Course Description
This course will investigate the major theoretical concepts and empirical contexts of social geography – one of the most dynamic and eclectic subfields in contemporary human geography. Largely the outcome of 1960s political radicalism and the “cultural turn” of the 1980s, social geography explores how spatial forces and structures reproduce social lives of difference and inequality. The course explores the following interrelated objects and scales of analysis: space and society; body; home; community; institutions; street; city; the rural; nation; and resort.

Required Texts
Journal articles (sent via course email list and available online on Canvas).

Course Evaluation
Participation: Lecture attendance is mandatory and I encourage you to ask questions and make comments during class. Tutorial attendance is also mandatory and this component is assessed in terms of: 10% for participation in tutorial discussions and 10% for leading the tutorial discussion based on a ten-minute presentation (individually or with a partner) on the week's reading that summarizes its main arguments and poses questions.

Examinations: The two exams will consist of short answer and essay questions that focus on the lecture materials and tutorial readings. The Midterm Exam (20%) will take place during a regular class meeting and the Final Exam (30%) will be held during the Exam Period (see Course Schedule below).

Research Paper: Each student will submit a 6 pages research paper (30%) that will critically explore the social geographies of an event – as reported in a newspaper article – in the regional context of Vancouver. I highly recommend that you meet me during office hours in the early stages of semester to plan your paper. Details will follow shortly.
Tutorial Participation 10%
Tutorial Presentation 10%
Midterm Exam 20%
Research Paper 30%
Final Exam 30%
Total 100%

Final letter grades are then assigned according to the standard (%):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent Performance</th>
<th>Good Performance</th>
<th>Satisfactory Performance</th>
<th>Marginal Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95-100 = A+</td>
<td>80-84 = B+</td>
<td>65-69 = C+</td>
<td>50-54 = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-94 = A</td>
<td>75-79 = B</td>
<td>60-64 = C</td>
<td>0-49 = F (Fail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-89 = A-</td>
<td>70-74 = B-</td>
<td>55-59 = C-</td>
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SFU’s performance standards and the Departmental internal grading guidelines inform the grading in this class as follows: Excellent = A (“very small group of superior students… substantial originality and creativity”); Good = B (“gone beyond the normal expectations”) Satisfactory = C (“sound performance”); Marginally Satisfactory = D; Unacceptable = F.

Course Policies
The following guides this course, the students, and the instructor towards a positive, comfortable, and intellectually rewarding environment.

Academic Honesty
I encourage you to consult the responsibilities of students and faculty in the SFU Teaching and Instruction Policies [http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/teaching.html]. Work submitted for grading in this class must be the student’s own. Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are not acceptable. I will not hesitate in taking the appropriate action against any form of cheating or plagiarism. You are responsible for understanding the procedures, ramifications, and meanings of academic honesty. To this end, please consult SFU’s Code of Academic Integrity and Good Conduct (S10.01) [http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student/s10-01.html] and Principles and Procedures for Student Discipline (S10.02) [http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student/s10-02.html]. Please contact me in a timely manner if you require further clarification about academic honesty. Also note, any student who cheats in this course risks (at the discretion of the Department Chair) receiving a FD Grade (Failed – Academic Dishonesty).

Excused Absences
If you are absent for a lecture and/or tutorial, you must: (1) notify me and/or the TA beforehand or in the 24 hours following the end of the lecture and/or tutorial; and (2) provide a written doctor’s or official note stating why you were incapacitated and/or unable to attend. If in doubt, contact me.

Conduct
Disruptive behavior in class will not be tolerated. To this end, arrive promptly for lectures and tutorials, do not eat and/or drink in class in a disruptive manner, switch off all electronic devices prior to class, do not sleep, read, or go online during class, avoid any other activities that cause distraction or disrespect to your colleagues and/or myself. From the instructor the student can expect: timely class start and dismissal; regular office hours and arranged office hours; organized and prepared lectures; answers to questions that arise in class, whether they are known or must be researched; assistance in learning the course material and in preparing for graded assignments;
assistance in securing course materials; a professional and respectful demeanor; fair and confidential grading. From the student the instructor can expect: punctual and complete attendance for all lectures and tutorials; reading of all assigned texts; patience for dismissal; regular and informed participation; a willingness to ask questions; a method for taking and reviewing notes; a respectful and cooperative demeanor in the classroom; notification as soon as one is lost, confused or upset. In addition, from each other, all students can expect respect for one another.

Students with Disabilities
If you have any needs or conditions that must be or can be reasonably accommodated by the instructor, please see me privately in advance. I have experience in working with students with learning disabilities and special needs and want to ensure every student a complete opportunity to learn. I am, of course, bound to university rules on these matters. SFU also has a Centre for Students with Disabilities (http://students.sfu.ca/disabilityaccess.html).

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 – January 7
Lecture: Introducing Social Geography
Tutorial: None

Week 2 – January 14
Lecture: Space and Society
Tutorial: Panelli

Week 3 – January 21
Lecture: The Body
Receive (via email) and start work on Research Paper
Tutorial: Lobo

Week 4 – January 28
Lecture: The Home
Tutorial: Christensen

Week 5 – February 4
Lecture: Community
Receive Midterm Exam Study Guide
Tutorial: McCutcheon

Week 6 – February 11
NO LECTURE or TUTORIALS (Reading Break)

Week 7 – February 18
MIDTERM EXAM (Usual class time and room)
Tutorial: None

Week 8 – February 25
Lecture: The Street
Tutorial: Boyd

Week 9 – March 3
Lecture: Institutions
Tutorial: Martin
Week 10 – March 10  Lecture: The City  
Tutorial: Lancione

Week 11 – March 17  Lecture: The Rural  
Tutorial: Tucker and Rose-Redwood

Week 12 – March 24  Lecture: The Nation  
Receive Final Exam Study Guide  
Tutorial: Dittmer and Larsen

Week 13 – March 31  Lecture: None (Instructor at Conference (AAG Annual Meeting))  
Tutorial: None

Week 14 – April 7  Lecture: The Resort  
Tutorial: Kruse

RESEARCH PAPER DUE IN CLASS

Week 15 – April 23  FINAL EXAM (Saturday, 8:30a.m. – 10:30 a.m., location TBA)

Tutorial Readings

Boyd, J. 2010. Producing Vancouver’s (hetero)normative nightscape. Gender, Place and Culture 17(2) 169-189.


Tucker, B. and Rose-Redwood, R. Decolonizing the map?: Toponymic politics and the rescaling of the Salish Sea. The Canadian Geographer 59(2) 194-206.

Recommended Journals for the Research Paper:

ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies; Annals of the American Association of Geographers; Antipode; The Canadian Geographer; Cultural Geographies; Environment and Planning D; Gender, Place & Culture; Geoforum; Progress in Human Geography; Social & Cultural Geography; Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers. Also see: The International Encyclopedia of Human Geography (available online via SFU library).

Liaison Librarian for Geography: Julie Jones (email: jsj7@sfu.ca / tel. 778-782-9704)