

Department of Geography
University of Montana
Spring Semester, 2007

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GEOG 101 Course Syllabus – *Introduction to Human Geography* *TR 11:10-12:30, LA11*

Course Description

Geography is the World; the World is Geography! This course is intended to provide you with exposure to the human dimension or aspect of geography – how cultures are born and change, how populations behave, how people and groups organize themselves and their activities spatially and politically, how these activities and patterns change across time and space, and how technology affects these things. You are going to learn how to think like a geographer, to expand your geographic imagination, and to appreciate this discipline which is a critical component of the well rounded liberal arts education. Furthermore, you will gain skill in using maps, data, argument and persuasion that will certainly prove to be important skills in your future career – whether it be as a geographer (yes, there are professional geographers!) or something else.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course you should be able to accomplish the following:

- “construct, use and refine mental maps of locales, regions, and the world that demonstrates [your] understanding of relative location, direction, size, and shape;
- “create, interpret, use, and distinguish various representations of Earth, such as maps, globes and photographs, and use appropriate geographic tools such as atlases, data bases, systems, charts, graphs, and maps to generate, manipulate, and interpret information;
- “estimate and calculate distance, scale, area, and density, and to distinguish spatial distribution patterns;
- “describe how people create places that reflect culture, human needs, current values and ideals, and government policies;
- “examine, interpret, and analyze the interactions of human beings and their physical environments;
- “describe and assess the ways historical events have influenced and have been influenced by physical and human geographic features;
- “observe and analyze social and economic effects of environmental changes and crises;
- “consider, compare, and evaluate existing alternative uses of resources and land in communities, regions, nations, and the world.” (Source: NCATE Social Studies Standards (1997). Available: <http://www.ncate.org/standard/ncss-97.pdf> , 8/04).

Required Text

- Fellman, Jerome D, Arthur Getis, and Judith Getis. 2007. *Human Geography: Landscapes of Human Activities* (9th Ed.). Boston: McGraw Hill (w/ Student Atlas of World Geography (4th).

Also

- You may use Fellman et al.'s 8th, and the 3rd Ed. of the Atlas (Avail. through web vendors).
- A copy of the 7th Edition of the Fellman text is on two hour reserve in Mansfield Library.
- Copies of Chapters 1 & 2 (from the 8th Edition) are available through both regular and E-Reserve at Mansfield library, and on the course BlackBoard site (see below for instructions).
- You can now purchase the new eBook format of Fellmann et al.'s Human Geography, 8e. With McGraw-Hill eBooks, you get the: SAME CONTENT AT ABOUT HALF OF THE PRINTED VERSION PRICE. Powered by Zinio, McGraw-Hill's eBook is the most effective electronic text on the market today, and it's available for purchase direct from the publisher. Does not come w/ atlas. Go to <http://textbooks.zinio.com>

Recommended Texts

- Tolan, Sandy. 2006. *The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East*. Bloomsbury. (Chapters 1 & 2 are on E-Reserve and Blackboard).
- Avnery, Uri. *Truth Against Truth: A Completely Different Look at the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*. Gush Shalom (public. date unk.).

Supplementary Materials

- A BlackBoard site has been established for this course. Access from the University's homepage (www.umt.edu). You must use your Scuid and last 6 digits of your GrizID as username and password.
- Review the syllabus for **required on-line readings** to supplement the text.
- Selected materials from Lemon Tree and Goode's World Atlas have been placed on the BlackBoard site and on the UM Mansfield Library's E-Reserve site: <http://eres.lib.umt.edu> . The **password** for this class is **geog101**.
- A supplementary website offered by the publishers of our text is available at: <http://www.mhhe.com/fellmann8e/> .

TA Information

Course Organization

We will employ a number of methods and practices throughout the semester:

- Lecture/Discussion/Active Learning Activities - Bring a **notebook** and **take notes**. Readings from Text - **Outline** the assigned **readings**.
- Audio Visual (Videos) – **be there, you will have questions to answer!**

Course Requirements

Exams	50 percent
Activities	40 percent
Attendance	10 percent

Exams

A total of 3 exams will be offered through the semester – 2 midterms and one final that will have a comprehensive element. Exam format is multiple choice/true-false, however, you may elect to

complete short answer/essay style exams if you prefer. Let me know your preferences prior to exam days.

Activities

You will complete a number of activities (assignments) during the semester. These will contribute directly to your understanding of the course material and it is essential that you complete these on time. **All finished work** related to these activities **must** be turned in at the beginning of the designated class period, must be type-written, and have your name and student ID in the upper right hand corner of the document. Work **will not** be accepted via email or BlackBoard.

Attendance

“Ninety percent of life is just showing up!” Attendance will be documented using a number of methods – be in class on time and don’t leave early.

Grading

Though I will examine the distribution of course scores (totals) to ensure that it is an appropriate and fair one, I do not practice grading that contributes to “grade-inflation.” The best individual strategy to ensure that you receive a grade you can live with is to work to meet and/or exceed course requirements. Remember, A’s are rewards for Superior Performance, B’s for Above Average Performance, and C’s for Average Performance. Course grades will be based upon the following percentages of the total points possible for the course as weighted by the criteria specified in course requirements. *This class carries traditional grading and cannot be taken CR/NC (this is moot for GenEd and Geography Majors!).*

A ≥93.0% A- = 90.0-92.9%
B+ = 87.0-89.9% B = 83.0-86.9% B- = 80.0-82.9%
C+ = 77.0-79.9% C = 73.0-76.9% C- = 70.0-72.9%
D+ = 67.0-69.9% D = 63.0-66.9% D- = 60.0-62.9%
F ≤ 59.9%

Additional Policies

Late work will lose one-half a letter grade (i.e., A to A-) for each day late *including weekends*. Work is due at the start of class on day specified. Please do not make excuses for late work – I will need advance notification of any factors that will affect your ability to turn in work on time and/or to meet other course requirements. Save, back-up, and be prepared to submit digital (i.e., on disk) copies of any work produced during the semester in case of technology failures.

*I will not allow **make-up exams** unless notified beforehand of the problem at hand. Be prepared to provide **documentation** for events causing to absences if you wish extensions/makeups.*

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321> .

It is extremely disruptive to have students arrive late and/or leave early. I know that you have nothing else on your schedule during the class period, therefore your presence throughout the entire class period is expected. Not only will this keep me happy, it will help you to master the material.

Provisional Course Schedule*

Week	Topic	Reading(s)	Activities
1	T: Intro, Course Req's R: What is Geography? What do Geographer's do? Key Concepts & GenEd Criteria	T: N/A R: (1) Ch. 1 (pp. 3-18); (2) http://geography.about.com/library/weekly/aa111599.htm (3) http://geography.about.com/library/misc/blquote.htm (4) http://www.aag.org/Careers/What_is_geog.html (5) http://www.aag.org/Careers/Geographic_Fields.html (6) http://www.aag.org/Careers/To_be_a_geographer.html	
2	T: Maps R: Culture	T: (1) Ch. 1 (pp. 18-30); (2) GWA Reading (BlackBoard & E-Reserve) R: Ch. 2	T: Activ. 1: Presenting Earth! R: Activ. 1 Due.
3	T: Language & Religion R: Review	T: Ch. 5 R: N/A	R: Review
4	T: Midterm Exam 1 R: Ethnic Regions	T: N/A R: Ch. 6	T: Exam 1
5	T: Political Space R: Activity 2 – Israel & Palestine Dividing	T: Ch. 12 R: (1) Lemon Tree (Chs. 1&2); (2) Avnery .pdf document (Both avail. Via BlackBoard & E-Reserve).	R: Activ. 2: Mapping the Division of Israel & Palestine
6	T: Israel/Palestine Cont'd – Discussion of Stephen Walt's work R: Folk & Global Culture	T: Stephen Walt Reading, Dissent from US/UM parties. R: Ch. 7	T: Activ. 2 Due. R: Activ. 3: Globalization of Folk Culture
7	T: Folk & Global Culture – Show & Tell R: Midterm Exam Review	T: N/A R: N/A	T: Activ. 3 Due; Show & Tell R: Review
8	T: Midterm Exam 2 R: Population	T: N/A R: Ch. 4	T: Exam 2 R: Activ. 4: Population Growth Scenarios & Migration Histories
9	T: Migration R: Activity 4 – Population Growth Scenarios	T: Ch. 3 (pp. 80-89) R: N/A	R: Activ. 4 Due.
SV	SPRING VACATION		
10	T: Livelihood & Economy I R: Spatial Interaction	T: Ch. 8 R: Ch. 3 (pp. 64-69, 89-93)	
11	T: Livelihood & Econ. II R: Geography of Development	T: Ch. 9 R: (1) Ch 10; (2) http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/3670465.stm ; (3) http://www.dollarsandsense.org/0505macewan.html (4) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structural_Adjustment_Program	

Week	Topic	Reading(s)	Activities
12	T: Movie: Development R: Movie: “Subdivide and Conquer”	T: TBA R: Ch. 11	T: Activ. 5-Video Questions R: Activ. 5-Video Questions
13	T: Urban Geography R: Planning for Growth	T: N/A R: N/A	T: Activ. 6: Urban Growth Scenarios R: Urban Growth Discussion
14	T: Sustainability R: Review	T: Ch. 13 (Background) R: N/A	T: Activ. 6 Due. R: Review
FINAL	Wednesday, May 9, 8:00-10:00 a.m., SS352		

*Provisional nature of course schedule indicates that though every attempt will be made to adhere to this schedule, it is not written in stone. Any impact of deviations from the schedule on course activities will be considered and adjusted for.