



**Geography 274**  
(crn 21662)  
**Introduction to Biogeography**

Spring Term 2023  
Instructor: L. Kadonaga

**Territory Acknowledgment:**

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

**Calendar Summary and Key Themes:**

Examines the relationships among organisms - principally plants and animals - and their environment, emphasizing their distributions across a range of spatial and temporal scales. Examines basic ecological and evolutionary concepts affecting biogeographic processes of dispersal, speciation and extinction; how patterns of biodiversity change over space and time from early earth history to the contemporary environment; the nature of changing biotic distributions with increasing human impacts and global change.

**Lectures:** Mondays and Thursdays 11:30 am – 12:50 pm; Clearihue A224

**Labs:** One 110-min lab per week—please stick to the section you’re registered in

**All labs will be held in DTB B307, unless otherwise stated.**

<b>Section Times</b>	<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Office Hrs</b>
Tues 12:30-2:20	G. (Jill) Krezoski	Th 2:30-4pm (DTB B302)
Wed 08:30-10:20	Sharon Kay	Weds 11-12 (DTB B206)
Fri 08:30-10:20	Alison Gladwell	Tues 3-4 (DTB B206)
Fri 10:30-12:20	G. (Jill) Krezoski	Th 2:30-4pm (DTB B302)

**Website:**

Course materials and notices are found on the Geography 274 site on Brightspace, UVic’s learning management system. Please check regularly for updates.

**Required texts:**

There is no required textbook for this course, but there will be assigned readings from online sources like academic journals, government reports and other periodicals, and media coverage. Videos and podcasts will also be incorporated.

**Course Instructor:**

Dr. Lisa Kadonaga, 250-588-2382 (LisaKGeography@gmail.com); Office DTB B214  
(If you need to reach me, the phone is the best bet.)

Bio: Lisa grew up in Ontario, and after degrees at McMaster and Guelph, completed her PhD here at the University of Victoria. Her research interests include global environmental change, natural hazards, agricultural biodiversity, foodways in human culture, and environmental perception in art and literature. She has published research papers in physical and cultural geography, and contributed chapters to the Popular Culture and Philosophy book series. Earlier she worked in wildlife rehabilitation at the University of Guelph's Wild Bird Clinic, helped establish an Afghanistan community seed bank, and was one of the founders of UVic's original Campus Community Garden. She is also an executive producer with Doggie Dream Productions, a Los Angeles-based film/TV production company.

### **Office Hours:**

On Zoom Wednesdays 1-5 pm

### **Lisa's Zoom Meeting Room (for office hours):**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uvic.zoom.us/j/2034867065?pwd=RGs4bW9JSW5jb1RObIVQRGl1NzhYQT09>

Meeting ID: 203 486 7065

Password: 403564

One tap mobile

+17789072071,,2034867065# Canada

+16475580588,,2034867065# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 203 486 7065

Password: 403564

Find your local number: <https://uvic.zoom.us/u/a9cHGLKYw>

### **Covid Safety:**

Following common sense and UVic policy: if you are feeling unwell, please stay home. Current research suggests that most people are still infectious 5 days after the onset of symptoms – a quarter are still infectious at the 7-day point, so a 10-day self-isolation window is even better unless your tests show you're clear. When home testing, remember to swab the back of your throat before your nostrils (the variants aren't as obvious in the nasal passages).

If I test positive, I will be lecturing in our course timeslot on Zoom, for 7 days or until the day after I test negative, whichever is longer.

***Epidemiological forecasts suggest that a new covid variant could create a new wave this spring. I don't think it's likely that we'd return to online instruction, but if there are any development, I'll make an announcement on Brightspace***

The pandemic is not yet over, and it's reasonable for people to be concerned about viral exposure to virus variants. I have tried to allow for this in the course.

Masks are encouraged. Although UVic has been working on upgrading ventilation, I have not been given any info on the possibility of virus transmission, especially with the appearance of Omicron and other variants.

Lectures will be held face-to-face, but we may also be having a few guest speakers, and depending on comfort level and location in the world, they might opt to have a Zoom talk rather than on campus. This will be announced in advance.

UVic's Audio Visual services promised that it will be possible to record lectures in the classroom and make them available for viewing on Brightspace outside of class hours. I haven't used this yet in our assigned room so I don't know how things will go – in the past, Echo360 has failed mid-lecture so I may end up having to do a Zoom recording later. I likely will not be spending a lot of time in the department. This is why I have given out my cell number.

### **Evaluation:**

Because of the uncertainty about what will happen this spring with the covid variants, my preliminary plan is to go with either an online or take-home final exam.

LABS: 30% of grade  
Assignment #1 (Centres of Origin): 10% of grade – Jan 27  
Assignment #2 (Deep Dive): 10% of grade – Feb 3  
Assignment #3 (Ask an AI): 10% of grade – Feb 17  
EXAM: 40% of grade – date TBA

**TOTAL: 100%**

Note that Assignments 1-3 have been scheduled earlier in the term before most of the labs have to be handed in, to avoid having multiple things due for this course at the same time. The assignments are intended to be short (one or two pages) and help reinforce things we're covering in the lectures. They can be submitted to the Brightspace drop box up until one minute before midnight on the due date. (If I set it for 12:00 AM, there have been several situations where people have assumed it's due at noon on the following day.)

### **Policy on Late Work:**

If you know early in the term that your internet is shaky or you'll have family commitments or you're taking another course that's going to make massive demands on your time, you're going to have to plan accordingly. **Everyone in the class will be allowed to extend the due dates on TWO assignments (not including the labs) with no penalty, for a maximum of FIVE days each, no questions asked. You do not have to ask for permission to use an extension. It's up to you to decide when you're going to use your two extensions, but you also have to stay on top of them. Beyond that, if students hand in late assignments, they won't count for your course grade.** In an ongoing counseling situation or medical emergency, I'm willing to discuss strategies with caregivers and the university administration, but that's an obvious exception, and there are official procedures for it.

I have spoken with the Counseling staff and they agree that two extensions should cover the vast majority of circumstances. With time limited for all your instructors, we're not going to be able

to chase people for missing work, or keep track of who's already used their extensions -- multiply that by the entire class, and you see how complicated that could get.

**Attendance Policy:** See Covid Safety section above.

**PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE (ADAPTED FROM LAB MANUAL)**

--lecture topics will be announced early in the term

Week	Dates	Labs*	Class Assignments
1	Jan 9-13	No Labs	
2	Jan 16-20	No Labs	
3	Jan 23-27	Lab #1: Environmental Controls on Biogeography (5%)	A1: Centres of Origin (Jan 27)
4	Jan 30-Feb 3	Lab #2: Soils and Surveying* (7%)	A2: Deep Dive (Feb 3)
5	Feb 6-10	Work Week, <b>Lab #1 due</b> Sun (Feb 12) before 5pm	
6	Feb 13-17	Lab #3: Pollen (5%)	A3: Ask an AI (Feb 17)
7	Feb 20-24	No Labs – Reading Break	
8	Feb 27-Mar 3	Lab #4a: Invasive Species (3%), <b>Lab #2 due</b> Sun (Mar 5) before 5pm	
9	<u>Thurs Mar 9</u>	Lab #4b: Invasive Species – Ivy Pull (Greater Victoria Green Team)* (3%), 3 time slots: 10-11:20, 1-2:20, 2:30-3:50 – sign up on Brightspace, <b>Lab #3 due</b> Sun (Mar 12) before 5pm	
10	Mar 13-17	Lab #5: Species Report (7%), <b>Lab #4 due</b> Sunday (Mar 19) before 5pm	
11	Mar 20-24	Work Week – TA present	
12	Mar 27-31	No Labs, contact your TA via email, office hours or appt.	
13	Apr 5-7	No Labs, <b>Lab #5 due</b> Sunday Apr 2 before 5pm.	

\*Denotes outdoor lab, dress for the weather. Bring gloves for the ivy pull.

Work weeks are open-lab work periods (essentially office hours). Attendance will not be taken.

**DISCLAIMER**

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

## DEPARTMENT POLICY ON GRADE EXPECTATIONS

The performance expectations for a given letter grade should be consistent with the level of the course (100, 200, 300, 400). The higher the course level, the more should be expected when assigning a letter grade.

First class letter grades (**A-**, **A**, **A+**) are assigned for performance above expectations, *i.e.*, demonstrating a thorough understanding of most, or all, aspects of course material.

Letter grades of **B-**, **B**, and **B+** are assigned for performance that is about as expected, *i.e.*, demonstrating a good understanding of the key, but not all, aspects of the course material.

A passing grade of **D**, **C**, or **C+** is assigned for performance that is marginally acceptable.

A **failing grade** is assigned for unacceptable performance. Performance is unacceptable if the student does not display an understanding of at least the essentials of the course material. It is expected that the rate of course failure will be higher in lower level courses than in higher level courses.

The expected average grade for courses in the Geography Department will typically be in the range of B- to B+, depending upon course level. It is expected that not more than 25% of students will receive a grade in the range of A- to A+.

### The grading scale (which percentages equal which letter grade)

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
90-100%	85-89%	80-84%	77-79%	73-76%	70-72%	65-69%	60-64%	50-59%	49% or Less

\* An 'N' grade is given when a student has missed one or more components of a course and does not reach a passing grade. **Failure to submit a lab assignment or complete an exam (midterms, final) without permission from the instructor will result in an 'N' grade.**

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

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**. Learning how to do academic research and writing can be a long process, trying to understand a complicated system of rules about when to credit various sources, so having multiple assignments is an opportunity to practice the things that I'll be telling you about in class and supplementary materials.

This is what other courses in Geography agree on, in terms of policy.

“Academic honesty has been compromised when a student (or students) enrolled in a course has committed one of the following offences:

a) If the lecture assignment or lab project was completely done by somebody else, it is complete or full plagiarism, which will result in expulsion from the course for any student(s) submitting the work (course grade of F). The Assistant Dean of Arts and Science will be notified of this action.

b) If the lecture assignment or lab project includes extensive copies of phrases or complete sentences without citation, it is substantial plagiarism, which will result in a zero on the assignment for any student(s) submitting the work. Submitting the same assignment for two courses without both instructors’ prior approval will also result in a zero on both assignments or projects.

c) If the lecture assignment or lab project has only one or two instances where the writing in a sentence is presented as one’s own but it not, it is minor plagiarism, which will result in at least a half-grade reduction on the assignment or project for any student(s) submitting the work.”

See the current University of Victoria Calendar for the *Policy on Academic Integrity*:  
[web.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html](http://web.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html)

For more information, see [uvic.ca/learningandteaching/cac/index.php](http://uvic.ca/learningandteaching/cac/index.php)

If you have any questions or doubts, talk to me.

### Grading – UVic Policy

The table below shows the official grading system used by UVic instructors in arriving at final assessments of student performance.

Undergraduate Grading		
Passing Grades	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	9	<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.
A	8	
A-	7	
B+	6	<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	5	
B-	4	
C+	3	<b>Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory.</b> These grades indicate

<b>C</b>	2	a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
<b>D</b>	1	<b>Marginal</b> Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
<b>COM</b>	Excluded Grade	<b>Complete</b> (pass). Used only for 0-unit courses and those credit courses designated by the Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
<b>Failing Grades</b>	<b>Grade Point Value</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>E</b>	0	Conditional supplemental.
<b>F</b>	0	<b>Unsatisfactory</b> performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
<b>N</b>	0	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.
<b>N/X</b>	Excluded Grade	Did not complete course requirements by the end of the term; no supplemental. Used only for co-op work terms and for courses designated by Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings. The grade is EXCLUDED from the calculation of all grade point averages.
<b>F/X</b>	Excluded Grade	<b>Unsatisfactory</b> performance. Completed course requirements; no supplemental. Used only for co-op work terms and for courses designated by Senate. Such courses are identified in the course listings. The grade is EXCLUDED from the calculation of all grade point averages.
<b>Temporary Grades</b>	<b>Grade Point Value</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>INC</b>	N/A	<b>Incomplete</b> . Used only for those credit courses designated by the Senate, to be replaced with a final grade by June 1. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
<b>DEF</b>	N/A	<b>Deferred status</b> granted. Used only when deferred status has been granted because of illness, an accident or family affliction. See <a href="#">Deferred Status</a> .
<b>UNK</b>	N/A	<b>Unknown</b> . Used when grade is unknown.
<b>INP</b>	N/A	<b>In Progress</b> . Used only for courses designated by the Senate, to be replaced with a final grade by the end of the next Winter Session. If the student does not reregister, then the final grade will be N. Such courses are identified in the course listings.
<b>CIC</b>	N/A	<b>Co-op Interrupted Course</b> . See <a href="#">Co-op Regulations</a> (14).

<b>CTN</b>	N/A	The <b>CTN</b> designation will appear on student transcripts at mid-point through the course or at the end of the first academic term (Sept-Dec). On completion of the course, the CTN designation will remain on the transcript for the first term and a final grade will be noted for the second academic term (Jan-April).
<b>Grade</b>		<b>Note</b>
<b>AEG</b>	N/A	<b>Aegrotat.</b> Transcript notation accompanying a letter grade, assigned where documented illness or similar affliction affected the student's performance or prevented completion of all course work.

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

## 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 contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) as soon as possible ([uvic.ca/services/cal/](http://uvic.ca/services/cal/)). The CAL staff is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals, and arrange appropriate accommodations.

## 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](http://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](mailto:svpcoordinator@uvic.ca)  
 Web: [uvic.ca/svp](http://uvic.ca/svp)



## **CAMPUS 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/](http://uvic.ca/services/counselling/)

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

Centre for Accessible Learning staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations [uvic.ca/services/cal/](http://uvic.ca/services/cal/).

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](http://uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/index.php)

## **COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEY (CES)**

The university will be requesting that students complete a survey assessing the course, to help the instructor and department evaluate how things are going and improve the class for future students. In the past this was done using paper forms filled out during the last week of class, but recently this has gone online (students will receive an email later in the term inviting them to take part in the survey). You will need to use your UVic Netlink ID via computer or mobile device.

## **GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO**

- Geography Department website: [uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/](http://uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/)
- Geography Department Chair: [geogchair@uvic.ca](mailto:geogchair@uvic.ca)
- Geography Undergraduate Advising: [geogadvising@uvic.ca](mailto:geogadvising@uvic.ca)