69% 60-64%	<b>Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory.</b> These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
<b>D</b>	1	50-59%	<b>Marginal</b> Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
<b>F</b>	0	0-49%	<b>Unsatisfactory</b> performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
<b>N</b>	0	0-49%	<b>Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.</b>

## 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:

<http://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

[http://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/students/resources/expectations/.](http://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/students/resources/expectations/)

Plagiarism in writing term papers will not be tolerated. Plagiarism detection software will be used in case of doubt.

## **Disclaimer**

The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

## **Accessibility**

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a documented disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning as soon as possible. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations <http://www.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.

## **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.

## **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 via MyPage 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.

## **Geography Department information**

Geography Department website: <http://geog.uvic.ca>

GEOGPLAN degree planning guide:

Select in menu: Undergraduate / Advising / Plan your Geography Degree

Or click on:

<http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/undergraduate/advising/Plan%20Your%20Geography%20Degree/index.php>

Undergraduate Advising: contact main office (SSM B203) at [geoginfo@uvic.ca](mailto:geoginfo@uvic.ca) or 250.721.7327