

## GEOG 4460F / MOS 4314F – Real Estate and the City Course Outline: Section 001 Fall 2022

This course is taught in-person

### 1. Course Information

In-Person;      Lecture SSC 3010, Wednesdays 6:30–8:30pm  
                          Tutorial SSC 3010, Wednesdays 8:30–9:30pm



Classes Start	Fall Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 8	October 31–November 6	December 8	December 9	December 10–22

September 16, 2022: Last day to add a first-term half course

October 10, 2022: Thanksgiving Holiday

November 12, 2022: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty



Course Instructor	Contact Information	Office Hours
Diana Mok	dmok3@uwo.ca	TBA (Zoom)



- Office hours will be held remotely using Zoom at a time TBA
- Students will be able to sign up for an appointment using the link provided on the course website.
- Students will be able to drop into session by appointment.

### 2. Calendar Description

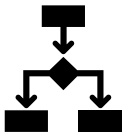
The object of the course is to expose students to the theoretical and empirical underpinnings of urban form and structure. A major focus is on understanding the theories, acquiring the techniques to test the theories, and critiquing the approaches employed for the empirical tests.

2 lecture hours, 1 tutorial hour, 0.5 course

Antirequisite(s): MOS 4314F/G, the former Geography 3460E

Prerequisite(s): Geography 2210A/B, MOS 2242A/B, Statistical Sciences 2035 or equivalent and 4<sup>th</sup> year standing in any Geography or MOS 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

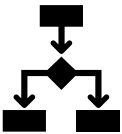


- All resources will be posted on the course website ([rhino.dyndns.info/GEOG4460](http://rhino.dyndns.info/GEOG4460)).
- Required readings are posted on the course website.

### 4. Course Objectives and Format

The DAN Department of Management and Organizational Studies as a whole draws upon an evidence-based management approach. Evidence-based management is the systematic process of gathering evidence from multiple sources, critically appraising the evidence, and using that evidence in making and evaluating management decisions to improve organizational performance.

- Attendance is required
- Students are responsible for any lectures and/or labs that they have missed. The material will not be re-taught. Late assignments will be penalized at 10% per day late, including weekends. Assignments more than a week late will not be graded.



All course material will be posted on the course website at [rhino.dyndns.info/GEOG4460/](http://rhino.dyndns.info/GEOG4460/)

[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:

- Understand the conventional urban economic theories in explaining major urban land-use phenomena;
- Critique the theories by appreciating their strengths and identifying their shortcomings;
- Conjecture testable hypotheses, based on the conventional theories;
- Apply empirical reasoning and statistical techniques to testing the hypotheses;
- Demonstrate effective academic writing.



## 6. Course Content and Schedule

See course website at [rhino.dyndns.info/GEOG4460](http://rhino.dyndns.info/GEOG4460).

## 7. Communication



- Students should check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours for course 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 may use Microsoft Teams for discussions
- This course will not use the OWL forum for discussions

## 8. Evaluation

The course has **4 (four)** graded components: Professionalism/Participation, Seminars, Labs, and Term Essay.

- (a) **Professionalism (5%)/Attendance (10%)/Participation (5%) = 20%**
  - (b) **Seminars = 10%**
  - (c) **2 (two) Labs (15% each; due October 19, 2022 and November 23, 2022, both uploaded to Drop Box on OWL before 23:59) = 30%**
  - (d) **Group term essay (due December 7, 2022; uploaded to Drop Box on OWL before 23:59) = 40%**
- Total = 100%**



If a student misses any graded component of the course, it is the student’s responsibility to notify the instructor **within one week of the scheduled due date**. Failure to do this would result in a component grade of **0 (zero) without prior notice**. Note that all submissions should be uploaded to Drop Box on OWL before 23:59 of the scheduled due date. Class attendance is required in order for students to earn a passing grade for the course.

**When deemed necessary**, tests and examinations (if any) in this course will be conducted using a remote proctoring service. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide personal information (including some biometric data) and the session will be recorded. Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. More information about this remote proctoring service, including technical requirements, is available on Western’s Remote Proctoring website at: <https://remoteproctoring.uwo.ca>.

**PROFESSIONALISM/ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:**

Students are expected to behave professionally in and outside of the classroom (zoom or in-person), especially when interacting with peers and the instructor, either face-to-face, via emails or any media. All students are, by default, awarded with a grade of **5 (five)** out of **5 (five)** professionalism grade at the beginning of the school term. Any conducts and behaviors that are considered as unprofessional will lead to a **1 (one)** point deduction from the component grade until **ALL 5 (five)** points are wiped out. The class, together with the instructor, will define during the first lecture the terms of reference of what constitute professional conducts and behaviors.

Class attendance will be worth **10 (ten)** percentage points towards the final course grade. Class attendance will be taken every class.

Participation is worth **5 (five)** percentage points towards the final course grade. To earn participation grade, students need to be an active member in class, contributing to class discussions and activities.

#### **SEMINARS:**

Students are expected to form groups of **no more than 5 (five)** students and pick a topic from the syllabus (approved by the instructor), for which the group will conduct independent research, in addition to the required readings, and lead the class discussion. The seminar should NOT be based on the lecture material, but should reflect their inquiry or background understanding of the question/topic posted for the week.

Each student is required to submit a peer evaluation of his/her group members after the seminar presentation. The evaluation will not be graded *per se*, but the instructor reserves the right to use the peer evaluation as a reference to adjust students' grades, if necessary (see PEER EVALUATION below). All students in the same group, by default, will receive the same grade as the group grade, unless otherwise adjusted based on peer evaluations.

#### **LABS:**

There are **2 (two)** labs in total; each is worth **15 (fifteen)** percentage points towards the final course grade. The labs are applied empirical analyses, which are intended to provide students with the basic techniques to test the theories discussed in the lectures. A lab manual is provided and is downloadable from the course webpage. Students will use Excel to test the housing rent profile (Lab 1) and to construct housing price indices (Lab 2).

To be eligible to obtain a course grade for the Labs, students are required to complete **all 2 (two)** labs. Failure to meet this requirement would lead to a grade of **0 (zero)** for the entire Labs component of the final course grade.

#### **GROUP TERM ESSAY:**

Students are expected to form groups of **2 (two)** students to work collaboratively on the term essay. The term essay is a mini-research exercise. The objective of this exercise is to provide a learning experience for students to conduct a thesis-like research and to write professional academic research papers. A detailed document is

provided to guide students through writing the paper. Students should pick a topic related to the course content and obtain approval from the course instructor. The topic should be within a manageable scale and scope, with an empirical component and a clear testable (quantitatively) hypothesis. Pure qualitative descriptions without a testable hypothesis will result in a low component grade. Students are also expected to find the best available data to conduct this mini-research exercise. In case of doubt about data availability, students should consult the course instructor.

Students are expected to meet the progress checks for the following components of the term essay by the following dates:

1. **Term essay topic and title:** September 28, 2022
2. **Testable hypothesis:** October 19, 2022
3. **Downloaded data:** November 16, 2022

Students should meet these progress checks on or before the scheduled dates above. Failure to do so would result in a **2 (two)** points deduction per component from the term grade. Students are reminded that the final essay should be written in a professional manner. Please edit your work before you submit.

In sum, the breakdown of the course grades is given as follows:

<b>Graded component</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Due date</b>
Professionalism/attendance/ participation	20%	NA
Seminars	10%	To be approved
2 Labs	30%	Lab 1: Oct 19 (Drop Box at 23:59) Lab 2: Nov 23 (Drop Box at 23:59)
Term essay	40%	Dec 7 (Drop Box at 23:59)

Students are **REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ALL COMPONENTS** of this course. There are no exceptions to this. Class attendance is required. Extra assignments to improve grades **will NOT** be allowed.

**PEER EVALUATION:**

Each student is required to submit a peer evaluation of his/her group members when submitting **ANY** group work of the course (the two labs, seminar, and the term project). The evaluation will not be graded *per se*, but the instructor reserves the right to use the peer evaluation as a reference for adjusting students' grades, if necessary. All students in the same group will, by default, receive the same grade as the group grade, unless otherwise adjusted based on peer evaluations.

If any student receives peer evaluation(s) at 6/10 or below (or any equivalence, e.g., 3/5), the student would receive an adjusted grade. The adjusted grade is calculated by multiplying the group grade into the (average) peer evaluation that the student has received.

**MISSED LECTURES/LATE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students are responsible for any lectures and/or labs that they have missed. The material will not be re-taught. Late assignments will be penalized at 10% per day late, including weekends. Assignments more than a week late will not be graded.

**REGRADE:**

If a student wishes to dispute a grade and/or request that an assignment/exam be remarked, they must wait for at least two days after receiving the grade before requesting that the grade be changed and/or the assignment/exam be remarked. Students must also provide a written document that outlines a) the part of the assignment/exam the student wishes to have remarked; and b) a detailed discussion why the grade should be changed and/or the assignment/exam be remarked. This discussion should include course material that supports the student's reason why the grade should be changed and/or the assignment/exam be remarked. Requests to have grades changed and/or an assignment/exam remarked must be made within two weeks of receiving the grade. The instructor reserves the right to regrade the **entire** test/exam in addition to the question(s) in dispute. The instructor also reserves the right to adjust the grade **upward, the same, or downward** as a result of regrading.

**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.**

**LATE PENALTIES:**

Any late submissions will be deducted **10 (ten)%** out of the total component grade per day date, including weekends.

## 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

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

[Policy on Academic Consideration for Medical Illness - Undergraduate Students](#)

[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 10: Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed

October 31 to November 6: 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 10-22: Examination Period