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**Topics in Anthropology - ANTH 399****Topic: Disaster Studies****GFC Hours 3-0****Winter 2023****Instructor:** Dr. Gbenga Adejare**Lecture Location:** KNB 126**Email:** [gbenga.adejare@ucalgary.ca](mailto:gbenga.adejare@ucalgary.ca)**Lecture Days:** Tues & Thur**Time:** 11:00am – 12:15pm**Office:** SS 936**Office Hours:** Tues & Thur:  
1:00pm – 2:30pm**Teaching****Assistant:** Narges Ghaen**TA Email:** narges.khalesimoghad@ucalgary.ca

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**Prerequisite(s):** None**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Disaster is a common global phenomenon that constantly attracts varied interests and/or approaches in scholarship, policy making, financing, technology, infrastructure, and culture. The approach adopted in this course is eclectic and people-centric. By looking at different cases, the course will explore historical and social contexts of disaster to capture the lived experiences, policies, causes, implications of disaster and foreground a sustainable approach to preventing its incidences. Disaster mitigation, vulnerability and recovery processes will be examined through the lenses of policy-making process, global politics, inequalities and social processes that underlie conversations around (under)development, humanity and sustainable ecosystem.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Conceptualize disaster anthropogenically
- Explicate agentic causes and courses of disaster
- Provide informed commentary on global inequalities and environmental racism

- Discuss intelligently the connection between politics, culture, environment and technology
- Engage meaningfully in conversations on sustainable approaches to mitigating disaster
- Unpack the wins and flip sides of political, economic and technological advancement

## READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:

### Required Textbook

Ilan Kelman, 2022. *Disaster by Choice: How our actions turn natural hazards into catastrophes*. UK: Oxford University Press

### Recommended Textbooks

1. Morten T. Vendelo, Olivier Rubin and Rasmus Dahlberg (eds), 2016. *Disaster Research: Multidisciplinary and international perspectives*. London: Routledge Publisher. Available at [https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG\\_INST/15o3ob6/cdi\\_askewsholts\\_vlebooks\\_9781317531395](https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9781317531395)
2. Kathleen Tierney, 2019. *Disaster: a sociological approach*, UK: Polity Press
3. Kasia Mika, 2018. *Disasters, Vulnerability, and Narratives Writing Haiti's Futures*. Routledge. Available at [https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG\\_INST/46l39d/alma991029062078504336](https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/46l39d/alma991029062078504336)

Further readings and films will be provided on D2L.

## REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:

To participate effectively in this course, learners are expected to possess a computer with supported operating system, current and updated browser, broadband internet connection, a word processor such as Microsoft Word and PowerPoint for assignments and presentations. Also, a good knowledge of how to D2L and TopHat is required. Please visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/technology-requirements-for-students/>, <https://app-ca.tophat.com/>

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

### Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATE
Midterm Exam	25%	<b>February 7</b>
Essay Assignment	30%	<b>April 11</b>
Group presentation and presentation report	35%	<b>March 23 – April 6</b>
Participation: Class attendance and D2L/TopHat discussions	10%	<b>Ongoing</b>
Total	100%	

**Midterm Exam**

There will be one exam in this course slated for February 7, 2023. This exam will be in form of multiple-choice questions. It will attract 25% of the total obtainable marks in the course. Please note that this is a closed book exam. It will focus on everything that has been taught and discussed in class up to this point, including guest lecture(s).

**Essay Assignment**

30% of the aggregate marks for the course will be allotted an original essay assignment. The choice of topics to write on will be made by the students, but it has to fall within the ambit of the course. A form will be created on D2L for students to submit their topics latest by Tuesday, April 11, 2023. All essays will be graded according to grading rubric that will be shared on D2L. Submissions will be accepted only through D2L Dropbox.

**Group Presentation and presentation report**

Students will be distributed into groups with no more than 10 participants in each group. Each group will write and present a reflective paper based on an allotted chapter from the required textbook. Using the chapter preassigned to your group, each presentation must capture nuanced disaster-related issues as may be suitable within the broad scope of disaster studies. In addition to the paper, each group member is expected to write a short report of their contribution which will be submitted to a different Dropbox. Further details, including group allocation and rubric, will be communicated on D2L.

**Participation**

Active participation is a crucial component of this course. Class attendance as well as postings on discussion forums will be rewarded. Please note that participation is not limited to class discussions. Please note that only constructive engagements and contributions to ongoing discussions in class and on D2L/TopHat will be graded. 10% of the marks obtainable in this course can be obtained through participation. The criteria for determining participation grade will be based on the depth and relevance of responses and completion of tasks.

**Late Submission Policy**

While I am aware that different life's circumstances can prevent students from submitting assignments and completing other required tasks in this course, it is important to ensure that the students make effort to communicate their need/s for exemption or extension before due dates of such tasks. As such, late assignments will be penalized 5% per day, including weekends and holidays without prior instructor's approval. Instructor's approval for a late submission must be sought no later than 5 days before the due date. All assignments must be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L

**Missed Exam/Test**

Missed examinations/tests cannot be made up without the approval of the instructor. Students who missed a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It is at the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right

to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Once approved by the instructor, a makeup test/exam must be written within two weeks of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor.

**Reappraisal of Graded Term Work:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

**Reappraisal of Final Grade:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

#### **Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:**

A+	95 – 100%	B+	80 – 84.9%	C+	67 – 70.9%	D+	55 – 58.9%
A	90 – 94.9%	B	75 – 79.9%	C	63 – 66.9%	D	50 – 54.9%
A-	85 – 89.9%	B-	71 – 74.9%	C-	59 – 62.9%	F	< 50%

***\*\*Please note that no extra credit or 'make up' work is available in this class\*\****

#### **Land Acknowledgement**

As a faculty member of The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, I, Gbenga Adejare, acknowledge and would like to thank the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

#### **Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity**

Please note that topics treated in this course may be emotional. Issues around gender, politics, race, ethnicity, class and other polarizing factors are not unlikely to colour our conversations and engagement throughout the course. As such, participants are enjoined to be empathetic, sensitive, tolerant in order to engender inclusive learning and knowledge production in and out of classes. In consonance to the position of the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, I embrace diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and will add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

#### **COURSE POLICIES**

**OFFICE HOURS:** Appointment with instructor can be arranged after or by email. Meeting over zoom is not encouraged except if it is unavoidable.

**EMAILING TO INSTRUCTOR OR TEACHING ASSISTANT:** Your enquiries, questions and concerns can be sent to the emails of both the instructor and the TA as provided at the top of this course outline. But please pay attention to the following netiquette when writing us:

- Endeavour to use your university email/account
- Use a clear subject

- Be respectful. The tone and wording of your email should show that you value mutual respect
- Precision: brevity, they say, is the soul of wit. Keep your email as brief as possible
- Include your full name in the signature of your email.
- Allow 48 hours for a response, excluding weekends and holidays.
- Please note that we may choose not to respond to emails that do not follow the format outlined above.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html). Often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are (1) presenting another student's work as your own, (2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with

according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

## CLASS SCHEDULE

Day/ Date	Topic/Title /Exam/Focus	Readings/Films/Activities
Tues Jan 10	Introduction: Why are we here?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Instructor, TA, and student introductions</li> <li>- Discussion of course outline</li> <li>- Highlighting individual and collective expectations and requirements for the class</li> <li>- Ice-breaker exercise: compare and contrast between emergency, catastrophe, and disaster.</li> </ul>
Thur Jan 12	Modernity, industrialization, nature and humanity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Planet of the Humans</a> by Jeff Gibbs</li> <li>- <a href="#">Saving the earth</a> by Sir David Attenborough, WWF International</li> </ul>
Tues Jan 17	(Re)Conceptualizing disaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- M. D. Cooper (2019) "Seven Dimensions of Disaster: The Sendai Framework and the Social Construction of Catastrophe", in <i>Cambridge handbook of disaster risk reduction and international law</i>, pp. 17-51. Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_scopus_primary_633796566">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_scopus_primary_633796566</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">"How to live in an age of disaster"</a> (YouTube), an interview with Juliette Kyam by Amanpour and Company.</li> </ul>

Thur Jan 19	Historicizing Disaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dahlberg R. (2016) "Cracks in the Past: Historical Approaches to Disaster Research." Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancis_books_10_4324_9781315724584_8_version2">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancis_books_10_4324_9781315724584_8_version2</a></li> </ul>
Tues Jan 24	Researching Disaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Disaster Research: An Introduction." Disaster Research, Routledge, 2016, pp. 15–32. Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancis_books_10_4324_9781315724584_6_version2">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancis_books_10_4324_9781315724584_6_version2</a></li> </ul>
Thur Jan 26	Theorizing Disaster: perspectives to studying disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Huggins, Thomas J., and David M. Johnston. "The Importance of Theory, Analysis and Practice to Integrated Disaster Research; Introduction to the IRDR Conference Special Issue." Australasian Journal of Disaster and Trauma Studies, vol. 19, no. SI, 2015, pp. 3–7. Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_proquest_journals_1679123_951">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_proquest_journals_1679123_951</a></li> </ul>
Tues Jan 31	Global politics of disaster:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consequential diplomacy: <a href="#">A case of America vs China</a></li> </ul>
Thur Feb 2	Guest Lecture I Institutional Degradation: destructive nature of apartheid in human society - Dr Rashid Begg	
Tues Feb 7	Midterm Exam	In-person
Thur Feb 9	A tale of Two Countries: Haiti and Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mika K. (2019) "Disaster's past, present and future: beyond exposure, failure and resilience" in <i>Disasters, Vulnerability, and Narratives</i>, 1<sup>st</sup> ed., vol.1, Routledge, 2019, pp. 32-5. Full text available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancis_books_10_4324_9780203733158_2_version2">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancis_books_10_4324_9780203733158_2_version2</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">A Case of Nepal</a>: The History of Disaster Incidents and Impacts in Nepal (1900-2005) by Komal Raj Aryal</li> </ul>
Tues Feb 14	Vulnerability in context: beaming the searchlight on inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grow L., et al. (2022) "DISASTER VULNERABILITY." Boston College Law Review, vol. 63, no. 3, 2022, pp. 957–1035. Accessible at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_proquest_journals_2667262_974">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_proquest_journals_2667262_974</a></li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rubin, Olivier. "Social Vulnerability to Climate-Induced Natural Disasters: Cross-Provincial Evidence from Vietnam." <i>Asia Pacific Viewpoint</i>, vol. 55, no. 1, 2014, pp. 67–80. Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_scopus_primary_372722648">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_scopus_primary_372722648</a></li> </ul>
Thur Feb 16	The <i>social</i> of disaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "The Social Life of Disasters: An Anthropological Approach." <i>Disaster Research</i>, Routledge, 2016, pp. 80–95, Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancis_books_10_4324_9781315724584_12_version2">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_informaworld_taylorfrancis_books_10_4324_9781315724584_12_version2</a></li> </ul>
Feb 19-25	Term Break, No Classes	
Tues Feb 28	Disaster and in(equality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Readings will be posted on D2L</li> </ul>
Thur Mar 2	Guest Lecture II Memories of Civil Wars in Postcolonial Africa - Dr. Sakiru Adebayo	
Teus Mar 7	Is covid-19 a disaster?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kelman, Ilan. "COVID-19: What Is the Disaster?" <i>Social Anthropology</i>, vol. 28, no. 2, 2020, pp. 296–97. Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_gale_infotrasmisc_A631868212">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_gale_infotrasmisc_A631868212</a></li> <li>- Jacobsen, Kathryn H. "Will COVID-19 Generate Global Preparedness?" <i>The Lancet</i>, vol. 395, no. 10229, 2020, pp. 1013–14. Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_proquest_journals_2389216454">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_proquest_journals_2389216454</a></li> <li>- Matthewman, Steve, and Kate Huppatz. "A Sociology of Covid-19." <i>Journal of Sociology</i> (Melbourne, Vic.), vol. 56, no. 4, 2020, pp. 675–83. Available at <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_webofscience_primary_000544959300001">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_webofscience_primary_000544959300001</a></li> </ul>
Thur Mar 9	Guest Lecture III Global Warming and Climate Change	

	- Dr. Queen E. Johnson	
Tues Mar 14	Recovery: Post-disaster Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mika, Kasia, and Ilan Kelman. "Shealing: Post-disaster Slow Healing and Later Recovery." <i>Area</i> (London 1969), vol. 52, no. 3, 2020, pp. 646–53. Available <a href="https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_proquest_journals_2434377300">https://ucalgary.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01UCALG_INST/15o3ob6/cdi_proquest_journals_2434377300</a></li> <li>- UNISDR (2017), "Building back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction – 2017 consultative version". Available at <a href="https://www.unisdr.org/files/53213_bbb.pdf">https://www.unisdr.org/files/53213_bbb.pdf</a></li> <li>- Cunanan A. L. et al. (2022). "Where is the Force? Mismatches and Contradictions with Post-Disaster Recovery and Rehabilitation Task Forces", <i>Int. J. Dis. Manag.</i> (2022) 5:2, pp 109-130 Available at <a href="https://jurnal.unsyiah.ac.id/IJDM/article/view/26065/pdf">https://jurnal.unsyiah.ac.id/IJDM/article/view/26065/pdf</a></li> </ul>
Thur Mar 16	Disaster governance: confronting disaster	- Readings will be posted on D2L
Tues Mar 21	Disaster Resilience and Sustainability	- Abidoye B. et al. (2021) "Leaving no one behind: impact of covid-19 on sustainable development goals". <a href="#">New:UNDP, pp. 4-17</a>
Thurs Mar 23	Student presentations, discussions, and feedback	Groups 1 & 2
Tues Mar 28	Student presentations, discussions, and feedback	Groups 3 & 4
Thur Mar 30	Student presentations, discussions, and feedback	Groups 5 & 6
Thur Apr 6	Student presentations, discussions, and feedback	Groups 9 & 10
Tue Apr 11	End of class: general review Essay assignment is due for submission on D2L	

#### IMPORTANT DATES

M Jan 9	First day of Winter Term lectures
R Jan 19	Last day to drop a class without a financial penalty

F Jan 20	Last day to add or swap a course
F Jan 27	Fee payment deadline for Winter Term full and half courses.
Feb 20-24	Reading Break. No classes.
F Apr 7	Good Friday, University closed. No classes.
M Apr 10	Easter Monday, University closed. No classes.
W Apr 12	Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Winter Term half courses.
Apr 15-26	Winter Final Exam Period

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html#fall2017>