



COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course:** GOPH 351, Introduction to Geophysics - Fall 2020

Lecture 01: MWF 13:00 - 13:50 - Online

Instructor	Email	Phone	Office	Hours
Dr Jan Dettmer	jan.dettmer@ucalgary.ca	403 220-4606	ES 212	TBA

This course provides an introduction to important geophysical concepts and methods that are used to study the Earth and solve various geoscientific problems. Topics include tectonics on a sphere, isostasy, gravity and magnetism, heat flow, radioactivity and geochronology, earthquake seismology, reflection and refraction seismology.

Online Delivery Details:

This course is being offered online in real-time via scheduled meeting times, you are required to be online at the same time.

Lectures for this course will be given in zoom. Some recorded lectures will be available on D2L.

Recurring Zoom connection:

When: Sep 9, 2020 01:00 PM Edmonton

Register in advance for this meeting:

[https://ucalgary.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjArdeurrjorGtTGqVcOIS3LQ44UNxF_hs_e](https://ucalgary.zoom.us/join/https://ucalgary.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjArdeurrjorGtTGqVcOIS3LQ44UNxF_hs_e)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

TopHat: Join Code 579121

Laboratory exercises: The laboratory exercises will be carried out in synchronous fashion and students need to be available during the scheduled times.

Course Site:

D2L: GOPH 351 L01-(Fall 2020)-Introduction to Geophysics

Note: Students must use their U of C account for all course correspondence.

2. **Requisites:**

See section [3.5.C](#) in the Faculty of Science section of the online Calendar.

Prerequisite(s):

Geology 201 and 202; and Mathematics 267 or 277; and Physics 211 or 221, and 223.

Antirequisite(s):

Credit for Geophysics 351 and 359 will not be allowed.

3. **Grading:**

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the online University Calendar.

In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Component(s)	Weighting %
Laboratory Assignments (8)	30
Term tests: Oct 2 and Nov 6 (during class time)	30
Final Examination (registrar scheduled - synchronous test)	35
TopHat Questions (throughout term)	5

Students will have 50 minutes to write the term test. This 50 minutes includes the time required for completing the test and the 50% additional time.

The final exam is designed for 2 hrs but students will have 3hrs to complete the examination and all students will write the exam at the registrar scheduled start time.

Additional time will be granted to SAS students, and other accommodations will be done on a case-by-case basis in case of conflict or student location in different time zones.

Each piece of work (reports, assignments, quizzes, midterm exam(s) or final examination) submitted by the student will be assigned a grade. The student's grade for each component listed above will be combined with the indicated weights to produce an overall percentage for the course, which will be used to determine the course letter grade.

The conversion between a percentage grade and letter grade is as follows.

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D
Minimum % Required	95 %	90 %	85 %	80%	75%	70 %	65 %	60%	56%	53 %	50 %

Scores within 0.5% of the upper boundary of a percent range (e.g., 79.5%) may or may not be rounded up at the discretion of the instructor (a decision will be made based on the student's performance in the course). For percent grades on a boundary, the higher grade will be chosen (e.g., 75% is a B, not a B-).

This course will employ TopHat during lectures to conduct quizzes. There will be a minimum of 50 in-class questions. Each correctly answered question counts for 0.1 percent and results are added up to a maximum of 5 percent.

Note: All tests, including the final exam will be synchronous. That means that students will be writing the exam at the specific scheduled times and must be available during those time.

4. Missed Components Of Term Work:

The university has suspended the requirement for students to provide evidence for absences. Please do not attend medical clinics for medical notes or Commissioners for Oaths for statutory declarations.

In the event that a student legitimately fails to submit any online assessment on time (e.g. due to illness etc...), please contact the course coordinator, or the course instructor if this course does not have a coordinator to arrange for a re-adjustment of a submission date. Absences not reported within 48 hours will not be accommodated. If an excused absence is approved, then the percentage weight of the legitimately missed assignment could also be pro-rated among the components of the course.

5. Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:

There are no scheduled out of class activities for this course.

6. Course Materials:

Required Textbook(s):

Fowler, C.M.R., *The Solid Earth: An Introduction to Global Geophysics*, 2nd edition Cambridge.

Other materials: posted on D2L.

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;

- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection.

For more information please refer to the UofC [ELearning](#) online website.

7. **Examination Policy:**

1-sided, letter-size, handwritten equation sheet is allowed. The content of the sheet is up to the students.

Students should also read the Calendar, [Section G](#), on Examinations.

8. **Approved Mandatory And Optional Course Supplemental Fees:**

There are no mandatory or optional course supplemental fees for this course.

9. **Writing Across The Curriculum Statement:**

For all components of the course, in any written work, the quality of the student's writing (language, spelling, grammar, presentation etc.) can be a factor in the evaluation of the work. See also Section [E.2](#) of the University Calendar.

10. **Human Studies Statement:**

Students will not participate as subjects or researchers in human studies.

See also [Section E.5](#) of the University Calendar.

11. **Reappraisal Of Grades:**

A student wishing a reappraisal, should first attempt to review the graded work with the Course coordinator/instructor or department offering the course. Students with sufficient academic grounds may request a reappraisal. Non-academic grounds are not relevant for grade reappraisals. Students should be aware that the grade being reappraised may be raised, lowered or remain the same. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

- Term Work:** The student should present their rationale as effectively and as fully as possible to the Course coordinator/instructor within **ten business days** of either being notified about the mark, or of the item's return to the class. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome, the student shall submit the Reappraisal of Graded Term work form to the department in which the course is offered within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor. The Department will arrange for a reappraisal of the work within the next ten business days. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected. See sections [I.1](#) and [I.2](#) of the University Calendar
- Final Exam:** The student shall submit the request to Enrolment Services. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

12. **Other Important Information For Students:**

- Mental Health** The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, [Mental Health Services Website](#)) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website ([Mental Health](#)).
- SU Wellness Center:** For more information, see www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre or call [403-210-9355](tel:403-210-9355).
- Sexual Violence:** The Sexual Violence Support Advocate, Carla Bertsch, can provide confidential support and information regarding sexual violence to all members of the university community. Carla can be reached by email (svsa@ucalgary.ca) or phone at [403-220-2208](tel:403-220-2208). The complete University of Calgary policy on sexual violence can be viewed at (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>)
- Misconduct:** Academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, or any other form) is a very serious offence that will be dealt with rigorously in all cases. A single offence may lead to disciplinary probation or suspension or expulsion. The Faculty of Science follows a zero tolerance policy regarding dishonesty. Please read the sections of the University Calendar under [Section K](#). Student Misconduct to inform yourself of definitions, processes and penalties. Examples of academic misconduct may include: submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not; submitting or presenting work in one course which has also been submitted in another course without the instructor's permission; collaborating in whole or in part without prior agreement of the instructor; borrowing experimental values from others without the instructor's

approval; falsification/ fabrication of experimental values in a report. **These are only examples.**

- e. **Academic Accommodation Policy:** Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the procedure for accommodations for students with disabilities available at [procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf](#).

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Teaching Professor of the Department of Geoscience, Jennifer Cuthbertson by email cuthberj@ucalgary.ca or phone 403-220-4709. Religious accommodation requests relating to class, test or exam scheduling or absences must be submitted no later than **14 days** prior to the date in question. See [Section E.4](#) of the University Calendar.

- f. **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). Students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page. For more information, see [Legal Services](#) website.
- g. **Student Union Information:** [VP Academic](#), Phone: [403-220-3911](tel:403-220-3911) Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca. SU Faculty Rep., Phone: [403-220-3913](tel:403-220-3913) Email: sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca. [Student Ombudsman](#), Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca.
- h. **Surveys:** At the University of Calgary, feedback through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction ([USRI](#)) survey and the Faculty of Science Teaching Feedback form provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference - please participate in these surveys.
- i. **Copyright of Course Materials:** All course materials (including those posted on the course D2L site, a course website, or used in any teaching activity such as (but not limited to) examinations, quizzes, assignments, laboratory manuals, lecture slides or lecture materials and other course notes) are protected by law. These materials are for the sole use of students registered in this course and must not be redistributed. Sharing these materials with anyone else would be a breach of the terms and conditions governing student access to D2L, as well as a violation of the copyright in these materials, and may be pursued as a case of student academic or [non-academic misconduct](#), in addition to any other remedies available at law.

Tentative Lecture schedule:

1. Introduction: The physical basis for geophysical properties. How Earth's interior is inferred from geophysical methods. Forward and inverse geophysical modelling.
2. Tectonics on a sphere: Rotation vectors and rotation poles. Past and present-day plate motions. Plate boundaries and their evolution over time.
3. Gravity and geodesy: Newton's Universal Law of gravitation. Gravitational potential and Earth's gravitational field. Geodesy and lithospheric flexure.
4. Geomagnetism: Origin of Earth's magnetic field. Magnetic potential and dipole field strength. Rock magnetism. Paleomagnetism and past plate motions.
5. Applications of potential-field data: Instruments for measuring gravitational and magnetic field strength. Basic data processing. Forward modeling and inversion.
6. Radioactivity and geochronology: Nuclear decay and radioactivity. General theory for radiometric age dating. Overview of geochronology methods. Age of the Earth.
7. Terrestrial heat flow: Conductive heat flow. Calculation of simple geotherms. Global heat flow, continents versus oceans.
8. Applications of heat flow measurements: The adiabat and melting in the mantle. Metamorphism: geotherms in the continental crust.
9. Deep interior of the Earth: Internal structure of the Earth. Convection in the mantle. Earth's core.
10. Seismic waves: Linear elasticity. Stress and strain. Basic principles of seismology: waves, rays, Snell's law, Huygens' principle. Reflection and refraction. Surface and body waves.
11. Earthquakes and global seismology. Anderson's theory of faulting. Earthquake magnitude scales. Probing Earth's deep interior using seismic waves.
12. Review

Tentative Laboratory Schedule:

1. Basic mathematics exercises: Error propagation, least-squares method, plate motions.
2. Gravity and Isostasy

3. Gravity and lithospheric flexure
4. Geochronology and heat flow
5. Elastic Earth properties and earthquake location
6. Earthquake seismology
7. Reflection seismology, migration
8. Refraction seismology

Course Outcomes:

- To explain the physical basis for geophysical properties (heat generation and transfer, seismic waves, magnetism, gravity).
- To interpret physical properties of the Earth from geophysical measurements (e.g., thickness of the crust and lithosphere, age of the Earth and its components, earthquake hazard, potential drilling locations from seismic data)
- To apply geophysical inference to deduce basic physical properties and structure of the Earth.
- To calculate relative motions of plates on a sphere, steady-state geotherms, satellite orbital parameters, earthquake magnitude and location, overburden thickness from seismic refraction observations.
- To perform error analysis for basic geophysical calculations such as geochronological age estimation and seismic velocity determination.
- To communicate important geophysical concepts in written and oral form.

Electronically Approved - Aug 17 2020 22:55

Department Approval

Electronically Approved - Aug 28 2020 10:29

Associate Dean's Approval