

HUNTER COLLEGE - CUNY
Department of Geography
GEOG 10100 – People and Their Environment:
An Introduction to Geography
Monday and Thursday, 9:45 to 11:00 AM

Fall 2016

GEOG 101-Section 01

Code 9817

Instructor: Anthony F. Grande **Email:** agrande@hunter.cuny.edu
Office: Room 1032 North Building
Telephone: (212) 772-5265 or (212) 772-5266
Mailbox: Geography Dept., Room 1006 North Bldg.
Office Hours: Before and after class on Mondays and Thursdays; also by appointment.
Classroom: Room 415 West Bldg.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Introduction to Geography: People, Places & Environment, 6th ed. C. T. Dahlman and W. H. Renwick; Pearson Higher Education, Boston (2014). Available as hardcover, paperback, e-text and rental. ISBN 13: 9780321843333; ISBN 10: 0321843339

ATLAS:

It is recommended that students should have access to a world atlas that includes thematic maps. The Rand McNally *Goode's World Atlas* (22nd ed.), National Geographic College Atlas of the World (2nd ed.), and the *Student Atlas of World Geography* (7th ed.) by Allen and Sutton are possibilities.

GEOG 10100 is an introduction to the field of geography.

This course will present the fundamental concepts of geography and show how these concepts are applied to our everyday lives. Geography is both a physical and social science. GEOG 101 is a topical course highlighting the major subfields in geography. Examples from all over the world are used to illustrate concepts and processes.

The course is divided into three sections. **Part I** covers basic geographic concepts and the techniques used by geographers to study the earth as a home for people and portray spatial information. **Part II** focuses on the earth's natural landscape: lithosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, and the processes behind them. **Part III** looks at the earth from a people point of view – how they interact with elements of earth environment, make settlement decisions, use what is available to them - and in the process create a cultural landscape: the human imprint on the landscape.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course you will be able to **define and describe:**

1. The field and scope of geography, and identify its major subfields.
2. Its chief concepts, esp. location, place, movement, region and interaction.
3. Natural earth processes and know how aspects of land, air and water affect people.
4. Human-environment interaction and recognize it around us (social, economic, political).
5. Tools used for geographic data collection and presentation.

6. Maps including their parts and presentation (i.e. map reading).
7. Types of mapped information and understand how it is communicated and perceived.
8. Location analysis, employing geographic tools to do so (critical thinking).
9. The geographic point of view and apply it to local, regional and world situations.
10. Develop the skills to read and write critically about the subject.

1. Grading:

Exam 1	= 30% of your grade
Exam 2	= 30% of your grade
Exam 3 (final)	= 30% of your grade
Required essays	= 10% of your grade (5% each; see No. 2 below)

- * **Exams are not cumulative.** Each exam will focus on the lecture topics covered in that section. Electronic devices are not allowed during exams. Dictionaries, electronic translators, tablets, laptop, smart phones and headsets/ear buds may **not** be used. Tentative dates are noted on the calendar. Actual date for each exam will be given at least a week in advance.
- * **All exams must be taken.** If you miss any exam, an essay-style make-up will replace it.
- * **There will be no re-take exams.** You have one chance to do well on each exam.
- * **Both essays must be submitted for grading.** Missed essay(s) will earn 0 points and be included as such in your term average.

2. Required Essays. By Monday, NOVEMBER 14, 2016, TWO essays from the following 3 topics are to be submitted:

- a. From **Chapter 1**, you will discuss the contribution to the field of geography or to our knowledge of the world of a **noted geographer, earth scientist or explorer**. Focus on the person's contribution, not the biography and don't refer to the person by his/her first name - as Christopher discovered America in 1492.
- b. From **Chapter 2**, you will discuss the **relationship of climate change to ONE of the following** current events topics: the spread of disease **OR** the occurrence of severe weather phenomena **OR** the global food supply. Be specific discussing the example you select.
- c. From **Chapter 3**, you will discuss any **ONE natural process and how it is now deemed a natural hazard by government agencies and insurance companies**. Focus on "people interacting with nature."

Each essay must be typed and have a **minimum length of one full page** not counting the restated question (1.5 line spacing with 1" margins). Maximum length is two pages of text. Maps and illustrations are additional pages. Short and long essays will be returned ungraded, as will hand-written essays. **Essays handed in late will be penalized with a grade reduction.**

3. Extra Credit. There are two ways to earn extra credit. You may attempt both.

a) **Atlas exercises.** In each section of the course, prior to the exam, there will be a set of atlas exercises for extra credit that are available on the course homepage. The extra credit exercises are due no later than the start of the exam. Points will be added to the exam grade at the end of the section according to the following formula:

100-90% correct	= 5 extra credit points
89-80% correct	= 4 extra credit points
79-70% correct	= 3 extra credit points
69-60% correct	= 2 extra credit points
59-50% correct	= 1 extra credit point

49- 0% correct or not submitted = 0 extra credit points

NO atlas exercises will be accepted after the exam, no matter how valid your reason.

b) **Geographic Essays.** You have the option to submit for extra credit a **maximum of five analytical essays** from the “**Thinking Geographically**” (GT) section at the end of each chapter. Just one discussion point may be selected from each GT box for the chapter selected.

IMPORTANT: This is **NOT** the “REVIEW & DISCUSSION” section at the end of the chapter.

>>**You may substitute a third essay from Section 2 above for one GT essay.**

Each essay must be typed and have a **minimum length of one full page** not counting the re-stated question (1.5 line spacing with 1" margins). Maximum length is two pages. In the first sentence of each essay, you are to note the textbook edition and the chapter number and summarize the point being discussed.

At the end of the semester, **each essay** deemed "Good for Extra Credit" **will earn you one percentage point** over and above your final term average of test scores with a maximum of 5 percentage points added to your final term average. For example, if you hand in four acceptable essays, you will increase your final average by 4 points; if you hand in 2 essays you will increase your final average by 2 points. **NOTE:** Extra credit essays may be handed in at any time up to Monday, December 12, 2016.

It is best to write and submit an essay after you have read the chapter, rather than waiting for the last week of the semester to do prepare them.

**No Extra Credit Essays will be accepted after Dec. 12th.
None will be accepted on the day of the final exam.**

PLEASE NOTE:

- a. **You are responsible** for the content of all the lectures, reading assignments and class handouts. Assignments and handouts are distributed via the course home page on the Geography Department web site (<http://www.geo.hunter.cuny.edu/courses/cwpages.html>) and in class, **NOT ON BLACKBOARD**. The textbook has a glossary of important terms and concepts. Each chapter has a list of key terms.
- b. **Attendance is important.** Historically, there has been a direct correlation between poor attendance and poor grades. Material outside of the textbook will be covered in class.
- c. **All exams must be taken and required assignments submitted.** Failure to do so by the end of the semester will result in a reduced grade unless arrangements are made with me in advance. Then an IN (incomplete) grade may be given. Late required assignments will be penalized. Do not schedule your travel plans to begin before the date of the final exam! See calendar below.
- d. **Extra credit assignments are optional.** Your final grade will not be adversely affected if you choose not to do them. The deadlines associated with them are firm. Late submissions will not be graded.
- e. **Approval is required prior to beginning any extra credit research project.** The topic of your extra credit research or discussion paper must be approved in advance to make sure the topic is manageable. *Any student planning to do the research or discussion paper extra credit option must submit in writing a proposal with a justification* showing your interest in the topic proposed and an outline of major points to be covered. It is important that your proposal be narrow in scope and focused on a topic.

- f. **Lateness penalty.** There will be a penalty for lateness of assignments with specific due dates including missed exams. This will reduce the grade earned by either 5 points or one +/- letter grade
- g. **Neatness counts.** All graded work must be typed, printed and presented neatly. On exams, if I cannot read your writing, it is wrong. Consult the Hunter College Reading and Writing Center for citation and bibliographic formats (<http://rwc.hunter.cuny.edu>).
- h. **Hunter College rules and regulations are strictly enforced** including those governing the grades **CR/NC** and **IN**.
- i. **Incomplete Grade.** A grade of Incomplete (**IN**) is given at the discretion of the instructor for circumstances that are documented in advance. To earn credit for this course and receive a final grade, you must complete and submit the missing work by the end of the following semester as noted on the academic calendar. An Incomplete changes to an **FIN** (failure) if the work is not completed by this deadline.
- j. **Withdrawals and Drops.** Students are responsible to adhering to the college guidelines concerning the dropping of a class early in the semester and the withdrawal from a class during the semester. Any student who stops attending class and who has not officially dropped or withdrawn from the course will be given a **WU** - unofficial withdrawal - which carries the same academic weight as an **F**.
- k. **Academic Dishonesty.** Cheating and plagiarism are grounds for failure and disciplinary action by the College. Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures. The Internet is a resource for information, NOT a source of verbatim script. Every person has a unique writing style and use of grammar. **Do not cut and paste text found at an Internet web site into your assignments, research paper or project without proper citation.** Any assignment may be randomly scanned by a search engine seeking key words. Plagiarism comes with an automatic failure for the assignment and referral to the Dean of Students for appropriate action. **Don't do it!**

Office of AccessABILITY. In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (emotional, medical, physical and/ or learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY located in Room E1124 to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance please call (212-772-4857)/ TTY (212- 650-3230). **You must be registered with the Office of AccessABILITY to qualify for the accommodations.**

READING ASSIGMENTS

INTRODUCTION LECTURE TOPICS

- I. Introduction: What is Geography?
- II. Geographers' Tools

READING ASSIGNMENTS

- I. Text: Ch 1
- II. Same

*****EXAM ONE will cover Topics I and II from Chapter 1 and the power point slides*****

PHYSICAL GEOG LECTURE TOPICS

- III. Weather and Climate: Physical Aspects and Human Impact
- IV. Landforms: Physical Aspects and Human Impact
- V. Biosphere and Human Impact
- VI. Earth Resources

READING ASSIGNMENTS

- III. Text: Ch. 2
- IV. Text: Ch. 3
- V. Text: Ch. 4
- VI. Text: Ch.5

*****EXAM TWO will cover Topics III- VI, chapters 2, 3, 4, 5 and the power point slides*****

HUMAN GEOG LECTURE TOPICS

- VII. Living on the Earth: Population
- VIII. Cultural Geography
- IX. Economic Geography: Location Analysis and Development
- X. Urban Geography
- XII. Political *Geography*

READING ASSIGNMENTS

- VII. Text: Ch. 6.
- VIII. Text: Ch. 7 and 8
- IX. Text: Chapter 9 and 12
- X. Text: Ch. 10
- XII. Text: Ch 11

****EXAM THREE (the Final) will cover Topics VII- XI, Chapters 6-12 and the power point slides****

CALENDAR for Fall 2016**GEOG 101 People and Environment: An Introduction to Geography**

This class meets on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:45 – 11:00 AM in Room 415HW.

Exam dates and work submission deadlines are subject to change.

- Thu., Aug. 25 First class meeting.
- Mon., Sep. 05 Labor Day (No class)
- Mon., Sep. 26 Tentative date EXAM I**
- Mon., Oct. 03 No class
- Thu., Oct. 06 Monday schedule at CUNY, we meet as usual.
- Mon., Oct. 10 Columbus Day (No class)
- Mon., Nov. 07 Tentative date EXAM II**
- Mon., Nov. 14 Last day to hand in two required essays without late penalty**
- Thu., Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Day (No class)
- Mon., Dec. 12 Last class lecture.
- Thu., Dec. 15 Exam III (Final Exam) from 11:30 AM-1:30 PM. Note different time.**
- Dec. 19 and 22 NO meetings for this class

**GEOG 101 – People and Their Environment
PART ONE OUTLINE**

**Defining the Field of Study and Reviewing the Tools used by Geographers
Topics and order of presentation subject to change**

I. Introduction

A. Syllabus Review

B. What is Geography?

1. Definition
2. Landscapes
3. History of Geography
4. Five Fundamental Themes

C. Regions

D. Methods of Study

1. Geographic Dualisms
2. Geographic Research
3. Spatial Analysis

II. Geographers' Tools

A. Introduction: Collection and Portrayal of Data

B. Cartography

C. Location System

1. Latitude and Longitude
2. GPS
3. Time zones

D. Maps

1. Projections
2. Scale
3. Symbolization

E. Remotely Sensed Information

F. Automated Cartography

G. Geographic Information Systems

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