

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Winter 2015 Geog. 142

Instructor: Jane Benjamin
Email benjaminj@lanecc.edu
Phone: (541) 463-5875

OFFICE HOURS by appointment **or**
UR 11:10-12 noon **Office:** 410F Center Bldg.
MW 2:30-3:20 pm in classroom bldg. 4/224

The **Human Geography** course focuses on patterns of diversity of culture and human interactions. The course is centered on 5 basic themes of Human Geography: Region, Diffusion, Ecology, Interaction and Landscape. Discussions of how humans occupy space and create a sense of “place” according to their own cultural values and world view are key. Through these themes we will study the evolution of cultural and the resulting landscapes of cultural change. Distributions and interactions of various aspects of culture such as language, religion, population, environmental resources, levels of education and technology will be analyzed. Complex interactions of aspects of culture create a sense “place” and human attachment. The course satisfies Race Gender and Ethnicity requirement.

Required Text: *Jordan's Fundamentals of the Human Mosaic 1E* M. Domosh, R. Neuman, P. Price. Text readings are to be completed *before* class. Additional articles/handouts are required and will be handed out with instruction. I use moodle to post materials.

Optional materials: Goodes World Atlas, wall sized world map; New York Times newspaper, Atlases found in Library

Required Attendance: I take roll each day **or** use in class work to document attendance and participation. More than 3 absences over the term will reduce your letter grade by one letter. You are counted absent if you do not attend the full 2hour class. Special exceptions can be arranged but it will not be possible to miss more than 3 class periods.

Your Grade is based on

EXAMS (two) = 55% of course grade. Exams will have three parts (1) multiple choice (2) written short answer (3) map questions. Exams require understanding and application of themes, knowledge of terms, concepts, and map distributions of cultural traits. Make-up exams are a privilege not a “student right” and will not receive above a “C” grade. Consult with me during my office hours to discuss confidential issues surrounding a request for a make-up. Any makeups must be completed with 3 days of the original test date.

MAP QUIZZES =15% of course grade. A series of weekly 14-point map quizzes over countries of different continents will be given in class and will following the syllabus schedule. Culminating with a final world map quiz the last week of classes. We begin class with quizzes so be punctual. Country names and locations can be found in the text inside the cover and p. 150. On occasion people may miss or be late for a map quiz for various reasons. Therefore **one make-up map quiz consisting of 28 random countries of the world (½ pt each) will be available to all students** on the last day of class, to be taken after the final exam.

ASSIGNMENTS & PARTICIPATION = 30% of course grade. This includes: attendance, quizzes, in-class group and individual work, discussion, short analysis writing and presentations. Papers may be emailed to me as an ATTACHMENT but are *not accepted late* unless pre-arranged. Missed group work, in-class writings or quizzes can't be made-up. If you are absent or not prepared for discussions you are not participating. ***I use moodle to post handouts, study maps and reading assignments but not for grades.***

Criteria on written work: **1)** must exhibit the spirit of the assignment by mindful thinking about cultural meaning and learned material. **2)** must use of geographic terms and concepts. **3)** must explain ideas and experiences with clear application of geographic concepts **4)** **must** write clearly organized ideas using correct grammar and spelling **5)** exhibit neat/complete graphic work, **6)** follow instruction of the assignment. ***If you have difficulty understanding the assignment, use office hours.***

Record your Points Here and save all papers.

EXAM 1	25%	
EXAM 2	30%	
ASSIGNMENT & PARTICIPATION	30%	
MAP QUIZZES	15%	
TOTAL	100%	

DISABILITY SERVICES:

If you are having difficulty and are in need of academic support because of a documented disability, whether it be psychiatric, learning, physical, hard of hearing, or sensory, you may be eligible for academic accommodations through Disability Services. Contact the Disability Services office at 747-4501, ext. 2150.

SCHEDULE

Week 1	Cultural Geography: What is it? What are the themes? How do learned behaviors and the experiences of people create cultural patterns? How can we apply geographic themes to our current world? Map Quiz – What you know now? Mental Maps and how we understand our world spatially. Maps as Tools. Culture is a learned behavior Video: Babies HOMEWORK: Read Chapter 1 for Thursday. Assignment: Map quiz 1 for this Thursday. Locate these large countries on world map CHINA, INDIA, AUSTRALIA, RUSSIA, JAPAN, SOUTH AFRICA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT, ITALY, BRAZIL, CANADA, MEXICO, SPAIN, GERMANY, IRAQ. Find Lizardpoint.com. To use as a study tool. Map quiz 2 (next Thursday) will cover Middle and South American countries (i.e. Latin America). Quiz maps are posted on moodle each week to download for practice.	
Week 2	HOMEWORK: Read Chapter 2. Handout: Traditional and Modern Culture Assignment: Keep a list of elements you see in the landscape of folk cultures and things you see in the landscape representing pop culture. Photo captures are much encouraged. Use that cell phone or camera if you have one. Folk and Popular cultures are two ends of a cultural spectrum. How do themes learned in Week 1 manifest differently in traditional/folk cultures and modern/pop cultures? What is fundamentally different about them? How do traditional and modern cultures overlap in support? Or clash to threaten? Why? Slides and Photos: Mapuche Indians of Chile / Mexican village/ African life in Ghana Study for Map quiz 2: LATIN AMERICA Begin Assignment for next week's population geography.	
Week 3	Population Geography. Where do most people live and why? What important mapped statistical information gives insight into cultural norms of a region? How does that information and population pyramids enable predictions of the future? What influences some cultures to change demographic patterns quickly and others not? We will incorporate what we learned from last week into this chapter using the Demographic Transition Model to see its usefulness and its flaws. We will discuss settlement patterns and environmental influences. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLmKfXwWQtE Pop. Pyramids Migration Video: Migration in Southern Africa Botswana and Zimbabwe HOMEWORK: Read Chapter 3. In-class group work. You will hand in your group work on Thursday Map Quiz 3: SOUTH EAST ASIA	
Week 4	The Geography of Languages. Where are modern languages spoken? How are languages related? How important is language to culture? Do cultures perceive their world differently due to language? How and why do languages change? Pete Seeger “English is Crazy” https://www.ted.com/talks/jamila_lyiscott_3_ways_to_speak_english?language=en http://www.ted.com/talks/john_mcwhorter_txtng_is_killing_language_jk?language=en https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZaAwNIzMe-c No/So Korea http://ed.ted.com/lessons/a-brief-history-of-plural-word-s-john-mcwhorter http://www.ethnologue.com/world HOMEWORK: Read Chapter 4 Map Quiz 4: Eastern and Western EUROPE Handouts: English by the Book; Words by the Decades; English Evolution	
Week 5	Geographies of Race and Ethnicity. Understanding race as a social construct and how its history defines who we are as Americans. Ethnic “space” and “place” and why they are important. Migration, Identity and Acculturation; Assimilation Video: What’s Cook’in? HOMEWORK: Begin Reading on page 122 of Chapter 5 and read through 146. Map Quiz 5: AFRICA, ON AND NORTH OF THE EQUATOR	
Week 6	Tuesday Midterm 1 Tuesday. For Thursday Political Geography. What is “territory” and how do we organize cultures within. Electoral Geography and “place”. We will discuss different types of territories and their significance in the modern world. We will note the struggle of cultural traditions vs. modernization of political systems. HOMEWORK: Read Chapter 6. No map quiz or assignment this week due to midterm.	

Week 7	GEOGRAPHY OF RELIGION. What is religion and what are its roles within society? Where how and why are religion distributed in such patterns across the world? How does religion interact with other cultural traits? HOMEWORK: Read Chapter 7 Religion. Visit a religious site and list and sketch or photograph identifying features. It could be a cemetery, church, mosque synagogue, neighborhood, public space or other. Map Quiz 6 North Africa and SW Asia Tibet http://www.festival.si.edu/2001/beyond-the-land-of-snows/ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6dCxo7t_aE#t=497 http://bloombsburyfilms.com/muslim-wedding-videos.php	
Week 8	Beginnings of AGRICULTURE and how it bound cultures through innovation and food. What where, and why are different types of food production found in the world today? Who are these farmers? From early domestication to GMOs what's next? Can sustainable agriculture feed the world's growing population? What are major changes to current food production? VIDEO GMO HOMEWORK: Read Chapter 8 GEOGRAPHY OF AGRICULTURE Map quiz 7 ALL AFRICA Handout: 2014 Agriculture Conference Article. Assignment: Choose a food region or country in the world and research a menu for a traditional dinner. Write a 1-2 page paper discussing the origin of the ingredients for a particular recipe. Discuss how/why the food, preparation or spices became symbolic of this culture.	
Week 9	Urbanization: patterns, processes and landscapes. What are the origins of early urbanization models? Where are early hearth areas of urbanization? What do Site and Situation have to do with location of Urban Places? Globalization of modern cities and the impacts on sustainability. Cities and Climate change. Who is vulnerable? HOMEWORK: Read Chapter 10 ASSIGNMENT: Select one city from figure 10.8 and find landscape photos to share. Look for and research a few iconic features of its urban landscape that makes it distinctive and unique to its culture. Please print out color copies if they are from the internet. We will share them among tables Map Quiz 8 ALL ASIA	
Week 10	Read Chapter 1. REVIEW GEOGRAPHIC THEMES Map Quiz 9 WORLD and make-up world map quiz.	
Week	Final Exam Thursday at noon	

Course Grading Scale

+	A	89% on map quizzes and test average. All completed assignments are of good quality or better.	Superior comprehensive knowledge of college-level subject material and concepts of Geography
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+	B	80% on map quiz and test average AND all but one of completed assignments are of good quality or better.	Very good comprehensive understanding college level materials and concepts of Geography.
-			
+	C	70% on map quiz and test average AND most of completed assignments are of good quality or better .	Average college student knowledge of subject materials.
-			
	D	60% on map quiz and test average AND 1-2 assignments are of good quality or better.	Lacking comprehensive subject understanding.