

GEOG 302

This course examines the spatial dimensions of work and employment, focusing not just on traditional spaces of work (the factory, the office), but also unpaid work in the home, migrant labour, and forced work.

Emphasis is placed on the question of worker agency—the choices and constraints workers experience under capitalism. We will examine traditional forms of collective action like unionization, but also more radical demands of work refusal, universal basic income, and wages for housework. We will also consider how the pandemic impacts workers, including who can work from home and who is most at risk because of their job.

The online format for GEOG302 will be asynchronous, involving narrated PowerPoint slides and readings/videos/podcasts that will be accessible online. The assessment emphasizes student participation through weekly discussion boards, a working life story assignment (where you will conduct a research interview), and a take home exam essay. Prereq: Level at least 3A.