

THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

DEVELOPMENT STUDIES INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM

DEST 401: Winter 2019

Special Topics: Political Economy and Ecology of Agriculture, Food and the Environment

Tue/Thur 12:30PM-1:45PM

Room: EDC 280

Instructor: Ben McKay

Office: ES756

Office Hours: 2pm-3pm Tues/Thur or by appointment

Email: ben.mckay@ucalgary.ca

TA: Matt Moors

Office Hours: TBD

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the inter-linked theoretical and methodological foundations of critical agrarian studies, critical environmental studies, and the political economy of food. Students will become familiar with the necessary theoretical and analytical tools required to develop a critical understanding of contemporary processes of agrarian and environmental change, including environmental degradation, rural resource access and use, political economy of food, and the key socio-political and economic processes facing the rural world. This course does not take the rural world in isolation, but rather in an interlinked manner: rural-urban and agricultural-industry linkages. Appropriate comparisons will be made between developing and developed countries. The analytical starting point to tackle these issues is a critical political economy framework, meaning that the emphasis will be on the political economic power dynamics that frame and cut across agrarian, food and environmental issues.

Prerequisites:

DEST 393 or permission from the instructor

Learning Outcomes:

After taking this course, students will have developed:

- An understanding of the major theoretical and methodological traditions in agrarian political economy and ecology, seen in overlapping/synergistic or conflicting/competing manners
- A conceptual framework which recognizes that all agrarian, food and environmental issues arise from a combination of economic, political, cultural and natural processes;
- A critical perspective on the political and economic structures that shape local, national and international agrarian, food and environmental questions.
- An overview of relevant contemporary issues surrounding agriculture, the environment and their interactions
- Their ability to engage in constructive criticism
- Their presentation and group work skills

Assessment:

(1) Pop Quizzes: 10%

A total of 5 pop-quizzes/in-class assignments will be held unannounced throughout the semester, each worth 2% of your final grade. These will be based on the required readings assigned for that day in class, so make sure you come to class prepared and having done the required readings for that day.

(1) Midterm Exam: 25% - 14 February

Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings to date will be covered.

(2) Group Work Presentations: 20% - 28 March, 2 & 4 April

Details to be discussed in class.

(3) Peer Review: 5% - 28 March, 2 & 4 April

Details to be discussed in class.

(4) Final Exam: 40% - TBD by Registrar (Final Exam Period: 15 April-27 April)

Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings, including those prior to the midterm exam, will be covered.

*Late assignments will be penalized by 10% per day.

For referencing style, use APA. See <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

The final mark out of 100, will then be converted to a letter grade as follows:

A+	94.9 – 100%	A	89.9 – 94.8%	A-	84.9 – 89.8%
B+	79.9 – 84.8%	B	74.9 – 79.8%	B-	70.9 – 74.8%
C+	66.9 – 70.8%	C	62.9 – 66.8%	C-	58.9 – 62.8%
D+	54.9 – 58.8%	D	49.9 – 54.8%	F	49.8 and below

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Plagiarism: “to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one’s own” (Webster’s). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology’s policy on intellectual honesty

DEFERRED EXAMS:

A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor. The instructor at their discretion may transfer the percentage weight for the test to the final examination, if there is a final examination in the course, set another test, etc. An instructor will normally make this decision on the basis of verbal information provided

by the student. In the event that an instructor feels that they cannot judge the veracity of the information provided, Students must be aware that they are responsible for payment of any charge associated with the medical assessment and documentation as this service falls outside the realm of services provided by the Provincial Health Care Plan. Deferral of the final exam requires Registrar approval.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor of this course.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Calgary is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievements. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Non-academic integrity also constitutes an important component of this program.

For detailed information on what constitutes academic and non-academic misconduct, please refer to the following link: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

All suspected cases of academic and non-academic misconduct will be investigated following procedures outlined in the University Calendar. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behavior or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

Where there is a criminal act involved in plagiarism, cheating or other academic misconduct, e.g., theft (taking another student's paper from their possession, or from the possession of a faculty member without permission), breaking and entering (forcibly entering an office to gain access to papers, grades or records), forgery, personation and conspiracy (impersonating another student by agreement and writing their paper) and other such offences under the Criminal Code of Canada, the University may take legal advice on the appropriate response and, where appropriate, refer the matter to the police, in addition to or in substitution for any action taken under these regulations by the University

TEACHING EVALUATIONS / USRI (Universal Student Ratings of Instruction)

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. **Your responses make a difference, please participate!** Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri/>

Writing Across the Curriculum

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support, part of the Student Success Centre, can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, please refer to the following link to become familiar with the assembly points for the class: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Please refer to the following link for detailed information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy) policy requires all reports/examinations to be returned to students during class time or the instructor's office hours. Any term work not picked up will be placed in the Anthropology and Archaeology Office (ES620) for distribution. Any student not wishing to have their work placed in the office must make alternative arrangements with the course instructor early in the term.

Safewalk Information: Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at (403) 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security Officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources: Have a question, but not sure where to start? Arts Students' Centre

The Faculty of Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance that they require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning, the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- program advising
- the Faculty's Co-operative Education Program
- the Arts and Science Honours Academy
- the Faculty's Interdisciplinary Programs
- a Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403.220.3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contacts for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

arts2@su.ucalgary.ca

arts3@su.ucalgary.ca

arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Ombudsman`s office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>