

NOTE: THERE IS NO ASSIGNED TEXTBOOK FOR THIS COURSE. YOU SHOULD NOT BUY ONE IF APPROACHED BY THE PUBLISHER OR UPPER-YEAR STUDNETS.

Course Instructor	Dr. Anne Godlewska	Email: anne.godlewska@queensu.ca
Office	D329 Macintosh-Corry Hall	
Contact Time	Asynchronous delivery	Phone: 533-6390
Format	Online. Students will review approximately one major theme each week	
Class assessment	Starting in week three, there will be graded individual exercises which will build to the final poster essay assignment. Cumulative smaller assignments are worth 31%, the discussion forum is worth 9%, weekly quizzes designed to keep you on target are worth 8%, the midterm is worth 20%, the final poster is worth 32%. You will undertake peer review in this course, but not peer marking.	

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course takes a spatial approach to social problems widely considered important including energy, economy, the environment, urbanism, social division, public space, racism, geopolitics, migration. Probably the two largest problems faced by the world today are environmental degradation and regional, national and global inequality. Taking a spatial approach to these problems grounds and focuses them on the human and human-non-human relationships that shape the problems, making them at once more real and more personal to you. In this class you will discover that these very large issues are personal in another way: what you do matters. You make the world. In the way we move from place to place, in the way we heat our homes, in the way we choose to communicate with each other and consume, for example, we have an impact on the environment and on other people both near and far from us. Living responsibly is, in part being aware of our choices and their impacts. But of course, it is not quite that simple: the world has been made and unmade and is being made and unmade by you and others all the time. In this class we will work to understand the forces that make the world we live in and remake by our actions. In this course, through the relatively simple concepts of location and distance and the much more freighted concepts of space and especially place we will consider how economic development, city design, geopolitics and geo-commerce, policies on migration and population health shape a landscape of inequality and desire. In this course, you will explore one theme in depth and learn about many others from the lectures, readings and from your colleagues' presentations and posters.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- You will explore the concepts of place, location and space to understand the relationships between these concepts.
- You will take a place and space based approach to social problems widely considered important.
- You will identify the causes of some of the fundamental inequalities that shape our world (e.g. distribution of resources, migration controls, unfavourable trade arrangements, etc.) to explain their impact on our world at multiple scales
- You will link the concept of place, location, and space to some of the inequalities that shape our world
- You will explore the relationship of this inequality to larger social forces and your own daily decisions.

COURSE TOPICS

- 1) Geography, Place and Space
- 2) Migration
- 3) Population Health
- 4) Energy, the economy and the environment
- 5) Cities and social division
- 6) Food security and diversity
- 7) Made in Canada
- 8) Labour

SELECTED COURSE TEXTS & READINGS

There is not textbook in this course. You will be responsible for the content of the course lessons and you will be assigned readings relevant to your assignments.