



**GEOG 310**  
**Development and Livelihoods**  
**Winter 2017**



**Lectures:** Tuesday and Thursday, 1.05pm – 2.25pm

**Location:** Burnside Hall 1B45

**Instructors:** Prof. Jon Unruh (jon.unruh@mcgill.ca)  
Prof. Sarah Turner (sarah.turner@mcgill.ca)  
Dr. Magalie Quintal-Marineau (guest speaker)

**Teaching Assistants:** TBA ([Geog310.McGill@gmail.com](mailto:Geog310.McGill@gmail.com))

**Course description:** Discussion of the geographical dimensions of rural/urban livelihoods in the face of socioeconomic and environmental change in developing regions. Emphasis is on household natural resource use, survival strategies and vulnerability, decision-making, formal and informal socio-economic institutions, migration, and development experience in contrasting global environments.

**COURSE OVERVIEW:** This course introduces students to a broad range of debates and concerns regarding how people make a living in developing regions in Africa, Asia and northern Canada. This course brings together professors and guest speakers with ‘first hand’ experience and knowledge in these regions, who will discuss the important conceptual and theoretical perspectives on development livelihoods, as well as drawing from a range of case studies to debate such issues as household decision making processes, income generation, market participation, and socio-economic changes in developing areas.

The course is structure in three parts. Initially, we explore the relationships among livelihoods, land tenure and shocks such as drought and conflict drawing primarily on examples from Africa. Second, agrarian and urban livelihoods will be examined with attention to issues of poverty, politics, resistance and sustainability, with illustrative cases from Asia. Finally, in a shorter section, key concepts and ideas in subsistence livelihoods will be introduced followed by a focus on communities in northern Canada.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** There are a readings posted on MyCourses. *The readings and lectures are complementary: neither substitutes for the other.* You are responsible for keeping up to date with the readings. Material from both the readings and lectures is examinable.

**COURSE EVALUATION:**

<u>Evaluation:</u>	<u>Value:</u>	<u>Date:</u>
In class test	40%	February 23
Reading and class review journal	40%	April 13
In class ‘pop’ quizzes (10)	20%	Random

**Pop quizzes 20%:** there will be 10 pop quizzes held at random times during the semester. These are to encourage class attendance and critical thinking skills. If you are absent for 4 or more of these, you will receive an automatic grade of 0 for the pop quizzes in total (0/20). i.e. you can miss 3 and will still be graded for the quizzes that you completed (and receive up to 14/20).

**Reading and Class Review journal 40%:** Your Reading and Class Review Journal is an opportunity for you to demonstrate your understanding of the lectures, discussions, videos and readings undertaken in the second section of the course (Prof Turner and guest speaker). Each journal entry is no more than 450 words. The journal will be completed on My Courses. You must complete this for 9 of the 11 classes in the second half (Prof Turner’s and guest speaker) (see Schedule below) (i.e. you have ‘time-out’ for 2 classes of your choice in case you get sick/have other pressing deadlines etc.).

The Reading and Reflections and Reading Journals are an ongoing piece of assessment and should be completed well before the final due date. There is no per day penalty for these – your journal will be graded on what is on My Courses at 5pm on the due date. If there's nothing in your journal at this date you will receive zero grade. *Drafts should be uploaded weekly* and will not be graded before the due date – i.e. you can revise your draft online as often as you wish. Complaints that My Courses went down 2 hours etc. before the final deadline will not be taken into consideration, as your journals should be updated constantly throughout the third section of the course.

More details on these assessment pieces and the in class test will be given in class.

## REGARDING EVALUATION AND OTHER INFORMATION

The in class test must be taken at the scheduled time. There are only two exceptions:

1. You have a legible medical note covering the in-class period, including the phone number of your physician.
2. There is a bereavement or sudden severe illness in your family or of a close friend. In this case we need to see a notice from a newspaper or other adequate legitimate documentation (as determined by the Professor).

**Missed in class test:** A formal request for special consideration if you miss the in class test should be made to Prof Unruh. It is appreciated, if you know you will miss the test because of illness or bereavement, that you let him know as soon as possible *in advance*. After the test, you must try to inform him within 48 hours that you have missed it.

There are no make-up tests for Geog310. With the appropriate documentation your course grade will be calculated from all the other components as a whole, scaled appropriately.

If you do not have appropriate documentation (as outlined above) you will receive a grade of zero for the missed in class test.

No opportunity will be available for supplemental work.

The Student Contact TA for this course is always the first point of contact for all course-related questions regarding the in class test (except if you miss it contact Prof Unruh), readings, and assignments.

This Course Outline is available on MyCourses as will be supplementary lecture material. Instructors' complete lecture notes, however, will **not** be placed on MyCourses. It is your responsibility to attend class or borrow notes from a classmate.

Students have the right to write assessments in French.

McGill University values academic integrity. The presentation of the work, idea or creation of another person as though it is your own is a form of cheating and is a very serious academic offence. All

students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see [www.mcgill.ca/integrity](http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity) for more information).

Mutual respect is expected at all times amongst instructors, teaching assistants, support staff and students at McGill University. Students are referred to the Handbook of Student Rights and Responsibilities (the 'Green Book') for McGill's policies on Code of Conduct and to [www.mcgill.ca/dp-cio/epolicies](http://www.mcgill.ca/dp-cio/epolicies) for McGill's E-policies.

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**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Lecture topic:</b>	<b>Professor:</b>
January 5	Course introduction	Unruh
	<b>Livelihoods under Stress and Change</b>	
Jan. 10	Pastoralist livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa	Unruh
Jan. 12	African livelihoods: diversity and change	Unruh
Jan. 17	Land tenure and African livelihoods	Unruh
Jan. 19	African livelihoods under stress: drought and conflict	Unruh
Jan. 24	African livelihoods under stress: famine and anti-poverty policy	Unruh
Jan. 26	Livelihood recovery I	Unruh
Jan. 31	Livelihood recovery II	Unruh
Feb. 2	Cultural ecology as an approach to studying livelihoods	Unruh
Feb. 7	Sustainable development & livelihoods	Unruh
Feb. 9	Disease and adaptation in customary livelihoods	Unruh
Feb. 14	Community-based natural resource management	Unruh
Feb. 16	Documentary video: TBA	Unruh
Feb. 21	<i>No class- prepare for midterm and TA hours.</i>	
Feb. 23	<b>In-class test</b>	
<i>Feb. 27- March 3</i>		<i>Reading Week</i>
	<b>Livelihoods: agrarian change and urban options</b>	
Mar. 7	Sustainable livelihoods: conceptual debates [& journal assignment intro]	Turner
Mar. 9	Peasant livelihoods and agrarian change in Asia	Turner
Mar. 14	Peasant trade and cross-border livelihoods	Turner
Mar. 16	Livelihoods and migration	Turner
Mar. 21	Urban livelihoods: resistance and social capital	Turner
Mar. 23	Marketplace trade and commodity flows	Turner

	<b>Canadian North Livelihoods</b>	
Mar. 28	Subsistence and Inuit homeland	Turner & Guest
Mar. 30	Livelihoods changes, colonization and adaptation	Turner & Guest
April 4	Livelihoods and gender dynamics	Turner & Guest
April 6	Urbanization in the North: Indigenous in the city	Turner & Guest
April 11	Environmental challenges & livelihoods (last class)	Turner & Guest
<i>April 13</i>	<b>Reading and class review journal due</b>	Turner

### Reading List

#### 1. Livelihoods under Stress and Change

##### **January 10: Pastoralist livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa**

Hjort af Ornas, A. 1989. "Environment and security of dryland herders in Eastern Africa", *Ecology and Politics: Environmental Stress and Security in Africa*, Hjort af Ornas A, and Mohamed Salih, M (eds.) Scandinavian Institute of African Studies, Uppsala. pp. 67-88.

##### **January 12: African livelihoods: diversity and change**

Stock R. 2004. "Indigenous food production systems" *Africa South of the Sahara: A Geographical Interpretation*. The Guilford Press, New York, pp 195-209.

Stock R. 2004. "Agrarian development and change", *Africa South of the Sahara: A Geographical Interpretation*. The Guilford Press, New York, pp 210-223.

##### **January 17: Land tenure and African livelihoods**

Bruce, J. 1993. "Do indigenous tenure systems constrain agricultural development?", *Land in African Agrarian Systems*. Bassett T, and Crummey D., (eds.). University of Wisconsin Press, Madison. pp. 35-56.

##### **January 19: African livelihoods under stress: drought and conflict**

Roncoli, C., K. Ingram and P. Kirshen. 2001. "The costs and risks of coping with drought: livelihood impacts and farmers' responses in Burkina Faso", *Climate Research* 19: 119-132.

Adedeji, A. 1999. "Comprehending African Conflicts", *Comprehending and Mastering African Conflicts*. Zed Books, New York. pp. 3-21.

##### **January 24: African livelihoods under stress: famine and anti-poverty policy**

Stock, R. 2004. "Food security", *Africa South of the Sahara: A Geographical Interpretation*. The Guilford Press, New York, pp 224-238.

Ellis, F. and H. Freeman. 2004. "Rural livelihoods and poverty reduction strategies in four African countries", *The Journal of Development Studies* 40: 1-30.

### **January 26: Livelihood recovery I**

Malan, J. 2005. "Traditional and local conflict resolution", *People Building Peace: Successful Stories of Civil Society*, Tongeren P, Brenk M, Hellema M, Verhoeven J (eds.) Lynne Rienner Publishers, London. pp. 449-472.

### **January 31: Livelihood recovery II**

UNEP 2009. From conflict to peacebuilding: the role of natural resources and the environment. United Nations Environment Programme. Geneva.

UN Security Council. 2009. Report of the panel of experts established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan. UN Security Council, New York.

### **Feb. 2 Cultural ecology as an approach to studying livelihoods**

Zimmerer K. 2004. Cultural ecology: placing households in human-environment studies – the cases of tropical forest transitions and agrobiodiversity change. *Progress in Human Geography* 28,6: pp. 795–806

### **Feb. 7 Sustainable development & livelihoods**

Hopwood, B., Mellor, M., O'Brien, G. 2003. Sustainable Development: Mapping Different Approaches. Sustainable Cities Research Institute, University of Northumbria.

### **Feb. 9 Disease and adaptation in customary livelihoods**

Masuku, M., Sithole, M. 2009. The impact of HIV/AIDS on food security and household vulnerability in Swaziland. *Agrekon*, Vol 48, No 2

### **Feb. 14 Community-based natural resource management**

Glad, M. 2005. Conservation outside of parks: attitudes of local people in Laikipia, Kenya. *Environmental Conservation* 32 (1): 50–63.

### **Feb. 16 Documentary video. No reading**

## **2. Livelihoods: agrarian change and urban options**

### **March 7: Sustainable livelihoods: conceptual debates [and journal assignment intro]**

Ellis, F. 2000. A framework for livelihoods analysis, *Rural Livelihoods and Diversity in Developing Countries*. Oxford University Press, New York, pp. 28-54.

### **March 9: Peasants, livelihoods and agrarian change**

Rigg, J. 1990/1 (2<sup>nd</sup> ed 2013). Rice cultivation, the Green Revolution and agrarian change in Southeast Asia. *Southeast Asia: A Region in Transition*. London: Routledge, pp. 33-56.

### **March 14: Peasant trade and cross-border livelihoods**

Schoenberger, L and S. Turner 2008. Negotiating Remote Borderland Access: Small-Scale Trade on the Vietnam - China Border. *Development and Change* 39 (4), 667–96.

### **March 16: Livelihoods and migration**

Kam Wing Chan. 2012. Migration and development in China: trends, geography and current issues. *Migration and Development* 1(2), 187-205.

### **March 21: Urban livelihoods: resistance and social capital**

Policy Research Initiative. 2003. Social Capital. Conceptualization Background Paper, pp. 15-26.

### **March 23: Marketplace trade and commodity flows**

[very short!] – Turner, S. 2009. Economy, Informal. In Kitchin, R. and N. Thrift (eds) *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography*, Oxford: Elsevier pp. 367–371.

Gerber, J., S. Turner and L. Milgram, 2014. Food provisioning and wholesale agricultural commodity chains in northern Vietnam. *Human Organization* 73 (1), 50-61.

## **3. Canadian North Livelihoods**

### **March 28 Subsistence and Inuit homeland**

Wenzel, George.W. 1991. The culture of subsistence. *Animal rights, human rights: Ecology, economy and ideology in the Canadian Arctic*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, pp.56-63.

### **March 30 Livelihoods changes, colonization and adaptation**

Chabot, Marcelle. 2003. "Economic changes, household strategies, and social relations of contemporary Nunavik Inuit". *The Polar Record*. 39 (208): 19-34.

### **April 4 Livelihoods and gender dynamics**

Dowsley, Martha. 2014. "Identity and the evolving relationship between Inuit women and the land in the eastern Canadian Arctic". *Polar Record*. 51 (05): 536-549.

### **April 6 Urbanization in the North: Indigenous in the city**

Kishigami, Nobuhiro. 2006. Inuit social networks in an urban setting. In Stern, P. R., and L. Stevenson (Eds) *Critical Inuit studies: an anthology of contemporary Arctic ethnography*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, pp.206-215.

### **April 11 Environmental challenges & livelihoods**

Simpson, Leanne. 2004. Listening to our ancestors : rebuilding indigenous nations in the face of environmental destruction. In Wainwright, A (Ed.) *Every grain of sand: Canadian perspectives on ecology and environment*. Waterloo, Ont: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, pp.121-134.