Geography 340: Settlements of Rural Canada
Winter, 2015

Class Time:

Monday and Wednesday, 8:30 – 9:50, EV1 Room 132

Instructor:

Clare Mitchell, EV1 Room 224
E-mail: cjamitch@uwaterloo.ca
Office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 10:30 – 12:00

Course Structure:

This course explores the evolution of Canada’s rural settlements. We begin by examining the early form and function of dispersed and nucleated settlements as they existed in Canada before the 20th century. In the next section we uncover the processes responsible for rural decline, and then focus on those promoting rural restructuring. In the final section, student presentations will demonstrate how communities in specific Canadian regions are overcoming the challenges of the 21st century.

Learning Objectives:

1. To gain knowledge and critical understanding of the key concepts, current advances, theoretical approaches and assumptions of the field of rural geography.
2. To gain an understanding of qualitative research methods and how these methods may be used to understand and potentially address the issues facing Canada’s rural settlements.
3. To improve your written and oral communication skills.
4. To gain experience in working with others.

Course Management:

The course is managed through LEARN. Organizational slides are normally posted 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 above; do not send me messages via LEARN.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Test</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>February 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Project:</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>February 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group presentation slides</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>March 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group presentation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>March 23 – April 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Exam</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: the bibliography, paper, and slides must be submitted to the digital drop box by 11:59 pm on the due date. The late penalty is 2 marks per day (from 10, 25 and 5% respectively), although exceptions will be made for valid, and documented, medical reasons.

Test and Exam

The test is scheduled for February 2nd. It is 80 minutes in duration and will be comprised of long answer questions. Every attempt should be made in your answers to combine information provided in the lectures and readings. The final exam will also be in long answer format and will cover material presented since the midterm test. The exam may include a take-home component.

Project

The purpose of this assignment is to determine if, and how, the challenges facing rural settlements in one part of Canada are being overcome. The project has three components: an annotated bibliography, an individual paper, and a group presentation (which will be prepared in class on March 16th and 18th). Further information about this assignment is posted on the course website.
Schedule (Subject to change)

Part 1: Traditional Rural Settlements (pre 20th century)

1. January 5  An Introduction to Geography 340

2. January 7  Interpreting “rural”


3. January 12  The Hutterite colony: A traditional rural settlement


Last day to select your province/territory for study

4. January 14  Traditional dispersed settlement patterns


5. January 19  Traditional nucleated settlement patterns


6. January 21  Traditional morphology of dispersed and nucleated settlements

Part 2: Declining Rural Settlements

7. January 26  Depopulation I: Agricultural regions


8. January 28  Depopulation II: Resource regions


9. February 2  Test

Part 3: Restructuring Rural Settlements

10. February 4  Intervention I: The exogenous approach


11. February 9  Intervention II: The endogenous approach


Submit Annotated Bibliography by 11:59 pm on Tuesday, February 10
12. February 11  Intervention III: The neo-endogenous approach


**Reading Week**

13. February 23  Intervention IV: “Place-shaping”


14. February 25  Rural Repopulation I: Introduction


15. March 2  Rural Repopulation II: Dispersed settlements


16. March 4  Rural Repopulation III: Nucleated settlements


17. March 9  Implications of Restructuring I: Creative destruction or creative enhancement?

18. March 11  Implications of Restructuring II: Countryside conflict


**Paper is due in digital drop box on Sunday, 11:59 pm, March 15th.**

**Part 4: Overcoming the Economic Challenges of the 21st Century: Case studies**

19. March 16  Mandatory group planning session. Failure to attend and remain for the full 80-minutes without a valid medical reason will result in a 2-mark penalty.

20. March 18  Mandatory group planning session. Failure to attend and remain for the full 80-minutes without a valid medical reason will result in a 2-mark penalty.

**Upload slides by Sunday, March 22nd, by 11:59 pm**


22. March 25  Group Presentations  3 - 4

23. March 30  Group Presentations  5 - 6

24. April 1  Group Presentations  7 - 8
Notes:

**Turnitin**: Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all materials and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option (submitting an annotated bibliography), if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. Details are provided on the course web site about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

**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/](http://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/](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/](http://iris.uwaterloo.ca/ethics/)

**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