Hunter College-CUNY
Department of Geography and Environmental Science

GEOG 10100

People and their Environment:

An Introduction to Geography

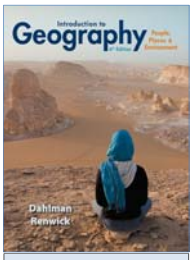
Section 02

Spring 2021

A copy of the course syllabus was sent to your "myHunter" email address

Prof. Anthony Grande
E-mail is best: agrande@hunter.cuny.edu

Textbook for this Course



The 6th edition is the latest edition.
OK to get a used copy of this book.

REQUIRED TEXT:
Introduction to Geography: People, Places & Environment, 6th Edition
by Carl H. Dahlman and William H. Renwick

Published by Pearson
Copyright © 2014
Also available as an e-book and rental.

Atlas for this Course

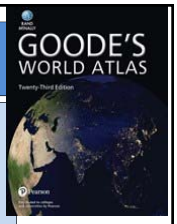
You need to have access to a world atlas that includes thematic maps.

The Rand McNally
***Goode's World Atlas* is best.**

An atlas is different from Google Maps, Wikipedia maps and other electronic map sites.

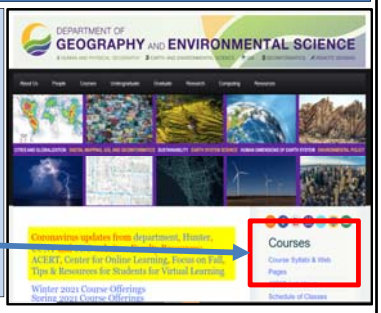
- Also good is the National Geographic *Collegiate Atlas of the World.*

The atlas supplements class lectures and is the basis of extra credit exercises that may increase exam grades.



ACCESSING COURSE MATERIAL

Access GEOG 101 course material on BlackBoard via *CUNYFirst* and from the course home page through the Geography & Environmental Science department web page.



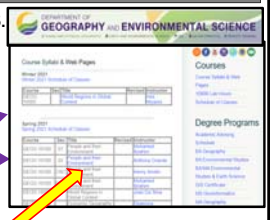
ACCESSING HOME PAGE COURSE MATERIAL

1. **Access G101 course home page via the Geog. Dept web site**

1. http://www.hunter.cuny.edu >Academic depts >Geography
http://www.geo.hunter.cuny.edu/courses/geog101_grande/index.html: direct link to course listings

2. **Click on Course Syllabi & Web Pages**

3.

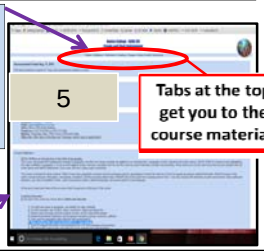


GEOG 10100 list

4. **Scroll to our course/ section number and click on the link.**

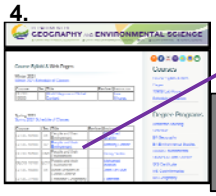
ACCESSING COURSE MATERIAL

5. **Access the links to get the material you wish to view or copy, including *Power Point* lecture slides, hand-outs and atlas extra credit assignments.**



Tabs at the top get you to the course material.

4.



http://www.geo.hunter.cuny.edu/courses/geog101_grande/index.html:
Direct link to home page
(also printed on the syllabus)

Grading for the Course

❖**Components:**

- **Exam 1** = 20% of your grade
- **Exam 2** = 20% of your grade
- **Exam 3** (the final) = 20% of your grade
- **Required Assignments** = 40% of your grade (10 at 4% ea.)

➢**Extra credit options are available:**

- **Atlas-based exercises** from the course home page.
- **Geographic discussion essays** from textbook chapters.
- **Other options** may be offered (including your own project or research suggestion) with **my approval in advance**.

✓**Attendance/Attention.**

- Few site visits to course home page and limited attention to course details usually equals poor grades.

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EXAM FORMAT

❖ **All 3 exams have the same format and weight** (20% ea).

✓ The format is **short answer multiple choice**.

✓ Exams are **non-cumulative**; each one covers the material from just that third of the course

✓ Each includes questions aimed at **diagrams/illustrations**.

✓ Each one has a **place name section** focusing on different world regions. **Exam 1:** Europe and Africa; **Exam 2:** North America, South America and Antarctica; **Exam 3:** Asia, Australia and Oceania.

➢ **Atlas Extra Credit** exercises may add a **maximum of +8 points** to your exam grade based on exercise score.

❖ The **missed exam make-up test format is written responses** to questions and terminology + place names. (Students tend not to do as well on make up exams).

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Required Assignment

Select any combination of topics totaling 10 assignments

For detailed instructions and list of all topics see the Assignment Handout on BlackBoard and the Course Home Page.

Each of the three parts of the course has topical options. From the 3 parts, 10 assignments must be turned in for grading based on minimum/maximum choices: **2+4+4 or 2+5+3 or 3+4+3 or 3+5+2 = 10.**

One additional essay from each part may be used for extra credit

- **Read the textbook material and PowerPoint lecture presentation** applicable to the topic.
- **Research the topic.**
  - ➢ **DO NOT** use *Wikipedia* as your main (only) sources.
  - ➢ Always check a 2nd or 3rd different source to verify information.
- **Stay focused on the topic.**
- **Use footnotes** to cite the work of others and list all your sources at the end of each assignment in proper bibliographic format.

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Semester Calendar for this Course

There are no formal meeting times for this course but deadlines do apply. Exam dates and work submission deadlines are subject to change.

Fri., Jan. 29	Course is activated at 12:01 AM.
Fri., Feb. 12	No classes/CUNY closed
Mon, Feb. 15	No classes/CUNY closed
Thu., Feb. 18	Last day to turn in Atlas Extra Credit for Exam I
Thu., Feb. 25	Last day to turn in PART I required assignments
Fri., Feb. 27-	
Mon., Mar. 01	EXAM I is available
Sat., Mar. 27-	
Sun., Apr. 04	No classes/Spring break.
Thu., Apr. 08	Last day to email your proposal for an optional special extra project.
	Last day to turn in Atlas Extra Credit for Exam II
Thu., Apr. 15	Last day to turn in PART II required assignments
Fri., Apr. 17-	
Mon., Apr. 19	EXAM II is available
Thu., May 13	Last day to turn in PART III required assignments.
	Last day to turn in Atlas Extra Credit for Exam III
Fri., May 14	Last time to email me your extra credit TG essays (from Ch. 4-12).
	Last time to email me your pre-approved special extra credit project.
Mon., May 17	The last time to hand in all missing Required Assignments.
Fri., May 21-	
Mon., May 24	EXAM III is available

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Sequence of Topics for the Course

I. Introductory Material
- **A. Field of Geography**
- **B. Geographers' Tools**

EXAM 1 will cover Topics I A-B from Chapter 1 and non-textbook material

II. Environment and Resources: Physical Geography
- **A. Weather and Climate**
- **B. Landforms**
- **C. Biosphere**
- **D. Earth Resources**

EXAM 2 will cover Topics II A-D from Chapters 2-5

III. People, Societies and Development: Human Geography
- **A. Population**
- **B. Culture**
- **C. Agriculture**
- **D. Economic Development**
- **E. Urbanization**
- **F. World of States**

EXAM 3 (the Final) will cover Topics III A-F using selections from Chapters 6-12

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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, especially location, place, movement, region and interaction.
3. Tools used for geographic data collection and presentation.
4. Natural earth processes and how aspects of land, air and water affect people.
5. Human-environment interaction and recognize it around us (social, economic, political).
6. Maps, including their components and presentation (i.e. map reading).
7. Types of mapped information and understand how it is communicated and perceived.
8. The geographic point of view and apply it to local, regional and world situations.
9. Location analysis, employing geographic tools to do so (critical thinking).
10. Develop the skills to read and write critically about the subject.

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Doing Well in this Course

❖ This is an intro course presented in a semi-self-paced format.

1. **No prior knowledge is assumed.**
2. **A lot of new information is presented.** For the most part, it is surficial. We will not go into depth.
3. **Attention is important** because of the course's semi-self-paced format.
4. **Take advantage of the extra credit offered.** It can only help, not hurt, your grade by reinforcing the material presented.
5. **Free tutoring is available** through the Skirball Learning Center

❖ **Follow the 4 R's: Receive, Retrieve, Rate and Reflect.**

1. **Receive** the information as presented in the lectures, textbook and in illustrations.
2. **Retrieve** the information by studying and reviewing the material. Focus on basic concepts and relationships. Use them outside of the classroom.
3. **Rate** the material. Critical thinking is key. Ask questions. Write thoughtful essays.
4. **Reflect** on what you learned. How can it be applied to everyday life? What's the relevance to current events/world affairs?

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Responsibilities:

See syllabus for details.

- **Attention to course material is important to make sure you don't fall behind.**
- **All exams must be taken and required assignments submitted in a timely manner.** Missed requirements count as **zero** points.
- **A lateness penalty will be assessed on late assignments.**
- **Extra credit assignments are optional.** No late submissions accepted.
- **Prior approval is required for any special extra credit project**
- **Neatness counts**.
- **All Hunter College/CUNY rules** and **regulations are enforced**.
- **Incomplete Grade.** An **IN** grade is given at my discretion with documentation from you.
- **Withdrawals and Drops.** You are responsible to adhering to the CUNY guidelines: **WU** = **F**.
- **Special Accommodations.** You must be registered with the Office of AccessABILITY to receive them.
- **Academic Dishonesty is not tolerated.** Cheating/plagiarism are grounds for course failure and college disciplinary actions.
- **Sexual Misconduct is not tolerated.** Report any form of sexual violence, harassment, retaliation or inappropriateness to 911 or to the HC Campus Public Safety Office.

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MAJOR PROGRAMS

❖This department offers two major programs:

✓**Geography**

✓**Environmental Science**

- Both focus on studying earth environment and sustainability.
- Get information from the HC Geog/ES Dept. department web site or from the GEOG 101 course home page at:

http://www.geo.hunter.cuny.edu/courses/geog101_grande/ges_majors.html

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Part One: Introduction to the Field of Geography

I. INTRODUCTION
- **A. Syllabus Review**
- **B. What is Geography?**
  1. Definition
  2. Landscapes
  3. History of Geography
  4. The 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 Systems**
- **D. Maps**
- **E. Remotely Sensed Info**
- **F. Automated Cartography**
- **G. Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**

***** E X A M 1 *****

Exam 1 covers material in just Chapter 1 of the textbook plus all the PowerPoint lectures.

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What is Geography?

Comes from the Greek:

Description of the earth.

But it is NOT pure description nor is it an inventory of places.

✓ It is an **analysis** of place - of location. *(We need to name places and know where they are to make a coherent analysis.)*

✓ It asks the question: **Why?**

✓ We practice geography everyday by making **location decisions**.

✓ Many of those decisions are based on our **perception** (instantaneous analysis) of place.

WE ALL DO IT!

Why are you sitting where you are?

Why did you rearrange the furniture?

Where's the best wi-fi reception? (Where are the dead zones?)

How far is your walk to public transportation?

What's the best route to get to Hunter College?

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Definition of Geography

1. It is the study of the earth's **surface**.
2. It is the study of the earth's **physical features** *(natural)* and **human features** *(man-made/cultural)*.
3. It is the study of the **distribution** of these features *(Where on earth?)*.
4. It is the study of human/environment **interrelationships**.

   ***(Nature** sets the stage which is studied in physical geography and **people** act on it which is studied in human geography!)*
5. **Maps** are geographers' special tool. *(They are used for both display of information and data analysis).*

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Development of a Cultural Landscape

How does a cultural landscape come about?

To answer this question we need to be versed in the study of the social science of interrelationships.

- Geography is the study of people living on the surface of the earth interacting with the natural environment.
- There is a sequence of actions that people have taken since the beginning of time, many interfacing with nature.

❖ ***Place names in geography are tools for analysis, not the core premise of geographic literacy.***

✓ To study people in their environment, we need to be able to **locate features and identify them by name** or category – so we can find them again and know what we are discussing.

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Development of a Cultural Landscape

1. The natural (physical) **landscape sets the scene.**

✓People analyze component parts.

✓Environmental factors influence people but **DO NOT** control destiny.

- *Environmental determinism vs. Possiblism*

2. People are aware of their environment.

✓They think. They create mental images.

✓There is a perception of their surroundings (both environmental and situational).

- *Mental interaction with place leads to an assessment of its potential.*

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Development of a Cultural Landscape

3. People interact with and exploit (use) **the environment.**

a. **Mental images**: pre-conceived and potential.
b. **Cultural values**: respect for the environment.
c. **Utilization**: making use what is there.
d. **Technological ability**: coping with and/or manipulating what is there. *(Higher levels of technology allow people to cope with harsher environments and more difficult conditions.)*
e. **Movement**: toward or away from a place *(migration)*; based on our likes and dislikes and our perception (assumption) of survival.

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Development of a Cultural Landscape

4. This results in the creation of the cultural landscape.

❖ Defined as the: **"Human imprint on the natural landscape."**

- *It gives personality to the earth's surface. It makes areas unique.*
- *People utilize an area based on what is there.*

Village in Italy's Dolomite Alps, with its buildings and fields, forms a cultural landscape in sharp contrast to the natural landscape of the region.

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Cultural Landscape

4. When people assess a physical landscape as in the Dolomite Alps, they decide how best to use it. Seasonal use varies with conditions and peoples' needs.

Given the slopes and cold temperatures with snow in winter, this area turns with the seasons from farming to winter sports.

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Changing Landscapes

Miami, FL 1913

Miami, FL 2000

Change over time: Manmade changes to land and waterways over a 87 year period.

Changing Landscapes

Change over time: In October 2012, natural forces (Superstorm Sandy) changed this natural feature (barrier island) in just 24 hours. In doing so, it severed a road that ran along the length of the island.

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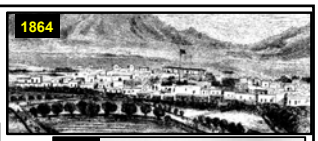
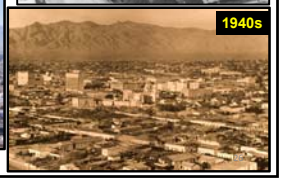
Changing Landscapes

Change over time:
Urbanization in Tucson, AZ.
Tucson has spread in the last 150+ years from its original core along the river. In the 1960s much of the historic downtown area was erased as the city underwent urban renewal.



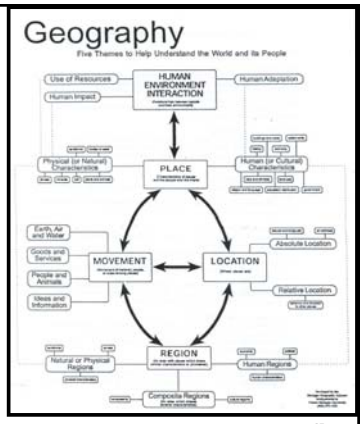


Flow Diagram: The Five Fundamental Themes of Geography

Source: Michigan Geographic Alliance

This handout is available on the course homepage for viewing and printing.

Keep it handy throughout the semester!



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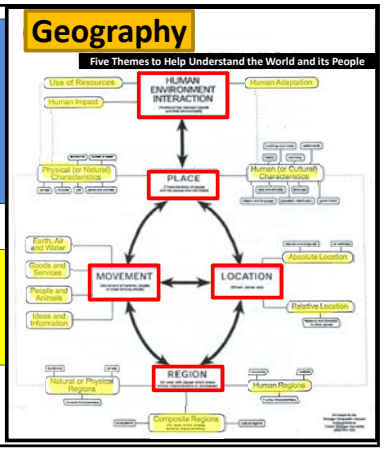
Flow Diagram: The Five Fundamental Themes of Geography

Source: Michigan Geographic Alliance

Here we emphasize each of the components of the five themes that help us to understand the world and its people.



Five Fundamental Themes

1. LOCATION

Addresses the question: Where?

There are 2 types of location:

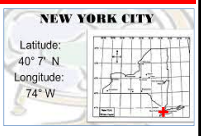
A. SITE: absolute location

This is **exact placement** on earth's surface: *latitude and longitude or another grid-based system.*

B. SITUATION: relative location

This is location **in relation to other sites**: *includes aspects of accessibility, connectivity, change through technology, strategic positioning.*

SITE: Your seat in a classroom.
SITUATION: Your seat in relation to all other seats in the collage.



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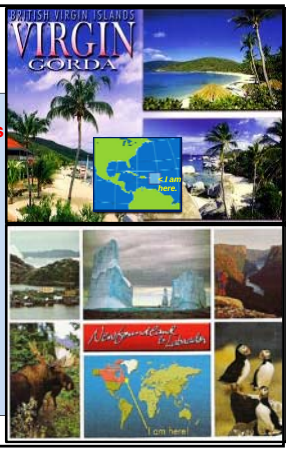
Five Fundamental Themes

2. PLACE

Addresses the special features or characteristics of a location that make it unique.

Includes:

- **Size** (how large or small)
- **Land surface** (terrain, river systems, coastlines)
- **Physical characteristics** (climate, geology, soils, water, wildlife, ecosystems)
- **Human characteristics** (population, ethnicity, land use, architectural styles, transportation networks)

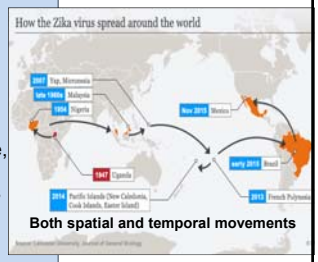


Five Fundamental Themes

3. MOVEMENT

Addresses the idea of mobility to, from and within a location.

- ✓ **Studies the flow and repositioning** of people, wildlife, disease, goods and ideas on the earth's surface.
- ✓ **Analyzes diffusion (or spread)** from a point of origin.



Both spatial and temporal movements

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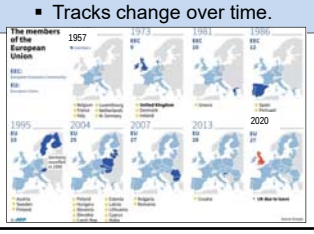
Five Fundamental Themes

4. REGION

Addresses the unifying factors of location.

- Identifies similar characteristics.
- Studies formation.
- Tracks change over time.



"Popular" Regions of the USA

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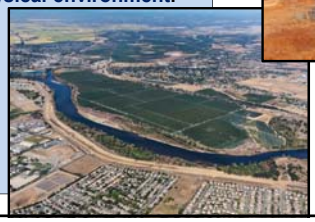
Five Fundamental Themes

5. HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

Addresses the relationships within locations between people and the physical environment.

- **Perception**
- **Available technology**
- **Land use decisions**
- **Impact**



Glen Canyon, Utah
Before and after the dam

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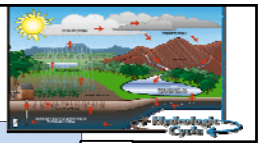
Five Fundamental Themes Plus One



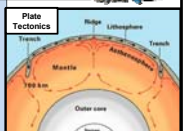
To the Five we add the

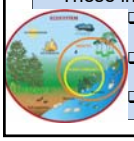
Earth science tradition of geography.

This addresses the processes, cycles and systems that constantly modify the natural world and therefore influence people.

These include:

- ❑Geologic/atmospheric processes
- ❑Seasonal and ecological cycles
- ❑Biomes and ecosystems





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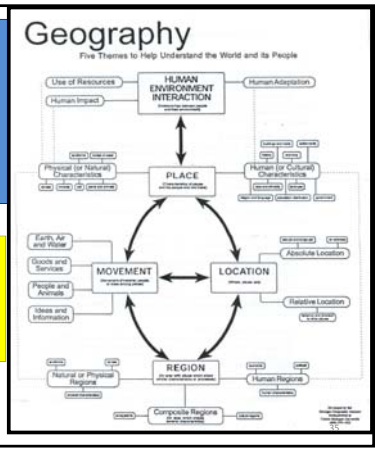
Flow Diagram

The Five Fundamental Themes of Geography

Source: Michigan Geographic Alliance



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N E X T

History of Geography

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