

Social Hazards, Winter 2020

GEOG 3272 A01

Course Syllabus and Outline

Department of Environment and Geography

Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources

Instructor: Lisa Ford

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204-474-8255

Office Hours: M/W/F 12:30-1:30 and Tuesday 1:00-2:00 or by appointment

Lecture Slot: M/W/F 11:30 AM– 12:20 PM

Lecture Room: 125 St. John's College

Course Dates: January 6 - April 7

Final Exam: No final exam

Final Voluntary

Withdrawal Date: March 18, 2020

Required Course Materials:

Textbook: Thomas, D., Philips, B., Lovekamp, W. and Fothergill, A. (Eds.). (2013). *Social Vulnerability to Disasters, 2nd edition*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.

Course description: This course introduces students to an approach to understanding hazards and disasters using social vulnerability analysis. We will examine historical, geographical, social, and cultural factors and conditions that put people differentially at risk before, during, and after disasters and the course will focus on global, national, regional, and local patterns of development. Drawing on current theory and research, class activities, and life experiences, students will explore how vulnerable social groups are affected by and cope with hazardous conditions and events, and strategies for community-based mitigation engaging those most at risk.

Course objectives:

- Understand how social vulnerability differs from traditional approaches to disasters and emergency management
- Identify root causes of social vulnerability, which tend to place some groups more at risk

- Assess specific life chances and conditions arising from global, regional, national, and local patterns of development
- Assess the determinants of structural and situational social vulnerability in particular places, times, and social contexts
- Identify characteristics of a disaster-resilient neighbourhood or community
- Identify parameters, constraints, and opportunities that promote or limit strategies for addressing vulnerability
- To encourage you to listen, read and think critically and effectively

Method of Evaluation

1. Midterm Test 1	15%
2. Midterm Test 2	15%
3. Outline & annotated bibliography	10%
4. Final paper	30%
5. Class participation & attendance	15%
6. Discussion (1 week) & briefing note	15%

Test 1

March 2nd – 50 minutes
Worth 15% of course value

Test 2

April 6th – 50 minutes
Worth 15% of course value

Final Grades:

Final grades are subject to departmental review. In accord with departmental policy, the grading scheme is as follows:

A+ 90 and above	B+ 75-79	C+ 65-69	D 50-59
A 80-89	B 70-74	C 60-64	F 0-49

Note: Students are not permitted to submit “extra or bonus” assignments in addition to the regular homework, term tests, and final exam to improve their grade.

Test Format:

- Multiple choice, short answer, and/or true and false questions will be based on lectures, assigned readings, videos, class discussions and activities, weekly articles, and the corresponding readings in the course textbook.
- Students who miss a test due to a documented medical or personal emergency will be offered a rewrite. *See Policy Regarding Missed Midterms.*

Test Regulations:

- In all tests and exams, ***NO*** dictionaries, digital dictionaries, notes, books, textbooks, ***cellphones, 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.
- Attendance will be taken at tests. You are required to have photo identification at each midterm test.
- Students are responsible for completing the entire test in the exam time. Tests will be removed from students when the instructor calls time, even if the student has not answered all the questions. No extra time will be given.
 - For example, if a student only fills in 20 bubbles on the bubble sheet, but has marked the answers on the test paper, the instructor will **NOT** grade the test paper, as only bubble sheets are graded for multiple choice questions. The student in this example would receive a mark out of 20.
- Once a test is started, regardless of the outcome, students will not be offered a make-up test.
- Please consult the policy regarding Academic Integrity below.

Policy Regarding Missed Tests:

- You must inform the instructor **promptly** (within 24 hours or as soon as physically possible) by **email**.
- Documentation must be presented **within 48 hours** of the missed test or exam in order to qualify for a make-up test. Please note that “reasonable reasons for missing a test or exam” do ***NOT*** include: vacations (even with relatives), long weekends away, or other course work.
 - If you do not contact the instructor within 6 days to inform her that the exam has been missed, you will not be offered the opportunity to do a re-write, regardless of documentation (i.e. waiting 3 weeks “because you forgot” means that you get a zero on the test).
 - If you do not contact the instructor within 48 hours to inform her that the exam has been missed, you will not be offered the opportunity to complete a re-write, regardless of documentation (i.e. waiting a week “because you forgot” means that you get a zero on the exam).
- Absence from tests must be justified by a medical or compassionate emergency – appropriate supporting professional documentation must be provided by the student for university records.
 - Your medical documentation **MUST** be legible and state that you were **UNABLE** to attend class and write the test or exam due to a medical circumstance. A note that you “saw a doctor” is **NOT** considered medical documentation.
- If in doubt about what is an appropriate reason for missing a midterm, please ask the instructor prior to the test.
- Students will have 6 days from the midterm date to complete a make-up test. The exam will be reviewed in class on the 7th day (one week after the original test date) and no make-up tests will be available after that time.
 - If a student has medical or compassionate reasons to be unable to write within 6 days (for example, an extended illness), a make-up test will not be provided, but accommodations will be discussed with the student (as long as documentation is provided).
- A make-up test can include any format for test questions, including multiple choice, short answer, long answer, etc. The format will likely be different than the in-class test. It is up to the student writing the make-up test to ask the instructor the format.

Test Review:

- Test questions will **NOT** be returned or posted on *UMLearn*
- Tests will be reviewed during lecture, approximately one to two weeks after the original in-class test date. While reviewing tests, students are permitted to make **handwritten notes only**. Laptops or any device capable of capturing images are not permitted.
- After the in-class review, students who would like to discuss their test may either come during office hours or make an email appointment within 7 days of the in-class review.

Grades:

- Midterm marks will be posted on *UMLearn* as soon as they can reasonably be graded.
- Final grades will be posted on the Aurora Student at the University of Manitoba website once they have been approved by the Department of Environment and Geography.
- Students have 7 days after the in-class test review to discuss any grading concerns and **to ensure their grade has been recorded on UM Learn**.
 - It is the student's responsibility to check UM Learn for their midterm grades
 - Appeals for a re-read of an exam, or an adjustment of the grade, must be made within 7 days of the in-class review. The course instructor reserves the right to adjust the grade upwards, downwards, or not at all. If after the re-read you are not satisfied with the decision you should consult the Head, Department of Environment and Geography.
- After this 7-day period, **NO** changes will be made.

GEOG 3272 COURSE APPROACH AND POLICIES

COURSE FORMAT

Mondays & Wednesdays: lecture format (unless otherwise mentioned)

Fridays: Discussion format (each discussion will be led by one to two students in the class)

- Each student will be responsible for **ONE** Discussion Friday during the term
- You will lead the class in a discussion of the weekly topic

For your discussion (15% of your grade), you will have:

- Read the textbook chapter thoroughly and familiarized yourself with the material
- Read the assigned peer-reviewed journal article that relates to the topic of the week and the course textbook
- Written a 1 page briefing note on the journal article, including:
 - The bibliographic information in APA format
 - A summary highlighting the main points of the article
 - Be as specific as possible. What was the main idea, or thesis, of the article? What specific points did the article discuss or find out? What are the main conclusions?
 - A short paragraph discussing how it relates to the weekly topic (what makes it valuable? Why did you choose it? What is good about it? How does it relate to textbook material?). Be as specific as possible and use key terms.
 - A 2-3 line critique of the journal article (what are the strengths and WHY? What are the weaknesses and WHY? What type of analysis is done and is it high quality and WHY?)
 - 3-5 questions for the class members that will help guide the discussion
 - You may wish to have a question specific to the article, but generally, these are questions based on the weekly theme, encompassing all the material

- In addition, each student will submit (to the instructor), 5 multiple choice and 2 short answer questions that they feel reflects their weekly material.
 - At least three of the multiple-choice questions and 1 of the short answer question must come from the course content (notes/textbook), and the other questions may be from the course content or the article.
 - Answers must be provided for all questions.
 - After each question, put (p. xx) or (briefing note – name) to indicate where you found the material in the text. If the question is a completely original, non-textbook based question, you may put your name in brackets (name).
 - You will be graded on the quality of the questions you submit. The instructor will consider the following:
 - Are they very simple? Did you ask obvious questions that require very little thought?
 - Have you come up with at least one “scenario question”? Rather than just straightforward definitions.
 - Is it clear you put thought into the answers/options?
 - Are your questions vague or clear?
 - Do the questions reflect the fact that you understand important points about the weekly content?
 - Are the short answer questions clear with unambiguous answers? They are not essay questions!

So on your discussion date, you will have found a peer-reviewed journal article and prepared a briefing notes on the article for the class. You will have come up with 5 multiple choice and two written questions (with answers). You should become the expert for your week, knowing more of the material than anyone else.

Your individual briefing notes and questions are to be emailed to the instructor by 3:00 PM four days before your discussion (i.e. if your discussion is on Friday’s class, your briefing note and questions are due on the Monday at 3:00 PM). The briefing notes will be posted to *UM Learn* for all students.

The briefing note and additional questions should be in a Word document, attached to the email to the instructor.

Assessment of your seminar: you will be graded on your preparation, questions, and ability to keep the discussion focused for the duration of the seminar. You will also be graded for your briefing note and questions. A marking rubric will be provided so you can see the how you will be assessed.

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are due at the **start of class**. Extensions without penalty will be granted only if accompanied by a medical certificate. Please note that computer problems are not an acceptable excuse for late assignments – make sure you back up your work! **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.**

An assignment is considered late if it is not received by the beginning of class (i.e. 11:30 am). Ten percent (10%) will be deducted as soon as the submission deadline has passed. After the submission deadline has lapsed, an additional ten percent (10%) per day will be deducted, including Saturday and Sunday. Assignments will be assigned a grade of zero (0) if it is more than one week (7 days) late.

- For example: If an assignment is due January 30, it must be submitted at 11:30 AM (the beginning of the class). If it is submitted after this time (i.e. 11:35 AM), 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 will be deducted for each subsequent day the assignment is late.

Assignment due dates:

Feb 12th – annotated bibliography and outline

April 1st - Final paper due

COURSE DELIVERY

- Course material will be delivered primarily through lectures, videos, in class discussion and corresponding textbook readings.
- Lecture notes will NOT be posted online; however, materials to ‘complement’ the course lectures will be posted on *UMLearn* including partial course notes (fill in the blank). It is your responsibility to access *UMLearn* and download these materials: <https://universityofmanitoba.desire2learn.com/>
- For assistance with *UMLearn*:
 - Client Services Help and Solutions Centre (204.474.8600)
 - Email: support@cc.umanitoba.ca
 - 123 Fletcher Argue (Mon to Fri: 8:00 AM. - 8:00 PM)
- The pace of the lecture is based on the partial course notes.
- These online materials are not a substitute for coming to class, and you cannot use these notes exclusively as they will need to be supplemented by notes from lecture and the textbook. ***If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining the missing notes from a classmate. The instructor will not provide notes for any reason.***
- Students are **NOT** permitted to partially or entirely photograph, audio, or video record lectures.
- Cell phones and portable music players must be turned off during lectures. Students are also required to remove earphones. **NO TEXTING DURING CLASS.**
- If you are a student with special needs it is YOUR responsibility to consult with Student Services and make the necessary arrangements for notetaking, exams, or assignments.

Attendance in class is expected from all students. Students are expected to be punctual for classes. *Not all material presented in the lectures is covered in the text.*

Attendance/Participation/Preparation (15%)

This course is organized around the textbook and readings that will be used to guide lectures and class discussions. Students are expected to complete all readings prior to the “Friday discussion” for the week. Not all reading topics will be discussed in the lectures, but you are still responsible for all of the material covered in the readings. University courses are intense, and it is critical that you stay on schedule with the readings.

Attendance in class is expected from all students and will count towards the fifteen percent (15%) attendance/participation/preparation grade. A sign-in sheet will be circulated at the beginning of class and students are responsible for ensuring they have signed the sheet. Students who arrive once the class is underway, or leave early, may be counted absent unless the late arrival/early departure has been negotiated with the instructor prior to the class. If you arrive more than 10 minutes after the start of class, or leave early, you will be counted absent (i.e. receive a “0” on the three-point scale below).

You attendance is vital to this class, both for your own learning and for our growth as a community of scholars. Attending class will help you develop a comprehensive understanding of the material and allow you to get to know your peers.

Attendance

Each class, a three-point scale will be used to evaluate student attendance/participation/preparation using the following criteria: absences, late arrivals, early departures, conduct during class (professionalism, attentiveness, and respectful behavior), contribution to class and group discussions, completion of assigned tasks and reading material, and effective use of class-time.

- Three-point scale:
 - 0 – absent or arrive more than 10 minutes late or leave 10 or more minutes early
 - 1 – Late arrival and early departure (<10 minutes) or inattention (i.e. texting, surfing the net, Facebook, twitter, etc.)
 - 2 - Being on time and alert in class; contributing to class discussions, asking or answering questions, etc
 - 3 - Above average participation in class plus being on time and alert

Friday seminar participation

The class will be responsible for reading the briefing notes ahead of time and answering the questions and participating in the seminar.

- **Each student will be graded on the quality and quantity of their responses and participation during the Friday seminars**
- While the student(s) presenting is being marked on their presentation, the students in the audience (the rest of the class) are being marked on their participation and contributions

In addition to attendance and participation, the “preparation” part of the grade means that the instructor expects students to be prepared for each Friday’s seminar (i.e. have reviewed the notes and read the chapter for the week) so they can fully participate.

There will be extra activities that will count towards your participation grade, usually in the form of in-class group work, “take home” internet research such as finding articles relating to a topic, or “think about XYZ and come prepared to discuss it next class”.

Respectful Work and Learning Environment (RWLE)

RWLE Policy, Section 2.4: The University of Manitoba does not condone behaviour that is likely to undermine the dignity, self-esteem or productivity of any of its members and prohibits any form of discrimination or harassment whether it occurs on University property or in conjunction with University-related activities. Therefore, the University of Manitoba is committed to an inclusive and respectful work and learning environment, free from:

- a. discrimination or harassment as prohibited in the Manitoba Human Rights Code;
- b. sexual harassment; and
- c. personal harassment

RWLE Policy, Section 2.1.4.2: The University does acknowledge the legitimate right and responsibility of academic staff members to correct inappropriate student behaviour, insist on order in the classroom and evict, as necessary, those who disrupt order in the classroom. [See Bylaw: Student Discipline.]

Academic Dishonesty

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 2013-2014, General Academic Regulations (Section 8: Academic Integrity).

The penalties for plagiarism and cheating are severe and range from receiving a grade of zero on an assignment, to academic suspension.

- Plagiarism is defined as taking someone else's work and representing it as your own. This can take the form of improper citation to copying or purchasing a part of or an entire essay or assignment.
- Cheating on a test or exam includes (but is not limited to): possessing unauthorized material (notes, texts, books, calculators, PDA's (i.e. Palm Pilots) cell phones, or text messaging devices), examination impersonation (this is why you are required to have ID while writing your exam) etc.

For more information on Cheating, Plagiarism, and Fraud:

http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/cheating_plagiarism_fraud.html

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/
- All communications must be professional and courteous.
- **E-mails** must include:
 - The subject heading (**GEOG 3272**, 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.
 - Instructor will not reply to emails requesting notes for missed classes (regardless of the reason).
- 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.
- It is the student's responsibility to check their email for a response to any email questions OR **course announcements** (i.e. class cancellations).

Student Responsibilities

- Attend Class
 - Please be punctual for lecture. If you arrive late or need to leave early, do so with a minimum of disruption.
 - If you miss a class:
 - It is the student's responsibility to find out what was missed from a **classmate**.

- While the partial PowerPoint slides are available on *UM Learn*, clarification notes are required in order to make sense of the material. The full notes will NOT be posted.
 - Instructor will not reply to emails requesting notes for missed classes (regardless of the reason).
- Study course material – at least two hours for every hour of lecture.
- Be Courteous
 - Talking during class (unless you are asking the instructor a question, or answering the instructor’s question) is disrespectful to students who have come to lecture to learn. As an instructor, it is my job to maintain a suitable learning environment for all students. Talking in class interferes with the learning of the student you are talking to and the students around you.
- Forward your U of M **email** account to an email account that you consult regularly.
- Download the **U of M Pulse app** so you get access to course announcements and content.
- Back up your notes on your computer or in the cloud storage you get FREE from the University
 - Free Office 365 for students. Students get the full MS Office® suite and 1 TB of cloud storage free with a valid UMnetID. umanitoba.ca/ist/email/2397.html
 - <http://umanitoba.ca/student/guide/computers-and-technology.html>
- Read the textbook.

Technology in the classroom

The general University of Manitoba policy is that all technology resources are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner.

- Computers are encouraged, though students should not participate in electronic messaging or posting activities (social media, texting, videos, etc) during class.
 - If you can not refrain from checking social media or playing games during the lecture, please sit at the back of the room so you don’t distract other people. If your technology becomes disruptive, you will be asked to leave.
- Cell phones and portable music players must be turned off during lectures. Students are also required to remove earphones.
- If you are on call or you have an ongoing personal or family situation, you should switch your cell phone to vibrate mode and leave the classroom to take calls.
- **NO TEXTING DURING CLASS.**

Copyright

Please respect copyright. Copyrighted works, including those created by the instructor, are made available to students for private study and research and must not be distributed in any format without permission. Do not upload copyrighted works to a learning management system (such as 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 umanitoba.ca/copyright or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca

Recording Class Lectures

Lisa Ford and the University of Manitoba hold copyright over the course materials, presentations and lectures, which form part of this course. No audio or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission Lisa Ford. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant’s private study and research.

- Students are **NOT** permitted to partially or entirely photograph, audio, or video record lectures.

Student Accessibility Services

If you are a student requiring special accommodations, please contact SAS for academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations.

- It is **YOUR** responsibility to consult with Student Services and make the necessary arrangements for exams.
- Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services <http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/>

520 University Centre

204 474 7423

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