

GEOG 2420A: Economic Geography Course Outline: Section 001 Fall 2021

This course is taught in-person

1. Course Information



	Delivery Mode	Day/Time	Location
Lecture	In-person	Tuesdays 9:30-11:20AM	SSC 2020
Tutorial	In-person	Tuesdays 11:30-12:20AM	SSC 2020

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 5

Classes Start	Fall Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 8	November 1-7	December 8	December 9	December 10-21

September 16, 2021: Last day to add a first-term half course

October 11, 2021: Thanksgiving Holiday

November 12, 2021: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty



Course Instructor	Contact Information	Office Hours
Dr Godwin Arku	garku@uwo.ca	Tuesdays 12:30-2:00PM

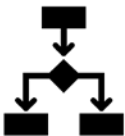
Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information	Office Hours
Jesse Sutton	Email: Justto22@uwo.ca	Office: SSC 2436 Wednesdays 1-2PM
Sarah Bradshaw	Email: sbradsh6@uwo.ca	Office: SSC 1424 Thursdays 12-1PM



Office hours will be held in-person or zoom or by Appointment

Students will be able to sign up for an appointment using email in OWL

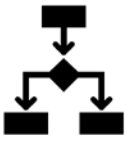
2. Calendar Description



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.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 course from Geography 1100, Geography 1300A/B, Geography 1400F/G, Geography 1500F/G, Geography 2131A/B, Geography 2132A/B, Geography 2133A/B, Geography 2142A/B, Geography 2152F/G, Geography 2153A/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)*

2 lecture hours and 1 tutorial hour, 0.5 course



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. It can be found online at the Western Bookstore.

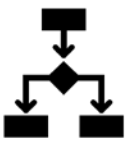
4. Course Objectives and Format

The overarching objective of this course is to develop well-grounded arguments from an economic geography perspective. Specifically, objectives include the following:

- a. To uncover the basic building blocks of geographical analysis and core ideas that underpin the understanding of the economy.
- b. To introduce students to the larger systemic processes and major components of the economy
- c. To learn about the ways in which the economy is organized by the institutions that shape and regulate economic actors and processes.
- d. To explore the interlinks between economic processes and the social and cultural contexts in which they are embedded.

Attendance is required in weekly tutorials. There is 5% for weekly tutorial attendance and participation.

Missed assignments will have to be completed within 7 days from the due date. No assignments will be accepted 7 days after the due date.



All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#). [Using the right browser is important, especially when using different features integrated with OWL]

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL 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:

Insert Learning Outcomes:

- ✓ Develop knowledge and critical understanding of the fundamental characteristics, processes, temporal changes and landscapes of the global economy
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ 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, financial and economic aspects of global economy
- ✓ Literature and secondary data sources: information search and retrieval, meta-analysis of published data, synthesis of information sources and literature, annotated bibliographies.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ Inter-personal skills: leadership, team facilitation



6. Course Content and Schedule



Week	Dates	Topic	Readings
1	Sept 14	Introductory Overview	Chapter 1
2	Sept 21	Exploring the economy: What does it mean?	Chapter 2
		Assignment #1 Introduction <i>Tutorial Topic:</i> Canadian Index of Wellbeing - Alternative to measuring by GDP	
3	Sept 28	How is the world economy interconnected?	Chapter 4
		<i>Tutorial Topic:</i> Coffee Production – Issues and concerns	
4	Oct 5	Transnational Corporations: How do they keep it all together?	Chapter 5-6
		Labour: Are Migrant Workers the new normal?	
		<i>Tutorial Topic:</i> Debates About Global Outsourcing	
5	Oct 12	Consumers: Who decides what we buy?	Chapter 7
		<i>Tutorial Topic:</i> Consumer Society?	
		Assignment 1 Due AND Assignment #2 introduction	
6	Oct 19	Finance: How has capital become so powerful?	Chapter 8
		<i>Tutorial Topic:</i> Increasing Canadian Household Debt	
7	Oct 26	Mid Term Examination	
8	Nov 2	Fall Reading Break	
9	Nov 9	States: Who runs the economy?	Chapter 9-10
		International Institutions: How do they govern and foster global development	
		<i>Tutorial Topic:</i> End of the State?	
10	Nov 16	Environment: Does Global Climate Change 'change' everything?	Chapter 11
		<i>Tutorial Topic:</i> Climate Change Debate: warming or not warming? Assignment #2 Due in class	
11	Nov 23	Clusters: Why do proximity and place matter?	Chapter 12
		<i>Tutorial Topic:</i> Does proximity matter these days?	



12	Nov 30	Gendered and Racial Economies: Are economies gendered and racialized?	Chapter 13-14
		Alternative Economies: Can we create diverse economies?	
		<i>Tutorial Topic:</i> Is Canadian society inclusive enough?	
13	Dec 7	Review: Economy Geography Course Review AND Exam Tips	

7. Communication



- Students should check the OWL site regularly (at least once every 24 hours)
- A weekly update will be provided on the OWL announcements
- Students should email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using OWL “messages”
- 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 monitored daily; students will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours
- This course will use the OWL forum for additional discussions in the course
- Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions
- The discussion forums will be monitored daily by instructors or teaching assistants

8. Evaluation and Course Policy Statements

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



Assessment	Format	Weighting	Due Date
Assignment 1	Hard copy submission	20%	October 12
Mid Term Examination	MC/Short Answer OWL	20%	October 26
Assignment 2	Hard copy submission	20%	November 16
Final Examination	MC/Short Answer OWL	30%	December TBD
Tutorial Discussion	In class	5%	Various Dates
Course Reflection	Hard copy submission	5%	Various Dates

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

- All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified
- Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)
- 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
- Attendance of the lectures and tutorials is not optional. Your participation mark of 5% is based on regular attendance, active contributions in lectures and tutorials
- Students are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials and are strongly encouraged to read relevant articles/chapters before coming to these classes.
- Please note that copies of my lecture overheads/ppt presentations will also be posted a day before the lectures. These are for review purposes only. The overheads provide only a very condensed overview of the material covered in class. They do not constitute adequate notes by themselves, and are **no substitute for regular attendance of lectures**.



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

Information about late or missed evaluations:

- Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 1%/day
- Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report
- An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class

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](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions

are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

[Student Medical Certificate \(SMC\)](#)

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

10. Make-up Examinations

Makeups will be granted with approved documentation only. All documentation for missed exams must be provided to the Academic Counselling Office within 48 hours of the scheduled exam, otherwise the instructor will assign a grade of zero.

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. Continuity of Education Plan (in-person class pivoting to online learning)

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the university to direct courses move away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

14. Information on COVID-19

Masking Guidelines

Students will be expected to wear triple layer, non-medical, paper masks at all times in the classroom as per University policy and public health directives. Students who are unable to wear a mask must seek formal accommodation through Western Accessible Education, and present medical documentation.

Students are not permitted to eat or drink while in class to ensure masks stay in place. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Western policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean, and such actions will be considered a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

Course Absences due to Daily COVID Screening Questionnaire

Missed assessments (e.g., presentations, essays, quizzes, tests, midterms, etc.) require formal academic considerations (typically self-reported absences and/or academic counselling).

15. 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>).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

16. 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.

17. Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit Western's Health and Wellness website for more information on mental health resources.

18. Support Services

Western's Support Services
Student Development Centre

19. Important Dates

September 8: Classes resume

September 16: Last day to add a first term half course

October 11: Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed

November 1 to November 7: Fall Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)

November 12: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty

November 30: Last day to drop a full course without penalty

December 8: Classes end

December 9: Study day
December 10-21: Examination Period