

FIELD METHODS AND PRACTICES: Montreal – Its Urban, Cultural & Social Practices

Mandatory Organizational Meetings:

Thursday, September 13th : 12:30-2:00, SSC 2333

(*Bring \$525 cheque, OHIP #, Emergency contact name & phone #)

Wednesday, October 17th : 5:30-7:00 SSC 3026

Wednesday, October 31st : 5:30-7:00 SSC 3026

Field Trip: Sunday, September 23rd – Friday, September 28th, inclusive
Post-Trip meetings: T.B.A.

Instructor: Dr. Jeff Hopkins

Office: Room # 2423 S.S.C.

Office Hours: *Monday, 1:00-3:00*
or by appointment

Telephone: 661-2111x85027

Cell: 519-694-7385 (*during trip*)

Email: jhopkins@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistant: T.B.A.

Office: Room # 2423 S.S.C.

Office Hours: T.B.A.

or by appointment

Cell: T.B.A. (*during trip*)

Email: T.B.A.



SYLLABI FROM ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2012-13

Geography 3000y – Field Methods and Practices

Departmental field camps & field trips as arranged. Students should be prepared to meet the necessary travel & living expenses. Mandatory for students in any Honors Specialization module in the Department of Geography.

Prerequisite(s): 3rd year status in any Honors Specialization module in the Department of Geography; limited enrolment may be available to students in 3rd or 4th year of a major in the Department of Geography.

Corequisite(s):

Pre-or Corequisite(s):

Extra Information: Sessions and hours by arrangement, 0.5 course.

Source: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2011/pg915.html#34844>

Course Syllabus and Field Exercises are available on-line.

Please print hard copies of the syllabus, field exercises, and other relevant materials, and bring them with you in the field:

Log in to the SSC server and access the list of 'network drives' in Windows Explorer.
Select 'user lib on student server'
Select 'Course Library'
Select 'Geography'
Select 'Montreal Geog 3000y'
Select 'Mtl Labs PDF 2012' & 'Mtl Maps20 12' & 'Mtl Articles Mandatory 2012' &
'Mtl Articles Optional Fall 2012'

INTRODUCTION

Montreal is over 350 years old. It is the second largest French-speaking urban settlement in the world. The age and cultural composition of this city offer a striking contrast to the modern urban geographies in the rest of Canada. This field trip will help you explore and 'map,' so to speak, some of the geographies that constitute a city unique in so many ways. The field methods and techniques you will use to systematically explore this city -- participant/observation, on-site observation, land use surveys, guided tours, lectures, and discussions -- will enhance and improve your research and observation skills in ways that simply cannot be matched through other exercises. Going to an unfamiliar city to study its geographies is an excellent way to sharpen and test your geographic skills. You might even have some fun doing so!

COST \$525

The estimated cost of the trip is \$600, which pays your train fare, hotel accommodation, tour guides and museum entrance fees. Thanks to the generosity of your Social Science Student Council, you each receive a 12% discount—\$75—from the '*Student Donation Fund.*'

Please bring a \$525 cheque, made out to 'The Dept. of Geography, Western', to our pre-trip meeting on the September 13th. You may also pay by credit card on-line at:

<https://rabbit.vm.its.uwo.ca/GeographyStore/Default.aspx>. Fees must be paid no later than Monday, September 17th.

In addition to the \$525 you must pay in advance, while in the field you will need to purchase a Montreal **subway pass** (approx. \$25), and **food** (six breakfasts, seven lunches, six dinners, and 'x' snacks (probably \$100-\$200)). It is also advisable to have access to extra funds for emergencies or lifestyle choices. (Note: Several banks and ATMs are available within a short walk of the hotel, but you should carry some cash while "on the road.")

TRANSPORTATION

Departure

Sunday, September 23rd, 7:33 AM sharp

London-Toronto: VIA 084, Sep 23, 7:33-????

Toronto-Montreal: VIA 060, Sep 23, 11:35-5:17

You will be at the VIA RAIL train station on York Street (between Richmond and Clarence) no later than 7:00 AM on Sunday, September 23rd. We will be taking the train to and from Montreal. ***If you miss the train, be prepared to drop out of the class or find your own way to Montreal (with penalty).*** You should bring a packed lunch and snacks both ways (options for food purchases on the train are limited and expensive).

Return

Friday, September 28th, 10:10 AM sharp

Montreal-Toronto: VIA 057, Sept. 28th, 10:10

Toronto-London: VIA 75, Sept. 28th, 17:30-7:55

Be prepared to leave the hotel by 8:30 AM. We will confirm meeting time and location for departure in Montreal.

GETTING AROUND MONTREAL

It is easy to get around Montreal on foot, and by public transit. Taxi cabs are also plentiful. We will mostly use our own feet! Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared to walk (rain or shine)!

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Students will be four to a room, depending on student numbers and gender. There are two beds per room. Sheets and pillows will be provided. The hotel is located in downtown Montreal with many amenities nearby.

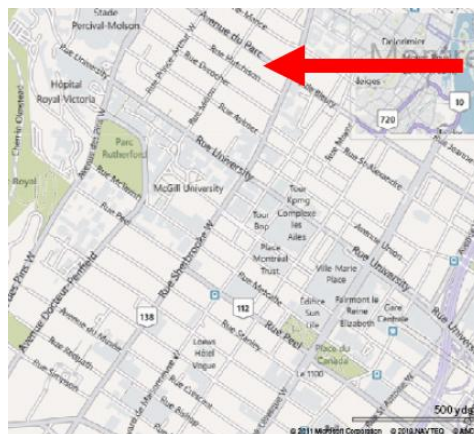
Quality Hotel Downtown Montreal

3440 Ave Du Parc

Montréal, Quebec, H2X 2H5

Tel: 514-849-1423

<http://www.qualityhoteldowntownmontreal.com/>



Luggage: Please travel light (one suitcase); you bring it, you carry it! We are walking several blocks from the train station to the hotel. Autumn in Montreal can range from hot to cold. Layered clothing is suggested. We will spend a great deal of time outside on the street. A backpack for notebooks, snacks, a sweater, jacket and rain gear is highly recommended.

Special Equipment: A Cautionary Note:

- Comfortable pair of waterproof shoes/boots - Always carry hotel phone number & address
- Rain gear (including a plastic bag for notebook) - Always have your map with you
- Field note book and writing aids - Always travel in groups of two or more people
- Map of Montreal - Bring a cell phone if you have one
- Backpack - Digital camera (if you don't have one, tell me!)
- Early mornings + very late nights = painful days: be warned...

ACADEMIC FOCUS

The themes of this trip are predominantly the urban, social, and cultural geographies of Montreal, but the *focus of the course is methodological*. We will examine the city, its people and their culture, but we are particularly concerned with *how* we can systematically question, record and analyse our observations. Architecture, community focal points, ethnic diversity, pedestrian street life, public life, transportation, and past, present and emerging urban morphologies are just some of the issues we will address in the field. Readings will supplement these and other themes, both prior to and following the field trip. Group discussions will also be a vital component of the course and you are encouraged to participate actively.

EVALUATION

You are required to attend all meetings and events on time and complete all assignments. A collegial and courteous manner is expected from all participants throughout this course. Let's try to make this a pleasant and enjoyable learning experience for everyone. Consistent tardiness and uncooperative behaviour will lower your final participation mark and may result in expulsion from the trip and/or course (but I suspect you're all wonderful people so this won't be an issue).

Assignments	Weight	Due Dates
Pre-trip assignment	5%	Sunday, Sept., 23 rd before leaving to Montreal
Field Notebook & Assignments	35%	Friday, Sept., 28 th upon arrival in London
Photographic assignment	10%	Monday, Oct., 15 th
Research Proposal	45%	Friday, Nov., 9 th
Participation during trip	5%	<i>Punctuality + responsible behaviour + engagement = 5</i>

Pre-Trip & Field Assignments: see individual handouts below

Field Notebook/Assignments: Using the methodological material you have read prior to departure as a guide, you will record your field observations and experiences, and complete the assignments in a self-contained notebook. In this book you will record legibly the major events, activities, and assignments while in the field, including notes from any lectures and

presentations. Among the criteria used to evaluate your field notes will be their format and organization, completion of all assignments, the detail, quality and originality of the observations, evidence of critical analysis, the questions and ideas you pose, and the conclusions you draw. You will submit this at the end of the field trip before you leave the London train station on **Friday, 28th September**, with your name and student number clearly indicated on the cover.

Photographic Assignment: [Note: This assignment is **due Monday, October 15th** and should be emailed to the T.A., before 4:00 pm on the due date. You are encouraged to take pictures of your observations based on topics relevant to the course. At the end of the field trip, you will pick one, and only one, picture to share your Montreal experience with your classmates in a very short photographic essay. The photo project will be made on PowerPoint and should consist of exactly three slides. The first slide is a title page, which should best represent your topic and the picture. The second slide will be the full-blown picture that you have chosen to represent Montreal. The last slide will consist of a smaller version (thumbnail) of your picture and a short written contribution that adequately and creatively describes the image (250 words max!). The written submission can be of any format, ranging from a poem to a formal academic description. Be creative! Have fun with it! The photo project will be graded based on the quality, originality and creativity of the photograph (50%). Another 50% of the grade is based on the quality, originality and creativity of the writing.

Research Proposal: Based on your field observations, experiences and impressions of Montreal, you are to prepare a 2,000 word/eight-typed page research proposal. It is both your choice and your responsibility to develop your own specific research question, but it must be in keeping with the themes stressed in the field. I strongly encourage you to discuss your topic with me and or Janet during the field trip or by appointment back in London. The research proposal will be **due Friday, November 9th** and should be handed in to Dr Hopkins in person in his office or, if he is not there, to the main geography office before closing (4:30 pm).

Participation: To receive top marks for participation you must: show up on time to meetings (every time); be courteous to your instructors, colleagues and guest speakers; pose questions and contribute to discussions; and have a positive attitude 😊!

GRADING

How do I grade? I regard the mark of 'C' (60%-69%) indicative of slightly below average work for a mandatory, 3000-level, upper-undergraduate course. You have performed satisfactorily in the field, completed all aspects of the assignments adequately, and have demonstrated you have a basic grasp of the material. A mark of 'B' (70%-79%) reflects an average to slightly above average performance and evidence of independent thought, effort and creativity. Not only have you fulfilled the requirements of the field work and assignments in a more meticulous fashion, you have demonstrated a more thorough understanding of the material and you have gone a few extra steps beyond the average student. Those of you who are Honours Geography students, please be aware that work warranting the minimum of a low 'B' (70%) is expected as a minimum level of performance. An 'A' (80%-89%) is reserved for those exemplary students

whose special work exhibits a fastidious eye for detail and clear signs of outstanding effort, presentation, content and clarity. In other words, hard labour alone is necessary but not, in itself, sufficient to warrant an 'A'. An 'A+' (90%+) is rare but does occur. An exceptionally outstanding set of insightful field notes, a research paper demonstrating a superb command of English and a critical mind, and positive participation in the course will earn this prestigious grade. If any assignment (including research proposal) is submitted late, you will receive a penalty of 10% of the value of that particular assignment per day, including weekends. Should you feel your final grade in the course is biased, inaccurate or unfair, you do have the right to appeal. Please refer to *The Western Calendar* prior to doing so. In an attempt to avoid such time-consuming and stressful procedures, I assure you that I reflect carefully on the grade assigned to each and every piece of work. Do note that a mark may rise, stand, *or be lowered* through an appeal. Finally, if you have any problems and need assistance, please feel free to contact me.

TRIP ITINERARY

This is a *tentative schedule* of events: unforeseen occurrences necessitate we remain flexible.

DAY 1: Sunday, 23 September

Departure to Montreal via train

Brief organizational meeting at Hotel

DAY 2: Monday, 24 September

8:30-9:00 Agenda Meeting (Hotel)

9:15-11:45 Old Montreal Guided Tour and Transect (*Assignment #2*)

12:00-1:00 Lunch in Chinatown

1:30-3:00 *St. Lawrence Seaway Tour*

4:00-5:30 Report and Discussion

DAY 3: Tuesday, 25 September

8:30-9:00 Agenda Meeting (Hotel)

9:00-1:00 Downtown Montreal Transect (*Assignment #3*)

1:00-1:30 Lunch

1:30-4:00pm Café Culture (*Assignment #4*)

4:30-6:00 Report and Discussion

7:30... Class Dinner & Exploration of '*Le Plateau*' by Night (*optional*)

DAY 4: Wednesday, 26 September

8:30-9:00 Agenda Meeting (Hotel)

9:00-1:00 The Underground/Indoor City (*Assignment #5*)

1:00-2:30 Lunch

3:00 (sharp)-5:00 Museum of Archaeology and History

5:00 Report and Discussion (location pending weather)

DAY 5: Thursday, 27 September

9:00-9:30am Agenda Meeting

9:30am-12:30pm Self-Directed Field Work (*Assignment #6*)
12:30-2:00 Report and Discussion (at Hotel)
2:00 onwards.....***Open-Ended Urban-Social Geographical Exploration (free time!)***

DAY 6: Friday, 28 September

Be prepared to leave the Hotel at 8:30 AM. We will confirm meeting time and location for departure in Montreal.

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

Montreal Tourism: <http://www.tourisme-montreal.org/B2C/00/default.asp>

Montreal Visitor's Guide: <http://www.montreal.com/tourism/index2.html>

Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway:
<http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/ports/portofmontreal.html>

Montreal City Hall: <http://mypage.direct.ca/l/lowery/mtlhal.htm>

Montreal by district:
<http://www.toutmontreal.com/english/eguide/oldmontreal/oldmontreal.html>

Montreal Markets: <http://www.marchespublics-mtl.com/en.htm>

Museum Exhibition on Saint-Laurent Montreal's 'Main':
http://www.tourisme-montreal.org/B2C/13/events_details.asp?SKU=3672%5FEvents&selCategory=

The Gazette (Montreal's English newspaper):
<http://www.canada.com/montreal/montrealgazette/>

Municipalities of the Montreal Urban Community:
<http://www.cum.qc.ca/cum-fr/villes/cartvilf.htm>

Various Maps of Montreal: <http://library.concordia.ca/services/maps.html>

ASSORTED ADMINISTRIVA

Safety

Safety is a shared responsibility. Although I will take every reasonable precaution concerning the safety of you as a participant in this field course—providing you with maps, my cell phone number, insisting that you travel in groups of two or more at all times—the potential

hazards of a big city make it imperative that everyone behaves responsibly in order to reduce the risk of accidents. Personal safety must be a personal responsibility. Complacency, inattention, lack of preparation and/or training will all increase risks to health and safety. Ultimately each individual must act in a reasonable manner in order to ensure their safety and the safety of others. Would those of you who have your First Aid Certificate (I do) please identify themselves to the group. (For more information, please see our departmental web address on 'Health and Safety': <http://geography.ssc.uwo.ca/health-safety/fieldwork.htm>).

If you have specific medical or dietary needs please inform Dr Hopkins as soon as possible.

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

If applicable, a list of the prerequisites for the course and the following notation regarding the Senate regulation with respect to the student's responsibility for ensuring that course prerequisites have been completed successfully or special permission from the Dean obtained. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may 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.

Appeals

You are advised to read the course calendar to familiarize yourself with Western's regulations and procedures concerning appeals, grades, regulations, penalties and such at <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>

Requests to have an assignment or examination re-evaluated must be submitted to me in writing within one week of receiving the graded assignment. In this written request for re-appraisal the specifics of what you would like re-visited and the justification for doing so will be clearly and concisely stated. Should you feel that your final grade in the course is biased, inaccurate or unfair, you do have the right to appeal your mark. Please refer to the *Western Calendar* prior to doing so (see web site above). In an attempt to avoid such time-consuming and stressful procedures for us both, be assured that each and every piece of work is graded carefully and thoroughly. I stand by the marks assigned. ***Be aware that marks may be raised-- as well as lowered--through an appeal process.***

Dropping the Course

If you wish to drop the course, you must follow the procedure established by the Dean's Office and complete the appropriate forms.

Medical or Non-Medical Absence, Exemption and Tardiness

Students who have documented 'special needs' and/or official notifications of accommodation from the Dean's office —emailed directly to me—will be accommodated accordingly, including exemption of exams and assignments if circumstances warrant. For either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted. In all other instances of absences,

omissions and tardiness on your part, I respect your maturity: you are adults. If you choose to miss lectures, assignments and examinations you are most at liberty to do so. The consequences are made evident in this course outline. If you are late to class—or must leave early—please do so quietly with minimal disturbance to your peers. Thanks.

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is stealing: it is unacceptable, and those who tempt fate will be persecuted to the fullest extent allowed under the university's regulations. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf> . Please avoid this experience and do your own work. Be aware that 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>).

Extensions & Late Submissions

All requests for extensions on essay deadlines must be made in writing to me, Dr. Hopkins, at least two weeks before the essay is due. I do not ask for an explanation or reason, simply the revised due date you wish. You may have up to three days beyond the initial due date. Essays submitted beyond the new due date will be penalized as per the course penalty (10% per day). Never slip assignments under my door. Submit late assignments in the 'drop box' outside the main geography office.

Electronic Devices

Never record digitally (AV) or otherwise any part of my class lectures or labs without my prior and specific permission. Note taking is highly encouraged.

Accessibility

The University of Western Ontario is committed to achieving barrier free accessibility for persons studying at Western. 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 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Support Services

Registrarial Services: <http://www3.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm>

Student Development Services: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Mental Health: If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit the site below for more information on mental health resources: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>.

Codes of Conduct

It is stating the obvious that perpetual tardiness, irresponsible or reckless behaviour, the illicit possession or consumption of drugs, or excessive alcohol consumption are grounds for dismissal from the field trip and/or a failing grade in the course. If expelled during the field trip, you are responsible for paying your return fare, in addition to your pre-paid return train fare and all other pre-paid expenses. You are also exempt from the student levy funds subsidizing this field trip. By taking this section of the 3000y course, you agree to these terms.

Included below is the *Code of Conduct for Students, Staff, and Faculty for the Department of Geography*. The *University of Western Ontario Code of Student Conduct* is available at <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf> : please familiarize yourself with both of these documents.

MUTUAL EXPECTATIONS

As the course instructor and field trip leader, you can expect me to come prepared for, and attend, all our meetings regularly and punctually. I will strive to promote a collegial atmosphere of mutual respect conducive to the exchange of ideas and learning. I demand the same from you. If we all abide by this code of civility and mutual respect, we set the stage for a mature, safe and intellectually stimulating forum.

Finally, if you have problems, questions, ideas or concerns with any aspect of the course, please raise the matter with me. I welcome your questions and constructive criticisms. It is always a delight and a privilege for me to take students to Montreal, and I look forward to getting to know you better, while sharing this fascinating city with you.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENTS, STAFF, AND FACULTY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

Affiliation with the Department of Geography presumes mutual respect among students, staff, teaching assistants, and faculty. A positive atmosphere of professionalism and collegiality is essential for everyone to perform to the best of his or her abilities. This requires respect for the opinions and questions of others and behaviour that is, at all times, courteous, and conducive to creating a pleasant and productive environment for learning and working.

As members of a Department of Geography, we are expected to show special respect for our environment, being individually responsible for promoting a clean and safe work environment within the facilities of the Department and the Social Science Centre, including classrooms, laboratories, the Map Library, offices, hallways, washrooms, exterior grounds, and the facilities and vehicles used in field courses and field trips.

It is inevitable that misunderstandings will occur from time to time. However, it is in everyone's interest to try and resolve problems in a non-confrontational manner. Threatening, violent, or abusive behaviour, harassment (including sexual and racial harassment), rudeness (in person, in writing, or on the telephone), and abuse of authority, for whatever reasons, corrode good working and learning conditions.

Incidents that cannot be resolved amicably may be reported to the Chair of the Department (661-3653). The Chair will consider appropriate actions for resolving the problem, usually after consultation with the parties involved. If required, contact with university services (e.g., Police, Equity) or civil authorities will be invoked.

Student Use of University Facilities and Classroom Decorum:

Students are expected to comply with the authority of University staff and faculty on all matters relating to access to facilities (offices, classrooms, laboratories, and Map Library) and to use of equipment and resources.

Students are expected to attend all lectures and laboratory sessions regularly and punctually.

Instructors are responsible for maintaining an appropriate academic atmosphere in all class activities; students are expected to cooperate in this effort.

Actions that impede instruction deter the ability of students to learn, or show disrespect for instructors and fellow students, will not be condoned in Geography classrooms and labs. Such actions include reading during lectures, disturbing consumption of food or drink, use of walkmans and radios, and disruptive conversation. Serious disrespect for classroom decorum should be reported to the instructor and, if required, to the Chair of the Geography Department (SSC 2429, Telephone 661-3653).

Students are expected to adhere to University standards of academic honesty, as outlined under "Scholastic Offences" in the Western Calendar. Unacceptable practices include cheating, impersonation, plagiarism, misrepresentation of research, falsification of documents, obstructing the academic activities of another, aiding or abetting academic misconduct, and abuse of confidentiality. In addition to incurring penalties, as outlined in the Calendar, some academic offences may fall under the Criminal Code of Canada.

Approved on behalf of Faculty, Staff, and Students by the Council of the Department of Geography on 4 March 1994.

Please Note: Course content and dates may vary due to unforeseen circumstances.