

**Course Outline and Syllabus - Winter 2019**  
**Geography of Canadian Prairie Landscapes - GEOG 2900 A01**  
**Department of Environment and Geography**  
**Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources**

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**Instructor:** Mohammad Alam  
**Office:** 303 Wallace Building  
**Email:** [Mohammad.Alam@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Mohammad.Alam@umanitoba.ca)  
**Office hours:** M/W 12:30 -1:30 PM or by appointment  
**Course Dates:** January 07 – April 09  
**Lecture:** Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 am – 12:45 pm  
**Lecture Location:** 123 St Paul's College  
**Final Exam:** No Final Exam  
**Final Voluntary** **March 20, 2019** (50% of the course grade available by this date)  
**Withdrawal date:** **For more information:**  
[http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/leave\\_return/695.html](http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/leave_return/695.html)

**Course Textbooks:** **None required**

**Reference Style Manual:** APA

**Course description:**

(Formerly 053.245) Traces the evolution of the cultural landscape of Western Canada including Indian occupancy, environmental perception, urban and rural landscapes, and regional images in art and literature. Prerequisite: a grade of "C" or better in a minimum of three credit hours from Geography courses numbered at the 1000 level, or permission of department head.

**Course objectives:**

This course is intended to introduce the student to various geographical themes, concepts and processes within the context of the natural and anthropogenic development of the Canadian Prairie region. The course will trace the evolution of the prairie landscape from its natural origins through aboriginal occupation and European agricultural and urban settlement to its present form.

## Method of Evaluation

Students will be evaluated via two (2) in-class tests worth 30% in total (2 x 15%), six (6) assignments worth 65% and class attendance worth 5%.

Assessment	Percentage	Dates
Tests (2 Tests at 15% each)	30%	March 05 (test1) April 09 (test 2)
<b>Assignment # 1:</b> <b>Credible source annotation</b> on a prairie landform. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- 1 1/2 pages (2.5% of course value)</li> </ul>	2.5%	January 22, 2019
<b>Assignment # 2:</b> <b>Peer review article annotation</b> on a natural hazard directly related to the Canadian Prairies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 1/2 pages (2.5% of course value)</li> </ul>	2.5 %	January 29, 2019
<b>Assignment # 3:</b> <b>Term Paper Proposal &amp; Annotated Bibliography</b>	10%	February 14, 2019
<b>Assignment # 4:</b> <b>Immigrant Group Briefing Note</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-4 pages</li> </ul>	10%	February 26, 2019
<b>Assignment # 5</b> <b>Term Paper:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8-10 pages (20% of course value)</li> </ul>	20%	April 4, 2019
<b>Assignment # 6:</b> <b>Seminar presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Various topics</li> </ul>	20%	Various due dates
<b>Attendance January 15 – April 4, 2019:</b> Students are responsible for signing the attendance sheet.	5%	Throughout

**The Grade distribution** for this course is as follows:

A+: 90% or above (Exceptional)

A: 80 - 89% (Excellent)

B+: 75 - 79% (Very Good)

B: 70 - 74% (Good)

C+: 65 - 69% (Satisfactory)

C: 60 - 64% (Adequate)

D: 50 - 59% (Marginal)

F: ≤ 49% (Failure)

**Note: Students are not permitted to submit “bonus” assignments in addition to the regular term tests and final exam to improve their grade. The grading scheme will only be adjusted for documented, extenuating circumstances.**

### **Tests**

- Multiple choice questions, will be based on lectures, corresponding textbook readings, assigned readings, videos, class discussions, class activities, and student seminars.
- Students who miss a test due to a documented medical or personal emergency will be offered a “makeup” test. *See Policy Regarding Missed Tests.*

### **Test Regulations:**

- In all tests and exams, NO dictionaries, digital dictionaries, notes, books, textbooks, cellphones, PDAs (such as Palm Pilots), smart watches, or text messaging devices are allowed.
- Students are responsible for appropriately concealing their test and exam answers in order to prevent copying by other students. Allowing another student to copy off of your test/exam is considered cheating, and therefore academic misconduct.
- Please consult policy regarding *Academic Integrity* below.

### **Policy Regarding Missed Tests**

- You must inform the instructor promptly (within 48 hours by email).
- Missed tests, online quizzes and Learning curve exercises must be justified by a medical or personal emergency – appropriate supporting professional documentation must be provided within **48 hours** by email. Your medical documentation **MUST** be legible and state that you were **UNABLE** to write the test/online quiz/learning curve exercise/exam due to a medical circumstance on the day of the test or exam. A note that you “saw a doctor” is **NOT** considered medical documentation.
- Documentation must be presented within **48 hours** by email of the missed test/online quiz/learning curve exercise/exam in order to qualify for a make-up test or extension. Failure to provide this documentation will result in a grade of zero (0) being assigned for the missed test/online quiz/learning curve exercise/exam.
- Please note that reasonable reasons for missing a test/online quiz/learning curve exercise/exam do **NOT** include: vacations (even with relatives), long weekends away, other course work, other tests or quizzes on the same day etc.
- Students have six (6) days after the missed midterm test to write a makeup test. If the student is unable to complete a makeup test within the six (6) day timeframe due to extended illness or compassionate distress (documented), the student’s midterm grade will be reweighted to the final exam. It is the student’s responsibility to confirm via email the date, time, and location of the makeup test or the new due date of the online quiz or LearningCurve exercise.
- If in doubt about what is an appropriate reason for missing a test/online quiz/learning curve exercise/exam, please ask the instructor prior to the test or due date via email. If you have not received a response from the instructor via email, students are highly encouraged to talk to the instructor prior to the test/online quiz/learning curve exercise/exam. Once a test is started, regardless of the outcome, students will not be offered a makeup test.

*\*\*The “Makeup” test format is at the discretion of the instructor, and may take any format, including any one or a combination of the following: essay, short answer questions, true and false, multiple choice etc.\*\*)\*\**

### Test Review:

- Test questions will NOT be returned or posted on UM Learn.
- Tests will be reviewed during lecture as soon as possible (usually within seven (7) days). While reviewing tests, students are permitted to make **handwritten notes only**. Laptops or any device capable of capturing images or sound are not permitted.
- Students are permitted to review their midterm test within seven (7) days of the in-class review. An appointment must be made via **email**.

### Assignments:

- Assignments are due by 4:30 PM on the due date as a **hard copy and digital copy (submitted online through UM Learn)**. **A hard copy and digital must both be submitted. Failure to result will result in marks being deducted for the assignment. Only the hard copy will be graded.**
- Extensions without penalty may be granted for compassionate or medical reasons. Documentation to support your request may include a medical certificate. Your medical documentation MUST be legible and state that you were UNABLE to submit your assignment due to a medical circumstance. A note that you “saw a doctor” is NOT considered medical documentation.
- Please note that computer problems are not an acceptable excuse for late assignments.
- Ten percent (10%) a day will be deducted for late assignments, including weekends commencing as soon as the submission deadline has lapsed.
- For example: If a paper is due January 30, it must be submitted at 4:30 PM. If it is submitted after this time (i.e. 4:31 PM), the assignment is late, and 10% will be deducted from the total value of the paper (i.e. 10% from a paper graded out of 100 = 10 marks). A further ten percent (10%) per day (including weekends) will be deducted for each subsequent day the assignment is late
- **All assignment must be submitted/completed to pass the course.**

### Attendance:

- Attendance in class is expected from all students and will account for 5% of the final grade.
- Students are responsible for signing the attendance sheet and must have attended 80% of the class to receive full credit for attendance.
- Late arrivals and early departures will be recorded and marks will be deducted

### Grades:

- Students are responsible for ensuring assignment/test/attendance grades have been recorded correctly in *UM Learn*.
- Students have one (1) week after the in-class quiz/test review or assignment return to discuss any grading concerns.
- After this one (1) week period, **NO** changes will be made.

## GEOG 2900 COURSE APPROACH AND POLICIES

### Course Delivery:

- Course material will be delivered primarily through lectures, videos, in class discussion, corresponding readings and student seminar presentations.
- As a courtesy, I will be posting partial course notes (fill in the blank) in PowerPoint format on *UM Learn*. It is your responsibility to access *UM learn* and download these materials: <https://universityofmanitoba.desire2learn.com/d2l/login>
  - *Please note that I am under no obligation to post my PowerPoint notes; they are intended to assist you and not replace your personal notes.*
- The pace of the lecture is based on the partial course notes.
- For assistance with *UM Learn*:
  - Client Services Help and Solutions Centre (204.474.8600)
  - Email: [support@cc.umanitoba.ca](mailto:support@cc.umanitoba.ca)
  - 123 Fletcher Argue (Mon to Fri: 8:00 AM. - 8:00 PM)
- Students are **NOT** permitted to partially or entirely photograph, audio, or video record lectures.
- Cell phones: Use respectfully (which means not using them at all).

### Communicating with your Instructor:

- **Effective September 1, 2013**, the U of M will only use your university email account for official communications, including messages from your instructors, department or faculty, academic advisors, and other administrative offices. [http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/email\\_policy/](http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/email_policy/)
- All communications must be professional and courteous.
- **E-mails** must include:
  - The subject heading (**GEOG 2900**, a salutation (i.e. Dear, Hello, Good Morning...), and your full name.
  - Come from a University of Manitoba Account (. . . . @myumanitoba.ca).
  - Emails that do not conform to the above will not be returned.
  - Allow at least **48 hours** for response (weekdays only).
  - Emails requesting notes, information discussed in class or information found in the course syllabus will not be returned.

### The VW date (Voluntary Withdrawal date)

The last date of voluntary withdraw without academic penalty is **March 20, 2018**; the results of the test 1 will be available prior to this date.

## **Student Expectations**

- Attendance in class is expected from all students. Missed lecture notes are your own responsibility. While the PowerPoint slides are available on *UM Learn*, clarification notes are usually required in order to make sense of the material.
- Cell phones must not be used during class. This includes text messaging, web browsing, email etc. Please ensure your cell phone is turned off during lecture.
- Talking in class interferes with the learning of the student you are talking to and the students around you. Please refrain from talking during lecture. Students who talk during lecture will be required to leave the lecture hall.
- Students are encouraged to ask questions of the instructor during and after class.
- The instructor may not always be able to have a lengthy discussion with you after class, due to other commitments. Please make an appointment or see me during office hours if you require more than a quick answer at such a time.
- Inform instructor promptly if you miss a quiz, test, or final exam.
- Consult your UM email account regularly. This is how the instructor and university will communicate with you.
- Students are responsible for ensuring quiz/test /assignment grades have been recorded correctly in *UM Learn*. Students have five (5) days after the in-class quiz/test review or assignment return to discuss any grading concerns. After this five-day period, NO changes will be made.
- Consult *UM Learn* for PowerPoint notes and additional information
- Consult *UM Learn* Frequently for announcements, updates etc.

## **Why You Should Attend Lecture?**

- Test questions will be taken from the lectures. Attending lecture benefits the student, because it ensures course material is reviewed at least once.
- Students who do not attend lecture run the risk of missing important information not available in the textbook or course notes.
- The course notes alone are not a substitute for attending lecture.
- Students are encouraged to bring the PowerPoint slides to class in order to include notes and clarification as the slides may not be entirely self-explanatory.
- The pace of the lecture will not allow students to copy the PowerPoint slides during class time
- If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining notes from a fellow student (not the instructor)

## Using Copyrighted Material:

Please respect copyright. We will use copyrighted content in this course. Class lectures and other materials have been appropriately acknowledged and ensured that it is copied in accordance with copyright laws and University guidelines. Copyrighted works, including those created by me, are available for your private study and research, and you must not distribute them in any format without permission. Do not upload copyrighted works to a learning management system (e.g., UM Learn), or any website, unless an exception to the Copyright Act applies or written permission has been confirmed. For more information, see the University's Copyright Office website at <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/> or contact [um\\_copyright@umanitoba.ca](mailto:um_copyright@umanitoba.ca).

## Academic Integrity Policy

- Academic Integrity refers to the values on which good academic work must be founded: honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. Academic integrity includes a commitment not to engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty violate the fundamental ethical principles of the College community and compromise the worth of work completed by others.
- Students are responsible for ensuring they understand the University of Manitoba's policy on Academic Integrity (plagiarism, cheating, and examination impersonation). These policies are available in the University Catalog 2017-2018, General Academic Regulations <http://bit.ly/2asrlZN>
- The penalties for plagiarism and cheating are severe and range from receiving a grade of zero on an assignment, to academic suspension. For more information on Cheating, Plagiarism, and Fraud: <http://bit.ly/2b63fBP> & <http://bit.ly/2b63ywR>
- All work is to be completed independently unless otherwise specified. No notes, books, or electronic devices are permitted in the final exam whether accessed or otherwise.

## Student Resources

### Writing and Study Skills Support

The Academic Learning Centre (ALC) offers services that may be helpful to you as you fulfill the requirements for this course. Through the ALC, you may meet with a study skills specialist to discuss concerns such as time management, reading and note-taking strategies, and test-taking strategies. You may also meet one-on-one with a writing tutor who can give you feedback at any stage of the writing process, whether you are just beginning to work on a written assignment or already have a draft. Writing tutors can also give you feedback if you submit a draft of your paper online. (Please note that the online tutors require 48 hours, from Mondays to Fridays, to return your paper with comments.)

All Academic Learning Centre services are free for U of M students. For more information, please visit the Academic Learning Centre website at: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/> You can also talk to a member of the Academic Learning staff by calling 480-1481 or by dropping in at 201 Tier Building.

## University of Manitoba Libraries (UML)

As the primary contact for all research needs, your liaison librarian can play a vital role when completing academic papers and assignments. Liaisons can answer questions about managing citations, or locating appropriate resources, and will address any other concerns you may have, regarding the research process. Liaisons can be contacted by email or phone, and are also available to meet with you in-person. A complete list of liaison librarians can be found by subject: <http://bit.ly/WcEbA1> or name: <http://bit.ly/1tJ0bB4>. In addition, general library assistance is provided in person at 19 University Libraries, located on both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses, as well as in many Winnipeg hospitals. For a listing of all libraries, please consult the following: <http://bit.ly/1sXe6RA>. When working remotely, students can also receive help online, via the Ask-a-Librarian chat found on the Libraries' homepage: [www.umanitoba.ca/libraries](http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries).

**The English Language Centre** has workshop and programs in advanced academic and health-sciences English (located at 520, University Centre). Homepage: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/staffdir/elc.html>

## Student Accessibility Services

- University of Manitoba are committed to providing all students equal access to learning opportunities. “This means that our classroom, our virtual spaces, our practices, and our interactions should be as inclusive as possible. Mutual respect, civility, and the ability to listen and observe others carefully are crucial to universal learning.” Student Accessibility Services (SAS) is the office that works with students who have permanent, chronic, or temporary disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.
- Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning, vision, hearing, physical, medical or temporary), are invited to contact Student Accessibility Services to arrange a confidential discussion at (204) 474-7423 (V), (204) 474- 9790 (TTY) or [student\\_accessibility@umanitoba.ca](mailto:student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca).
- Students registered with Student Accessibility Services and who have a letter requesting accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor early in the semester to discuss the accommodations outlined in their letter. Additional information is available at the Student Accessibility Services website: [www.umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/](http://www.umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/)

## Important Dates: Winter 2019

Date	Significance
Tuesday, January 08	First Class Lecture
Friday, January 18	Registration and Revision Deadline
Monday, February 18	Louis Riel Day (University Closed)
February 19 to 22	Winter Term Break. No Classes
Tuesday, March 05	Test 1
Wednesday, March 20	Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty
Tuesday, April 09	Test 2 and Last day of classes for Winter term
April 11 to 26	Final Exams Period



## **GEOG 2900 Lecture Outline**

**Winter 2018**

(Note: there may be variation as the class progresses)

### **Week 1**

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

**Review Course Syllabus**

**Assignments**

**Assign seminar topics/dates**

**Defining the Prairies**

**Thursday, January 10, 2018**

**Define Geography**

**Regional Geography**

**Core Periphery Model**

**World regions of Prairies**

**North American Prairies**

**Canadian Prairies (Tall, Mixed, Short Grass)**

### **Week 2**

**Tuesday, January 15, 2019**

**Writing and citing**

**APA**

**Annotated Bibliographies**

**Academic Learning Centre**

**Thursday, January 17, 2018**

**Physical Geography**

**Geology**

**Geologic Units within Canada**

**Eperic Seas**

**Geomorphology**

**Physiographic Regions in Canada**

**Western Interior Plains**

**First/Second/Third Prairie Levees**

**Drainage Basins**

**Glaciation**

### **Week 3**

**Tuesday, January 22, 2019**

**Climate/Weather**

**Koppen Classification System**

**Moisture Indices**

**Dominant Weather Patterns**

**Soils**

**Define World perspective**

**Chernozems, Gleysols, Organic, Solenetzic, Luvisols**

**Thursday, January 24, 2019**  
**Vegetation**  
**Grass Ecology**  
**Prairie Ecozones/ecoregions**

**Week 4**

**Tuesday, January 29, 2019**  
**Thesis Statements**  
**Presentations**

**Thursday, January 31, 2019**  
**Historical Geography Overview**

**Week 5**

**Tuesday, February 5, 2019**  
**Seminar: The first people**  
**Possible routes into North America**  
**Paleo-Indians**  
**Indians**  
**Culture Regions**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, February 7, 2019**  
**Seminar: Aboriginal/ non-aboriginal Faultlines (Historical foundations)**

3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Week 6**

**Tuesday, February 12, 2019**  
**Seminar Fur Trade**

5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, February 14, 2019**  
**Seminar: Rupert's Land and Red River (Lord Selkirk, Metis)**  
**Resistance and Rebellion**  
**French/English Faultline**

7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

**Week 7**

**Tuesday, February 26, 2019**

**Immigration and Settlement Overview**

**Railroads/policy framework for settling the Canadian West**

**Thursday, February 28, 2019**

**Test 1 Preview**

**Week 8**

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019**

**Test 1**

**Thursday, March 7, 2019**

**Seminar: Immigration Fault line**

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

**Week 9**

**Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

**Seminar: Agriculture**

11. \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, March 14, 2019**

**Seminar: Agriculture**

13. \_\_\_\_\_

14. \_\_\_\_\_

**Week 10**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2019**

**Seminar: Water Resources**

15. \_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, March 21, 2019**

**Seminar: Resources (Potash, Oil and Gas)**

17. \_\_\_\_\_

18. \_\_\_\_\_

**Week 11**

**Tuesday, March 26, 2019**

**Seminar: Demography/Urban Geography**

- 19. \_\_\_\_\_
- 20. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, March 28, 2019**

**Seminar: Demography/Climate Change**

- 21. \_\_\_\_\_
- 22. \_\_\_\_\_

**Week 12**

**Tuesday, April 2, 2019**

**Seminar: Climate Change**

- 23. \_\_\_\_\_
- 24. \_\_\_\_\_
- 25. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, April 4, 2019**

**Course Review**

**Week 13**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019**

**Final Test**