

GEOG 2420A – Economic Geography

Course Outline: Section 001 Fall 2025

This course is taught in-person

1. Course Information

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 6



Classes Start	Fall Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 4	November 3-9	December 9	December 10	December 11-22

Friday September 12, 2025: Last day to add a second-term half course

Tuesday September 30, 2025: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (non-instructional day).

Monday October 13, 2025: Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday December 1, 2025: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty



Course Instructor	Contact Information	Office Hours
Roza Tchoukaleyska	rtchouka@uwo.ca	Mondays 10.30am-12pm and Tuesdays 12.30-1.30pm

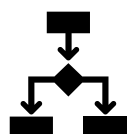
Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information	Office Hours
Eva Escandon	eescando@uwo.ca	TBA



- ☒ Office hours will be held in person
- ☒ Office hours for Eva Escandon are TBA will be held in SSC 2316; these are drop-in hours with no sign-up required.
- ☒ Office hours for Roza Tchoukaleyska will be held in SSC 2413; these are drop-in hours with no sign-up required.

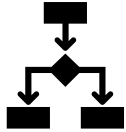
2. Calendar Description

The forces reshaping global economic geography; fundamentals of spatial economics; principles of locational decisions; spatial interaction; and growth of spatial economic systems are examined. Examples of these concepts are taken from a variety of countries.



3 lecture hours, 0.5 course

Prerequisite(s): 0.5 course from [Geography 1100](#), [Geography 1200A/B](#), [Geography 1300A/B](#), [Geography 1400F/G](#), [Geography 1500F/G](#), [Geography 2131A/B](#), [Geography 2132A/B](#), [Geography 2133A/B](#), [Geography 2152F/G](#), [Geography 2153A/B](#), [Geography 2160A/B](#), [Environmental Science 1021F/G](#); [Economics 1021A/B](#), [Economics 1022A/B](#); [MOS 1021A/B](#), [MOS 1023A/B](#), or enrolment in any of the Globalization Studies modules.



Prerequisite checking is the student's responsibility

Senate Regulations state, "unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

3. Textbook

☒ The required textbook for this course is:

Coe, N. M., Kelly, P.F., & Yeung, H.W.C. (2020). *Economic geography: A contemporary introduction* (3rd edition). Wiley.



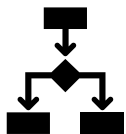
The textbook can be found at the Western Bookstore; it is available as a printed book (\$68.30) or as an e-book (\$48.00) : https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=W2025A&courses%5B0%5D=001_UW/GEO2420A **Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.**

☒ Media articles, clips, and additional materials will be posted via the Course Readings section of OWL.

4. Course Objectives and Format

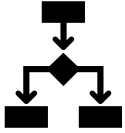
By the end of this course, you will have developed skills and knowledge:

- That expand your understanding of economic development as a geographic process that varies across time and space;
- Allow you to analyze the merit of various economic issues, and consider their strengths and weaknesses in a range of contexts;
- Create opportunities to apply these skills by analyzing regional economic processes, and situating these trends in a global context;
- To understanding the links between economic processes and the social and cultural contexts within which they are embedded.



☒ Attendance is required in weekly tutorials; 5% of your final grade is based on tutorial participation. Please see statement on tutorial attendance flexibility in Sections 8 and 9 below, and on the course Brightspace site.

☒ Missed work should be completed within 2 days of the assigned due date. Please see statement on assignment flexibility in Sections 8 and 9 below, and on the course Brightspace site. All course material will be posted to the new OWL Brightspace learning environment: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/d2l/home>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.



Current versions of all popular browsers (e.g., Safari, Chrome, Edge, Firefox) are supported with OWL Brightspace; what is most important is that you update your browser frequently to ensure it is current. All JavaScript and cookies should be enabled.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the [OWL Brightspace Help page](#). Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#). They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Develop knowledge and critical understanding of the fundamental characteristics, processes, temporal changes and landscapes of social and biophysical systems and their interactions.
- Demonstrate informed awareness of geographical diversity through knowledge of different places and understanding of the processes that shape them spatially and over time.
- Synthesize and evaluate geographical information from diverse sources, including geo-spatial data
- Describe, explain, analyze and interpret a range of geographical phenomena outside the classroom by engagement with people, places and environments
- Analyze real-world problems and policy applications using geographical concepts, skills and understanding.
- Communicate geographic ideas and understanding effectively to a variety of audiences in writing, orally, and graphically
- Identify, analyze and interpret spatial patterns and processes of urbanization, financial and economic aspects of urban development, and processes in urban systems and built environments.
- Spatial thinking, spatial analysis & spatial processes of human and/or environmental processes (e.g. cultural, social, political, economic, scientific)
- Critical and reflective reading, listening, thinking.
- Writing – education and practice in writing essays, reports, notebooks.
- Oral communication/presentation: -structured class discussions (seminars, small-group interaction, debates), individual and group presentations.



6. Course Content and Schedule



Week	Dates	Topic	Readings
1		Class not held	-
2	Sept 9	<u>Lecture</u> : Introduction to the course <u>Tutorial</u> : not held	1. Textbook: Chapter 1
3	Sept 16	<u>Lecture</u> : Place, space, and the economy & <i>Introduction to Assignment 1</i> <u>Tutorial</u> : Economic markets and monopolies	1. Textbook: Chapter 2 2. Podcast: <i>CBC The Sunday Edition</i>
4	Sept 23	<u>Lecture</u> : Commodity chains <u>Tutorial</u> : Following the production of car tires	1. Textbook: Chapter 4 2. Newspaper article: <i>New York Times</i>
5	Sept 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Class not held)	-
6	October 7	<u>Lecture</u> : The labour market <u>Tutorial</u> : The gig economy DUE: Assignment 1	1. Textbook: Chapter 6 2. Newspaper article: <i>CBC News</i>
7	October 14	Class held online (pre-recorded lecture) <u>Lecture</u> : Travel, tourism, and the consumer & <i>Introduction to the midterm test</i> <u>Tutorial</u> : not held	1. Textbook: Chapter 7 2. Newspaper article: <i>The Guardian</i>
8	October 21	Midterm Test (no tutorial)	(no assigned readings)
9	October 28	<u>Lecture</u> : Governing the global economy & <i>Introduction to Assignment 2</i> <u>Tutorial</u> : Library instructional session	1. Textbook: Chapter 9 2. Textbook: Chapter 10
	November 3-7	Fall Reading Week	N/A

10	November 11	<u>Lecture</u> : The green economy <u>Tutorial</u> : Renewable energy in Texas	1. Textbook: Chapter 11 2. Newspaper article: <i>The Globe & Mail</i>
11	November 18	<u>Lecture</u> : Innovation clusters and creative economies <u>Tutorial</u> : Start-up cities DUE: Assignment 2	1. Textbook: Chapter 12 2. Podcast: <i>Planet Money</i>
12	November 25	<u>Lecture</u> : Diverse urban economies <u>Tutorial</u> : Redeveloping Chinatown	1. Textbook: Chapter 3 2. Textbook: Chapter 13
13	Dec 2	<u>Lecture</u> : Alternative economies <u>Tutorial</u> : AI and disruptive technology	1. Textbook: Chapter 14 2. Media article: <i>The Walrus</i>
14	Dec 9	<u>Lecture</u> : Course conclusion and exam review <u>Tutorial</u> : not held	(no assigned readings)

7. Communication



- ☒ Students should check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours
- ☒ A weekly update will be provided on the OWL announcements
- ☒ Students should email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using the Western email accounts provided on page 1 of this syllabus
- ☒ For any other communication, the centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).
- ☒ Emails will be Monday to Friday; standard response time is 24-48 hours excluding weekends.

8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Assessment	Format	Weighting	Due Date
Assignment 1	Short essay (submit on OWL)	15%	October 7
Midterm test	Short answer (held in-person)	20%	October 21
Assignment 2	Short essay (submit on OWL)	30%	November 18
Tutorial discussion	In-class	5%	Various dates
Final exam	Choice of essay questions (held in-person)	30%	December TBD

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text.



- ☒ All assignments submitted on Brightspace and are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified.
- ☒ Assignment 1 and Assignment 2 use a flexible assessment approach. Details are outlined in Section 9 below and in the assignment sheets posted on Brightspace
- ☒ Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)
- ☒ Students will have unlimited submissions to Turnitin
- ☒ Rubrics will be used to evaluate assessments and will be posted with the instructions
- ☒ After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days
- ☒ The midterm is considered to be central to the learning objectives for this course, and student seeking academic consideration for this assessment will be required to provide formal supporting documentation. See Section 9 below for details.
- ☒ Tutorial discussion marks are for in-person participation during a tutorial. Due to the in-person nature of participation, you cannot make-up missed tutorial discussions. However, and in recognition of unexpected circumstances which may impact your attendance, you can miss up to 2 tutorials without penalty.
- ☒ All assignments must be completed individually, and represent your own, original work. Section 13 and 14 of this syllabus includes information on academic integrity and the Scholastic Offences policy.

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: *You* are responsible for your grades in this course.

9. Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

General Information about missed work:

University policy on academic considerations are described [here](#). This policy requires that all requests for academic considerations must be accompanied by a self-attestation. Further information about academic considerations, and information about submitting this self-attestation with your academic consideration request may be found here.

Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline.

Formal Documentation Designation statement:

Assignment designated as requiring formal documentation: GEOG 2420A Midterm

Please note that this assessment is considered to be central to the learning objectives for this course. Accordingly, students seeking academic consideration for this assessment will be required to provide formal supporting documentation. Students who are granted academic consideration for this assessment will be provided with the following opportunity to make up this work: make-up midterm.

Flexibility statements

Assessment where not all elements are required: GEOG 2420A Tutorial participation

As noted in Section 8, tutorial discussion marks are for in-person participation during a tutorial. Due to the in-person nature of participation, you cannot make-up missed tutorial discussions. However, and in recognition of unexpected circumstances which may impact your attendance, **you can miss up to 2 tutorials without penalty**. Please note, because not all elements of this assessment are required in the calculation of the final course grade, the instructor reserves the right to deny academic consideration for these missed elements.

Assessment with flexible submission deadline: Assignment 1 and Assignment 2

Please note that because the submission deadline for Assignment 1 and Assignment 2 already includes flexibility in the form of a **48-hour submission window**, the instructor reserves the right to deny academic consideration for assignments which are submitted following the end of the period of flexibility.

Absence from Course Commitments

Students must familiarize themselves with the Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs

Students missing course work for medical, compassionate or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the central academic consideration portal. Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term without supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g. December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests typically schedule during the last week of the term. Students should also note that the instructor may designate one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor of this course, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline. Supporting documentation for academic considerations for absences due to illness should use the Student Medical Certificate or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner.

Course Assessments that Require Supporting Documentation

For this course the following assessment has been designated as requiring supporting documentation: GEOG 2420A Midterm, to be held in-class on Tuesday, October 21st.

Academic Consideration for Course Components with Flexible Deadlines

This course has 8 tutorials with only 6/8 **tutorials** counted towards your final grade. Academic consideration will not be granted for missed tutorials. If students miss 2/8 tutorials, the remaining 6 tutorials will be used in the calculation of the final grade. If students miss greater than 2 tutorials, they will receive a grade of zero on each missed tutorial.

This course employs flexible deadlines for **Assignments 1 and 2**. The assignment deadlines can be found above in the course outline. For each assignment, students are expected to submit the assignment by the deadline listed. Should illness or extenuating circumstances arise, students are permitted to submit their assignment up to 48 hours past the deadline without academic penalty. Should students submit their assessment beyond 48 hours past the deadline, a late penalty of 25% per day will be subtracted from the assessed grade. As flexible deadlines are used in this course, requests for academic consideration will not be granted. If you have a long-term academic consideration or an accommodation for disability that allows greater flexibility than provided here, please reach out to your instructor at least one week prior to the posted deadline.

Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should review the policy for [Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

10. Make-up Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents.

The format and content of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

11. Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

12. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively.
5. Connect with others. Try forming a study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.



13. Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools/software/apps is unacceptable in this course.

14. Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a [Scholastic Offence](#).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

15. Western's Commitment to Accessibility

The Department of Geography and Environment strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. [Information regarding accommodation of exams](#) is available on the Registrar's website.

More information about "[Accessibility at Western](#)" is available.

16. Mental Health

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to [Mental Health@Western](mailto:MentalHealth@Western) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

17. Support Services

[Office of the Registrar](#)
[Western's Support Services](#)
[Student Development Centre](#)

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

18. Important Dates

September 4: Classes resume

September 12: Last day to add a first term half course

September 30: [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#) (non-instructional day).

October 13: Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed

November 3-9: Fall Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)

December 1: Last day to drop a first term half course or a full course without penalty

December 9: Classes end

December 10: Study day

December 11-22: Examination Period