

GEO 773: Field Studies (Germany/Italy/Austria) - Fall 2018

Course Instructor:	Dr. Wayne Forsythe JOR622A 416-979-5000 x.7141 forsythe@geography.ryerson.ca www.geography.ryerson.ca/wayne/GEO773-F2018	Office Hours:	Tuesdays 3:00pm-5:00pm
		Lectures:	Thursdays 12:10pm-3:00pm
		Labs/Tutorials:	N/A
		Pre-requisites:	N/A

***** No Faculty Course Survey will be administered for this course.*****

Course Description: The field portion of Geo773: Field Studies (Germany/Italy/Austria) will take place from September 15 to 23, 2018. It is designed to expose students to a range of issues particular to the destination countries and regions. Geo773: Field Studies is a professional elective course offered to students in the 3rd and 4th year of the Geographic Analysis Program.

Students are responsible for ensuring that they possess the necessary documentation for admission to Germany, Italy and Austria - (i.e., Passport, visa if necessary). If you have any questions about this, contact the Geographic Analysis Program Administrator at 416-979-5038 or Wayne Forsythe (forsythe@geography.ryerson.ca).

Space is at a premium, so baggage will be restricted to one bag per person (the airline charges ~\$100.00 for a second bag). Any medical problem should be pointed out to faculty prior to leaving Toronto. If you require prescription drugs, be sure they are kept in the original prescription bottle, or are accompanied by the prescription. Students must obtain out-of-country medical coverage (Blue Cross or equivalent supplemental medical coverage) for the period of the field trip (unless you already covered by a plan for foreign medical expenses) prior to departure. They **must** also register with International SO, a partner of Ryerson International; visit <http://www.ryerson.ca/ri/global-learning/risk-management-steps/>.

Course Objectives: By the end of the course, students should expect to have an understanding of how geographic field work is conducted. In addition, the collection of field data and their role in decision-making and the generation of knowledge will be focal points of the course.

Required Texts: There is no required textbook for this course.

Posting of Grades: Grades will not be posted.

Course Evaluation: While in Germany, Italy and Austria, students are required to make observations, reflections and conclusions during scheduled activities and maintain an in-field observation journal. Independent observations must be made throughout the field trip and will be a valuable source of additional information. Together, these can encompass your notes, sketches and other illustrations, summaries, data, collected information, proposals, insights and comparisons. (You should not offer a

collection of filler material - brochures and other handouts - collected during the trip; nor provide a transcription of the notes and discussions).

You will be assigned to a group (here will be four groups with each one assigned a particular topic related to the field trip). In total, your group should put together a body of work expressing your insights and understanding of the topic that is assigned. Good presentations will be comprehensive, concise, thoughtful, insightful and perceptive. You will be given directions each day (while in the field) to assist you in organizing your observations and tips on presentation content.

Course Component	Weight	Date/Due Date
Post-trip Test - multiple choice. Details provided during the class on Sept. 6.	35%	Oct. 25 12:10pm to 1:00pm in SHE540
In-field Observation Journal - individual assignment, see course evaluation above. Details provided during the class on Sept. 6.	35%	Oct. 18 at 12:10pm in JOR622A
Group Assignment/Presentations - see course evaluation above. Details provided during the class on Sept. 6.	30%	Oct. 25 from 1:10pm to 3:00pm in SHE540

The first graded assignment results that will be available are the journals on November 1.

Course Schedule:

Week	Date	Topic
1	Sept. 6	Schedule, preparation. Mandatory Presentation from Ryerson International.
2	Sept. 13	Test format, logistics, in-field observation journal, and group assignment.
3	Sept. 15-23	In the field.
4	Oct. 25	Test and Group Assignment Presentations.

IMPORTANT DATES: The class will meet three times during the fall semester in addition to nine days in the field.

The classes prior to departure – dates Sept. 6 and 13, mandatory attendance (a 20% total course grade reduction will be administered for non-attendance).

The In-field observation journal must be handed-in on Oct. 18 at 12:10pm in JOR622A; all work on this must be done **individually**. Late penalty: **50% per day** (not accepted if more than **one (1) school day late unless a medical certificate is submitted or other acceptable arrangements have been made and confirmed in writing prior to the due date.**

The scheduled class on Oct. 25: mandatory attendance (a 20% total course grade reduction will be administered for non-attendance in addition to a grade of zero for the group assignment presentation. All group assignment presentations will occur during this class).

Course Policies

All assignments must be handed directly to your instructor. Use of the essay/assignment drop box on the 6th floor of Jorgenson Hall will result in an automatic grade of 0 for the assignment.

Your instructor will endeavour to return the journal assignments within two weeks of their due date.

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, all work must be done individually. Late penalty on all required course material: 50% per day (not accepted if more than **one (1) school day late unless a medical certificate is submitted or other acceptable arrangements have been made and confirmed in writing prior to the due date**).

In order to receive a passing grade for the course, students must:

- 1) Meet acceptable standards in the required assignments;
- 2) Participate in the scheduled activities on the field trip itinerary (a 20% total course grade reduction will be administered for each scheduled event on the field trip where students fail to participate; a 10% total course grade reduction will be administered for each scheduled event on the field trip where students are late; a 10% total course grade reduction will be administered for each instance where students are late for transportation departure times); and
- 3) Meet professional standards of conduct. Students must adhere to the Student Code of Academic and Non-academic Conduct and other relevant university policies. You are responsible for reading the code. Proper student conduct is crucial on a trip of this nature - any breach will be addressed by instituting disciplinary action.

Course Variations

Students are **required** to sign:

- 1) a Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims, Assumption of Risks and Indemnity Agreement from the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Ryerson University (you will be provided with a copy of this form on TBD), and
- 2) a Waiver Form from Ryerson University.
See <http://www.ryerson.ca/ri/global-learning/risk-management-steps/> for details. You will be provided with a copy of this form on September 6.

In addition, students are required to register with International SO, a partner of Ryerson International; visit <http://www.ryerson.ca/ri/global-learning/risk-management-steps/> to do this.

Electronics in Class

The use of laptop computers is allowed. All other electronic devices are not permitted.

Department Late Policy

The Department of Geography has a late assignment policy which specifies a minimum penalty of 20% per calendar day, as outlined in the [Department of Geography and Environmental Studies Student Handbook](#).

Missed Classes and/or Evaluations

Students are required to inform their instructors of any situation which arises during the semester which

may have an adverse effect upon their academic performance, and must request any considerations and accommodations according to the relevant policies and well in advance. Failure to do so will jeopardize any academic appeals.

Health certificates – If a student misses the deadline for submitting an assignment, or the date of an exam or other evaluation component because of illness, he or she must submit a Ryerson Student Health Certificate AND an Academic Consideration form within 3 working days of the missed date. Both documents are available at <http://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/senate/forms/medical.pdf>. If you are a full-time or part-time degree student, then you submit your forms to your own program department or school. If you are a certificate or non-certificate student, then you submit your forms to the staff at the front desk of the Chang School.

Religious observance – If a student needs accommodation because of religious observance, he or she must submit a Request for Accommodation of Student Religious, Aboriginal and Spiritual Observance AND an Academic Consideration form within the first 2 weeks of the class or, for a final examination, within 2 weeks of the posting of the examination schedule. If the required absence occurs within the first 2 weeks of classes, or the dates are not known well in advance as they are linked to other conditions, these forms should be submitted with as much lead time as possible in advance of the required absence. Both documents are available at <http://www.ryerson.ca/senate/forms/reobservforminstr.pdf>. If you are a full-time or part-time degree student, then you submit the forms to your own program department or school. If you are a certificate or non-certificate student, then you submit the forms to the staff at the front desk of the Chang School.

Students who need academic accommodation support – students should register with Academic Accommodation Support (AAS) before the first graded work is due, registered students should inform their instructors through an “Accommodation Form for Professors” that they are registered with Academic Accommodation Support and what accommodations are required. Students are not required to provide their personal health information or seek accommodation directly from their professors, course instructors or teaching assistants as it pertains to academic accommodation for disabilities; for students with a mental health disability, a diagnosis statement is not required to register with AAS or to receive accommodations or support.

Academic Integrity

It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Academic Conduct (<http://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/senate/policies/pol60.pdf>) and understand what plagiarism means. Examples of plagiarism and related misconceptions are listed on the web site of the Office of Academic Integrity (<http://www.ryerson.ca/academicintegrity/>). Just remember, if you are found guilty of academic misconduct in relation to an assignment or other form of evaluation, the minimum penalty is a grade reduction. A mark of zero “0” on the work falls within the category of grade reduction. As a consequence of any determination of academic misconduct, a “Disciplinary Notice” (DN) will be placed on the student’s academic record.

Plagiarism Detection Service – Turnitin will not be used.

Class Participation and Attendance

Students are required to attend class (as noted above).

Student Email Policy

According to the policy on the Establishment and Use of Ryerson Student E-Mail Accounts for Official University Communication (<http://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/senate/policies/pol157.pdf>) students are required to use their Ryerson email address for communication with the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to check their Ryerson email and course website regularly.

Student Code of Non-Academic Conduct

It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Non-Academic Conduct (<http://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/senate/policies/pol61.pdf>) and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with generally accepted standards of behaviour, University regulations and policies.