



The University of
Western Ontario

Department of
Geography

Geography 3411a

Fall Term 2017

CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY: A Cultural Politics of Space

Instructor: Dr. Jeff Hopkins
Office Hours: Monday, 1:00-3:00
or by appointment

Office: Room # 2423 S.S.C.
Telephone: 661-2111x85027
Email: jhopkins@uwo.ca

Lecture: Monday, 10:30-12:20, #3307 SH

Tutorial: Thursday, 9:30-11:20, #3014 SSC



SYLLABI FROM ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2017-18

Geography 3411a/b Cultural Geography

An examination of contemporary theories in cultural geography - ideology, identity, power, and space - and their application to contemporary issues such as class, consumption, gender, media, and racism. Emphasis is placed upon understanding and critiquing the social and political processes giving rise to cultural practices in their spatial contexts.

Antirequisite(s):

Prerequisite(s): Third or fourth year status at the University including [Geography 2410A/B](#) or a 1000-level Geography course, or [American Studies 1020](#); [Anthropology 1025F/G](#); [First Nations Studies 1020E](#); [MIT 1200A/B](#); [Political Science 1020E](#); [Sociology 1020](#) or [1021E](#), [Women's Studies 1020E](#).

Corequisite(s):

Pre- or Corequisite(s):

Extra Information: 2 lecture hours, 2 tutorial hours, 0.5 course.

Source: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg915.html#34847>

INTRODUCTION

The primary goal of this course is to encourage *you* to expand, question, and critique your conceptions about culture, cultural diversity, and the politics of space. Aside from providing you with information about cultural geography--and such contemporary social issues as '*race*,' *class* and *gender*--you will gain an appreciation for the conflicts, pleasures, problems and possibilities that constitute the diverse social world of which you are very much an active agent. The approach employs *critical social theory*, wherein social issues of *power*, *justice*, *ideology* and markers of *identity* interact to construct social systems, institutions, and cultures. As geographers, you will learn why space matters in the quest to understand cultural conflicts within our society, how cultural geographers analyze and critique social relations among various cultural groups, and what cultural geography contributes toward explaining, and one hopes, resolving cultural/spatial conflicts.

The subject of this course is '*cultural geography*': "*one of the most rapidly growing and energetic sub-fields of Anglophone geography over the past 20 years.*"¹ In fact, there has been what is termed '*the cultural turn*' within many branches of human geography. The topics of 'culture' and the methods used to examine them are thus wide ranging. In this particular course we concentrate on two of the most prominent foci of contemporary cultural geography: 1) non-material culture, and by this is meant human creations such as *identity*, *ideology*, *power*, *meaning*, and *values*); and 2) the performance and enactment of these identities; for example, how '*racism*' is created, sustained, resisted and challenged by people in, over and through space. How such cultural attributes as *ethnicity*, *class*, *sexuality*, *gender* and other important markers of cultural identity are distributed *spatially*, how and why people are spatially included or excluded because of identity, and how the aspatial or non-spatial processes of economy, politics and power give rise to these cultural landscapes will drive our enquiry.



COURSE CONTENT

There is logic to the order and structure of the material presented. The first four lectures provide a macro-view of the major organizing structures of contemporary society and the conceptual underpinnings of cultural geography: *culture*, *power*, *multiculturalism*, *ideology* and *Marxism*. The subsequent lectures address major markers of cultural identities (*identity politics*) and the roles of space in their creation, practice, and resistance: *class*, '*race*'/*ethnicities*, *sexualities*, *gender*, *body*, *age*, and '*immigrant*'. As you will come to appreciate, space lays at the core of cultural conflicts as do its resolutions. We end on a positive note: the challenges of pursuing '*social justice*'—a more equitable society—and thus one more likely to be peaceful and stable.

Below is a general outline of the themes we will address in the readings, lectures, and tutorials. Successful completion of the review paper, the mid-term and the final examinations requires that you attend all lectures and tutorials, complete the assigned readings, and follow—if not actively participate in—the class discussions.

¹.Amin, A. (2009). 'Cultural Geography,' in *The Dictionary of Human Geography*, 5th edition. D. Gregory, R.J. Johnston, G. Pratt, M.J. Watts and S. Whatmore (eds), 129. West Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell.

| Lecture Topic Schedule | Dates |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Culture Identities, Diversity & Canada's Multiculturalism</i> | Mon., 11 th Sept. |
| 2. <i>Ideology & the Power to Spatially In / Ex-clude</i> | Mon., 18 th Sept. |
| NO CLASS - Field Methods 3000y course conflict | Mon., 25th Sept. |
| 3. <i>Like Fish in Water: Capitalism & Neo-Liberalism</i> | Mon., 2 nd Oct. |
| THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – No Class | Mon., 9th Oct. |
| 4. <i>Buying into Geographies of Consumption</i> (Distribute 'Review Essay Assignment') | Mon., 16 th Oct. |
| 5. <i>Discourse, Representations & Identities in Everyday Geographies</i> | Mon., 23 rd Oct. |
| MID-TERM EXAMINATION | Mon., 30th Oct. |
| 6. <i>Sexuality, Bodies & Space</i> | Mon., 6 th Nov. |
| 7. <i>Gendering Space: Masculine & Feminist Geographies</i> | Mon., 13 th Nov. |
| 8. <i>Geographies of Race & Racism</i> | Mon., 20 th Nov. |
| 9. <i>Post-Colonialism, Immigration</i> <i>& Canada's Contemporary Geographies</i> ('Review Essay Assignment' Due) | Mon., 27 th Nov. |
| 10. <i>Cultural Rights, Cultural Justice, Cultural Geography</i> | Mon., 4 th Dec. |

TUTORIALS

Considerable emphasis in this course is upon improving your skills of critical interpretation. Much of the reading material will prove challenging and will demonstrate, by way of example, how one might systematically critique various social issues from the critical and spatial perspective of a cultural geographer. The tutorials will give you an opportunity to apply and question the lecture and reading material through the viewing and subsequent directed discussion of several documentary films. The content of these documentaries are directly related to the themes of this course and are intended to not only augment the lectures and readings, but more importantly, exemplify the actual practice of analyzing the cultural politics of space.

Given the contentious nature of the topics covered and the diversity of views you will bring to these lectures and tutorials, I suspect we will have an intellectually stimulating time! As you will see below, prior to most tutorials, I will provide you with a set of tasks: these may be in the form of questions from readings, or additional material you must gather. I may also pose questions related to issues raised in the lectures and will most certainly use this time to discuss the essay assignment and the examinations.

These tutorials are *not* optional. Like the lectures, your attendance and participation is expected. ***The tutorial course pack with course readings will be available to you during the first class. Please bring with you either a laptop or a USB key to receive this large file.***

| <u>Tutorial Topic Schedule *</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. <u>'Multiculturalism' Contested</u> Film: <i>'The M Word'</i> | Thurs., 14 th Sept. |
| 2. <u>Ideology in Practice</u> Film: <i>'Jesus Camp'</i> | Thurs., 21 st Sept. |
| <i>NO TUTORIAL – Field Methods 3000y course conflict</i> | Thurs., 28thSept. |
| 3. <u>Capitalism: A Positive Perspective</u> Film: <i>'The Real Adam Smith: Ideas that Changed the World'</i> | Thurs., 5 th Oct. |
| <i>NO TUTORIAL – Fall Break</i> | Thurs., 12th Oct. |
| 4. <u>Why Consumer Culture?</u> Films: <i>'Affluenza'</i> & <i>'The Story of Stuff'</i> | Thurs., 19 th Oct. |
| 5. <u>Capitalism: A Critical Perspective</u> Film: <i>'Masters of Money: Karl Marx and Marxism'</i> | Thurs., 26 th Oct. |
| <i>NO TUTORIAL - Exam Break</i> | Thurs., 2nd Nov. |
| 6. <u>Emergence of Contemporary Gay Resistance</u> Film: <i>'Stonewall Uprising'</i> | Thurs., 9 th Nov. |
| 7. <u>Bodies & Public Spaces</u> Film: <i>'Naked'</i> | Thurs., 16 th Nov. |
| 8. <u>Constructing Identity Politics: Racism</u> Film: <i>'Race: The Floating Signifier'</i> | Thurs., 23 rd Nov. |
| 9. <u>Post-Colonialism & Contemporary Imperialism</u> Film: <i>'Why We Fight'</i> | Thurs., 30 th Nov. |

** I reserve the right to alter the number of tutorials and change their content*

EVALUATION

| <u>Assignment</u> | <u>Weight</u> | <u>Due Dates</u> |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Mid-term Examination | 25 % | Mon., 30 th Oct. (2 Hrs) |
| Review Essay | 35 % | Mon., 27 th Nov., in class |
| Final Examination (cumulative) | 40 % | T.B.A. Dec.10 th –21 st (2 Hrs) |

Your evaluation is based primarily on your ability to fulfill the primary objectives of the course as evidenced in two examinations and a review essay. Emphasis in this upper-level geography course, and thus evaluation, is placed upon your reading, writing and critical thinking skills. The bulk of your grade, 65%, is based upon two examinations. The precise format of these tests are explained well in advance of their sitting; these may include all or some of the following: essay questions, short answer, multiple choice, true/false, and fill-in-the-blank. One 2,000 word/eight typed-page review essay on a relevant topic will be worth the remaining 35% of your final course grade. More information about this assignment and its method of evaluation will be given later in the course.

- To pass this course you must earn a final minimum mark of 50%
- No electronic devices are allowed during texts and examinations

GRADES

How do I grade? I regard the mark of 'C' (60%-69%) indicative of slightly below average work for a 300-level, undergraduate course. The work is competent, all of the assignments and most of the readings have been completed, and a general understanding of the course material has been attained, as evidenced in the examinations, essay, and classroom. A grade of 'B' (70%-79%) reflects evidence of an average or slightly above average effort and performance. Not only have the assignments been fulfilled in a more meticulous fashion, and a more thorough understanding of the material been demonstrated, a few extra steps beyond the average student is evident in the tests, written work, and class discussions. An 'A' (80%-89%) is reserved for outstanding effort and achievement. Exceptional diligence, a thorough knowledge of the course material, and the ability to apply and convey concepts in an effective, logical and literate fashion are clearly evident. Hard labour and exceptional effort are necessary but not, by themselves, sufficient to warrant an 'A.' An 'A+' (90%+) is rare but not impossible to attain. An exceptionally outstanding performance on the examinations, and an essay demonstrating a superb command of English and a critical mind capable of synthesizing complex facts, theories and ideas to arrive at particularly astute body of thought, will earn this prestigious grade. Keep in mind that I do want each of you to do well in the course!

READING MATERIALS & SCHEDULE

Norton, William and Margaret Walton-Roberts (2014). *Cultural Geography: Environments, Landscapes, Identities, Inequalities*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press. (Available in UWO Bookstore for approximately \$65 plus tax; also in Weldon Library on 2 hour Reserves)

You are required to read the textbook and the additional material made available to you on-line. Given their number and the pace of the course, it is particularly important that you not fall behind in your readings. Do not strive to memorize the works; simply give them a serious read and get as much as you can from them. All of the ‘**chapters**’ listed below refer to the textbook: all other readings are referred to as ‘**articles.**’ These articles are found inside the tutorial manual. Both the Mitchell and the Blunt & Willis textbooks are also available in Weldon Library on two-hour Reserve. You are responsible for reading all of these mandatory textbook and the tutorial articles listed below.

The reading schedule is as follows:

Lecture # 1 (Sept. 11th): ‘Cultural Identities, Diversity & Canada’s Multiculturalism’

Text book Chapter #1: *Introducing Cultural Geography*

Mitchell, Don (2000). Chapter #1: Culture Wars: Culture is Politics by Another Name, in *Cultural Geography: A Critical Introduction*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp.1-37.

Lecture #2 (Sept. 18th): Ideology & the Power to Spatially In / Ex-clude

Text book Chapter #2: *The Tradition of Cultural Geography*

Mitchell, Don (2000). Chapter #3: From Values to Value & Back Again – The Political Economy of Culture, in *Cultural Geography: A Critical Introduction*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp. 66-88.

Tutorial Reading:

Solomon, Jack (1988). ‘What’s in a Name? The Ideology of Cultural Classification,’ in *The Signs of our Time*. New York: Harper and Row, pp. 23-39.

Lecture #3 (Oct. 2nd): Like Fish in Water: Capitalism & Neo-Liberalism

Text book Chapter #3: *Rethinking Cultural Geography*

Tutorial Reading:

Harvey, David (2005). *A Brief History of Neo-Liberalism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Chapters #3 & #4).

Lecture #4 (Oct. 16th): Buying into Geographies of Consumption

Text book Chapter #4: *Environments, Ethics, Landscapes*

Text book Chapter #5: *Landscape Evolution*

Tutorial Reading:

Jon Goss, Jon (2006) *Geographies of Consumption: The Work of Consumption*. *Progress in Human Geography* 20 (2), 237-49.

Lecture #5 (Oct. 23rd): Discourse, Representations & Identities in Everyday Geographies

Rosati, Clayton (2007). Media Geographies: Uncovering the Spatial Politics of Images. *Geography Compass* 1 (5), 995-1014.

Tutorial Reading:

Rius, B. (1976). *Marx for Beginners*. New York: Pantheon Books.

Lecture #6 (6th Nov.): Sexuality, Bodies & Space

Text book Chapter #6: *Regional Landscapes*

Tutorial Reading:

Blunt, A. and J. Willis (2000). Sexual Orientations: Geographies of Desire, pp. 128-166. In *Dissident Geographies: An Introduction to Radical Ideas and Practice*. Toronto: Prentice Hall.

Lecture #7 (Nov. 13th): Gendering Space: Masculine & Feminist Geographies

Text book Chapter #7: *Power, Identity, Global Landscapes*

Tutorial Reading:

Blunt, A. and J. Willis (2000). Embodying Geography: Feminist Geographies of Gender, pp. 90-127. In *Dissident Geographies: An Introduction to Radical Ideas and Practice*. Toronto: Prentice Hall.

Lecture #8 (Nov. 20th): Geographies of Race & Racism

Text book Chapter #8: *Power, Identity, Representation*

Tutorial Reading:

Mitchell, Don (2000). Chapter #9: 'A Place for Everyone' – Cultural Geographies of Racism, in *Cultural Geography: A Critical Introduction*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp. 230-258.

**Lecture #9 (Nov. 27th): Post-Colonialism, Immigration
& Canada's Contemporary Geographies**

Text book Chapter #9: Living in Place – The Socio-Spatial Relationship

Blunt, A. and J. Willis (2000). Decolonizing Geography: Postcolonial Perspectives, pp. 167-202. In *Dissident Geographies: An Introduction to Radical Ideas and Practice*. Toronto: Prentice Hall.

Tutorial Reading:

Chomsky, Noam (2003). 'Imperial Grand Strategy,' in *Hegemony or Survival: America's Quest for Global Dominance*. New York: Metropolitan Books, pp. 11-49.

Lecture #10 (Dec. 4th): Cultural Rights, Cultural Justice, Cultural Geography

Text book Chapter #10: *Cultural Geography-Continuing and Unfolding*

Mitchell, Don (2000). Chapter #11: Cultural Rights, Cultural Justice, Cultural Geography, in *Cultural Geography: A Critical Introduction*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp. 287-294.

MUTUAL EXPECTATIONS

Because this course addresses many contemporary and controversial issues—discrimination and power, gender, language, racism, sexuality—I insist that each of us respect the thoughts and opinions of one another. Our tutorials and lectures are intellectual forums to explore cultural issues from a geographical perspective; everyone's

voice and interpretations are welcomed. As the course instructor, I will provide you with a set of theoretical concepts, models and various interpretations of cultural conflicts. Using these models and concepts, you will be encouraged and challenged to develop your *own* interpretations of various cultural conflicts. In other words, ***your grounded opinions in no way whatsoever need parallel my own to succeed in this course.*** Freedom of thought and expression is strongly encouraged!

You can expect me to come prepared for, and attend, all lectures regularly and punctually. I will strive to promote a collegial atmosphere of mutual respect conducive to the exchange of ideas and learning. I demand the same from you. Reading during a lecture, the disturbing consumption of food or drink, littering the classroom, the use of iPods, phones, recreational lab-top use, and other activities that may impede the ability of you or other students to learn are unacceptable behaviours. Should you engage in such behaviours I will politely ask you to leave the lecture or tutorial: should I engage in such behaviours please ask me to leave. If we all abide by this code of civility and mutual respect, we set the stage for a mature, safe and stimulating intellectual forum. Included below is the *Code of Conduct for Students, Staff, and Faculty for the Department of Geography. The University of Western Ontario Code of Student Conduct* is available at <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf>: please familiarize yourself with both of these documents.

Finally, if you have problems, questions, ideas or concerns with any aspect of the course, please raise the matter before, during or after class, or during my office hours. You can also phone me and email me (see second paragraph below). I welcome your questions and constructive criticisms. I am approachable and want to assist you to succeed!

LECTURE NOTES

Note taking, like reading, form the foundation of communication, critical thinking, and decision making. If you write information down by hand, retention is heightened relative to passive observation. Consequently, this course may seem ‘*retro*’ by design—there is no website containing course lecture notes for you to access before or after class—and this is precisely the point. You will have to physically attend the lectures, listen, participate, and take your own notes. If you miss a lecture, ask a fellow classmate for his, her, their notes. If you miss something during a lecture, please raise your hand and seek clarification from the instructor.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION

Please use e-mail judiciously. Do not ask me questions about your assignments or course material over e-mail that require more than a one or two sentence response. If you have long and complex questions—and I hope you do—I will be delighted to address them face-to-face during my office hours or class. I want to help you succeed and email is rarely the vehicle to do so.

If you chose to contact me by phone or email, I will usually—but not necessarily—respond within 24 hours during weekdays: do not expect an instantaneous response. I rarely check or send emails on weekends. Please use proper English in your text mail. Communication, like politeness, is a two-way street, and I shall extend to you the same courtesies. Thank you.

ASSORTED ADMINISTRIVA:

Safety

Safety is a shared responsibility. Personal safety must be a personal responsibility. Complacency, inattention, lack of preparation and/or training will all increase risks to health and safety. Ultimately each individual must act in a reasonable manner in order to ensure their safety and the safety of others. (For more information, please see our departmental web address on 'Health and Safety': <http://geography.ssc.uwo.ca/health-safety/fieldwork.htm>).

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

If applicable, a list of the prerequisites for the course and the following notation regarding the Senate regulation with respect to the student's responsibility for ensuring that course prerequisites have been completed successfully or special permission from the Dean obtained. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Appeals

You are advised to read the course calendar to familiarize yourself with Western's regulations and procedures concerning appeals, grades, regulations, penalties and such at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf . Requests to have an assignment or examination re-evaluated must be submitted to me in writing within one week of receiving the graded assignment. In this written request for re-appraisal the specifics of what you would like re-visited and the justification for doing so will be clearly and concisely stated. Should you feel that your final grade in the course is biased, inaccurate or unfair, you do have the right to appeal your mark. Please refer to the *Western Calendar* prior to doing so (see web site above). In an attempt to avoid such time-consuming and stressful procedures for us both, be assured that each and every piece of work is graded carefully and thoroughly. I stand by the marks assigned. ***Be aware that marks may be raised--as well as lowered--through an appeal process.***

Alternate Examination Dates, Dropping the Course

The date of the final examination is set by the Office of the Registrar and will not be changed. If you consider that you have grounds to write a final examination on an alternate date, you must follow the procedure established by the Dean's Office and complete the appropriate forms. The same holds for dropping the course

Medical or Non-Medical Absence, Exemption and Tardiness

Students who have documented 'special needs' and/or official notifications of accommodation from the Dean's office —emailed directly to me—will be accommodated accordingly, including exemption of exams and assignments if circumstances warrant.

For either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean`s office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean`s office that will determine if accommodation is warranted. In all other instances of absences, omissions and tardiness on your part, I respect your maturity: you are adults. If you choose to miss lectures, assignments and examinations you are most at liberty to do so. The consequences are made evident in this course outline. If you are late to class—or must leave early—please do so quietly with minimal disturbance to your peers. Thanks.

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is stealing: it is unacceptable, and those who tempt fate will be persecuted to the fullest extent allowed under the university`s regulations. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. Please avoid this experience and do your own work.

Be aware that all required papers *may* be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Extensions & Late Submissions

All requests for extensions on essay deadlines must be made in writing to me, Dr. Hopkins, at least two weeks before the essay is due. I do not ask for an explanation or reason, simply the revised due date you wish. You may have up to three days beyond the initial due date. Essays submitted beyond the new due date will be penalized as per the course penalty (10% per day). Never slip assignments under my door. Submit late assignments in the `drop box` outside the main geography office.

Electronic Devices

Never record digitally or otherwise any part of my class lectures or labs without my prior and specific permission. Note taking is highly encouraged. No electronic devices will be allowed during the examinations.

Accessibility

The University of Western Ontario is committed to achieving barrier free accessibility for persons studying at Western. Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more

accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Support Services

Registrarial Services: http://accessibility.uwo.ca/resources/support_services.html

Student Development Services: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Mental Health: If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit the site below for more information on mental health resources:

<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>.

Codes of Conduct

My experiences with previous students have been 99.99% positive: let us strive to keep that percentage, OK? I will be polite and courteous to you and your peers, and I demand the same from you. Not to belabour the point, but included below is the *Code of Conduct for Students, Staff, and Faculty for the Department of Geography. The University of Western Ontario Code of Student Conduct* is available at

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>: please familiarize yourself with both of these documents should you have concerns about your own or somebody else's classroom behaviours.

Please Note: Course content and dates may vary due to unforeseen circumstances.



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENTS, STAFF, AND FACULTY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

Affiliation with the Department of Geography presumes mutual respect among students, staff, teaching assistants, and faculty. A positive atmosphere of professionalism and collegiality is essential for everyone to perform to the best of his or her abilities. This requires respect for the opinions and questions of others and behaviour that is, at all times, courteous, and conducive to creating a pleasant and productive environment for learning and working.

As members of a Department of Geography, we are expected to show special respect for our environment, being individually responsible for promoting a clean and safe work environment within the facilities of the Department and the Social Science Centre, including classrooms, laboratories, the Map Library, offices, hallways, washrooms, exterior grounds, and the facilities and vehicles used in field courses and field trips.

It is inevitable that misunderstandings will occur from time to time. However, it is in everyone's interest to try and resolve problems in a non-confrontational manner. Threatening, violent, or abusive behaviour, harassment (including sexual and racial harassment), rudeness (in person, in writing, or on the telephone), and abuse of authority, for whatever reasons, corrode good working and learning conditions.

Incidents that cannot be resolved amicably may be reported to the Chair of the Department (661-3653). The Chair will consider appropriate actions for resolving the problem, usually after consultation with the parties involved. If required, contact with university services (e.g., Police, Equity) or civil authorities will be invoked.

Student Use of University Facilities and Classroom Decorum:

Students are expected to comply with the authority of University staff and faculty on all matters relating to access to facilities (offices, classrooms, laboratories, and Map Library) and to use of equipment and resources. Students are expected to attend all lectures and laboratory sessions regularly and punctually.

Instructors are responsible for maintaining an appropriate academic atmosphere in all class activities; students are expected to cooperate in this effort. Actions that impede instruction deter the ability of students to learn, or show disrespect for instructors and fellow students, will not be condoned in Geography classrooms and labs. Such actions include reading during lectures, disturbing consumption of food or drink, use of walkmans and radios, and disruptive conversation. Serious disrespect for classroom decorum should be reported to the instructor and, if required, to the Chair of the Geography Department (SSC 2429, Telephone 661-3653).

Students are expected to adhere to University standards of academic honesty, as outlined under "Scholastic Offences" in the Western Calendar. Unacceptable practices include cheating, impersonation, plagiarism, misrepresentation of research, falsification of documents, obstructing the academic activities of another, aiding or abetting academic misconduct, and abuse of confidentiality. In addition to incurring penalties, as outlined in the Calendar, some academic offences may fall under the Criminal Code of Canada.

Approved on behalf of Faculty, Staff, and Students by the Council of the Department of Geography on 4 March 1994.