Geography 340: Settlements of Rural Canada
Winter, 2012

Prerequisite:
One of GEOG 202, ERS/GEOG 203, or GEOG 250

Class Time:
Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 – 11:20, EV3 4412

Instructor:
Clare Mitchell, EV1 Room 333 ext. 33285
E-mail: cjamitch@uwaterloo.ca
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:30 – 1:00; Wednesday, 3:00 – 4:30 or by appointment

Course Structure:
This course explores the evolving identities of Canada’s rural settlements. We begin by examining traditional rural communities (both dispersed and nucleated), and then consider the forces (depopulation and repopulation) that have contributed to their present state. We then assess how contemporary settlements are being redefined in light of recent change. In the final section, student presentations will demonstrate how specific Ontario towns and villages are evolving to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Course Management:
The course is managed through LEARN. Organizational slides are normally posted the day before the lecture. Any announcements related to the course will also be posted at this site. If you would like to correspond with me, please use the email address found on page 1 of this outline; do not send me messages via LEARN (since I only access this site twice a week).

Required Readings:
Readings are available either on the course website, through Trellis (library web site), or at the reserve desk in the Porter Library.

Course Requirements:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Value (%)</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test #1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>January 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>March 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test #2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>March 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>March 20 - 29</td>
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<td>Critique</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>April 6th (submit to digital drop box by midnight)</td>
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Tests
The tests are scheduled for January 31st and March 15th. They are both 80 minutes in duration. The first test will include a mix of short and longer answer questions. The second test will be in long-answer format. Every attempt should be made in your answers to combine information provided in the lectures and readings.
Paper and Presentation
The purpose of this assignment is to develop a place-based identity for an Ontario rural and small town municipality that experienced population loss during the last census period. The assignment has three major components. You will individually write a paper that: analyzes a community’s current identity; assesses the future viability of this identity; and, provides recommendations for future development (due March 1st). Based on your independent analysis, you, and several classmates, will then devise a strategy that develops an identity for your municipality that capitalizes on its placed-based competitive assets. This strategy will be created during two class periods and will be presented at the end of term (25 minute presentation – 10%). Power point presentations must be uploaded to LEARN on the day that you present (5%). Further information about this assignment is posted on the course website. Note: a penalty of 2 marks per day from 25 will be applied for late paper submissions. Extensions without penalty will only be granted under extenuating circumstances - documentation verifying illness etc. must be provided.

Critique
You will critique three group presentations (5 marks each); one drawn from each day, excluding the day that you present. Details about this assignment will be posted on the course website in March.

Schedule (Subject to change)
Part 1: Traditional Rural Settlements: The Way Things Were

1. January 3  
   An Introduction to Geography 340

2. January 5  
   Defining Rural

3. January 10  
   The Hutterites: A Traditional Rural Society
   Video: The Hutterites: to Care and Not to Care

4. January 12  
   The Historic Distribution of Dispersed Rural Settlements
   Last day to select your case study site.

5. January 17  
   The Historic Distribution of Nucleated Rural Settlements


Part 2: Forces of Change

7. January 24  Rural Depopulation: Rural service centres


8. January 26  Rural Depopulation: Single industry towns


9. January 31  Test #1

10. February 2  Rural Repopulation: Causes


11. February 7  Rural Repopulation: Consequences


12. February 9  Rural Repopulation: Implications

Part 3: Responding to Change: The Way Things Are

13. February 14  The Top-down Approach


14. February 16  The Bottom-up Approach: Community Economic Development


Reading Week

15. February 28  Using Creativity to Create a Competitive Advantage


16. March 1  Mandatory group planning session. Failure to attend without a valid medical reason will result in a 2-mark penalty (from the 10 marks allocated for the presentation).
**Essays are due today (bring 2 copies)**

17. March 6  Challenges of the Creative Economy: Avoiding Creative Destruction


18. March 8  Mandatory in-class planning session. Failure to attend without a valid medical reason will result in a 2-mark penalty.

19. March 13  No class: prepare for test

20. March 15  Test #2

Part 4: Presentations

21. March 20  Group Presentations 1 - 3
22. March 22  Group Presentations 4 - 6
23. March 27  Group Presentations 7 - 9
24. March 29  Group Presentation 10 and course wrap up

Notes:

Unclaimed Assignments: These will be retained until one month after term grades become official in quest. After that time, they will be destroyed in compliance with UW’s confidential shredding procedures.

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/. Students who are unsure what constitutes an academic offence are requested to visit the on-line tutorial at http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/ait/

Research Ethics: Please also note that the University of Waterloo requires all research conducted by its students, staff, and faculty which involves humans as participants to undergo prior ethics review and clearance through the Director, Office of Human Research and Animal Care (Office). The ethics review and clearance processes are intended to ensure that projects comply with the Office’s Guidelines for Research with Human Participants (Guidelines) as well as those of provincial and federal agencies, and that the safety, rights and welfare of participants are adequately protected. The Guidelines inform researchers about ethical issues and procedures which are of concern when conducting research with humans (e.g. confidentiality, risks and benefits, informed consent process, etc.). If the development of your research proposal consists of research that involves humans as participants, the please contact the course instructor for guidance and see http://iris.uwaterloo.ca/ethics/

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Note for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Religious Observances: Please inform the instructor at the beginning of term if special accommodation needs to be made for religious observances that are not otherwise accounted for in the scheduling of classes and assignments.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm. When in doubt please contact your Undergraduate Advisor for details.

Discipline (as noted above): A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning about “rules” for group work/collaboration, should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties, check Guidelines for Assessment of Penalties, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 – (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals) www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm