

GEOG 101 People and Their Environment

Fall 2009

Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Paramita Sen
Email: paramita7_5@hotmail.com
Office hours: Wednesday 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. or by appointment in HN 1032
Lecture hall: HN 1022
BlackBoard web site: <http://bb.hunter.cuny.edu/>
For any technical snag, email bb@hunter.cuny.edu.

Contact: Please be sure that you include the phrase "**GEOG 101**" in the subject line of any email message you send me. Also, sign your message with your full name. I will not respond to unsigned email messages.

Required text: *Introduction to Geography*, 12th Edition, Getis, Getis and Fellmann.
Additional reading will be handed out in class or posted in BB.

Recommended: Goode's World Atlas, 19th edition or later

Hunter College's Policy on Academic Integrity

Plagiarism, dishonesty, or cheating in any portion of the work required for this course will be punished to the full extent allowed according to Hunter College regulations. 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 CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

The policy is available at

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/senate/assets/Documents/Hunter%20College%20Policy%20on%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf>

Format

The class will be a combination of lecture and discussion. Participation in the discussion process is highly encouraged. It will help clarify ideas.

Course Overview

This course is an introduction to the discipline of geography and emphasis is placed on basic concepts. It has been designed to give you a general outline on topics ranging from landforms, atmosphere, to the societal concepts of geography. We will discuss social and developmental factors as driving forces of human transformation of the environment. A new college-wide theme, 'New York minute,' will be incorporated into the course and you will complete a project based on this concept. Enough time will be given for completion of the project and the idea will be discussed in the class.

Exams and grading

There will be three exams and two map quizzes over the course of the semester. I will not drop your lowest grade so it is mandatory that you take all exams and quizzes.

3 Exams–	15 % each (45 %).
2 Map quizzes	5% each (10%).
Final Paper	15%
Movie Review	5%
Final Exam	25%

The format of the exams will be multiple choice questions. The movie review requires BB posting. Your final paper should be posted to BB **and** handed in hard copy as well.

For extra credit, there will be an optional assignment you can turn in during the last two weeks of the semester. Extra credit work can earn you up to five (5) extra points on your final semester average. This way you might be able to go from a B- to a B or an A- to an A or an A to an A+. But handing in an extra credit assignment does not mean you will get all five (5) points. In some cases the work might be worth only two (2) points. Quality work is essential. To qualify for the extra credit assignments you must have taken all quizzes and exams. Do not ask me for additional extra credit work, especially if you have excessive absences or lateness.

Syllabus for Exam 1

1. Concepts of Geography (chapter1)
2. Landforms (chapter 3)
3. Weather and Climate (chapter4)

Syllabus for Exam 2

1. Natural Resources (chapter5)
2. Population Geography Chapter6)
3. Economic Geography (chapter7)

Syllabus for Exam 3

1. Urban Geography (chapter 10)
2. Globalization (chapter8)

The syllabus for Final Exam will be posted on BB later during the semester.

Taking exams and quizzes on the scheduled date is a must. There will be no make up of any missed exam or quiz unless your absence was the result of a documented emergency or illness. Proper documentation should be produced and presented to me. Makeup exams and/or quizzes will be given at a mutually convenient date and time.

Hunter College Grading System

97.5-100	A+
92.5-97.4	A
90.0-92.4	A-
87.5-89.9	B+
82.5-87.4	B
80.0-82.4	B-
77.5-79.9	C+
70.0-77.4	C
60.0-69.9	D
<60.0	F

Credit/No Credit Policy

To receive CR/NC you must have completed all the course requirements (exams, quizzes, etc.) and have requested the CR/NC option prior to beginning your final exam. If you choose this option, all grades above 70% will be assigned CR and below 69.9% will be assigned NC unless you choose the D option for grades between 60 and 69.9%. There is no Incomplete option.

Technology Policy

During class time there will be absolutely no cell phone use (talking, texting, emailing, IM-ing, etc). No iPods or other musical devices nor ear buds or ear phones will be allowed. You will be reminded of the policy once, after that you will be asked to leave the classroom. The use of electronic dictionaries will be permitted but only during lectures, NOT during a quiz or an exam.

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be taken in the class on a regular basis. It is your responsibility to attend and take notes in the class. Regular attendance can only increase your comprehension and your final course grade. Please make sure to get to class on time. Your late arrival can disrupt my lecture and possibly interrupt students who will have to move in order for you to sit down. Subways and buses can and will be late or stalled. Leave plenty of time to get to class.

Course Calendar

09/02	Introduction to the course, some core geographic concepts
09/09	Rocks and different landforms
09/16	Weather and climate
09/23	FIRST EXAM and FIRST MAP QUIZ
09/30	Submission of movie review, field day
10/07	Population Geography
10/14	No class, classes follow a Monday schedule

10/21 Natural Resources

10/24 Economic Geography

10/28 **SECOND EXAM and SECOND MAP QUIZ**

11/04 Environmental Impact on humans

11/11 Cultural Geography

11/18 Urban Geography

11/25 Concept of the city - Final Paper due

12/02 **THIRD EXAM/DISCUSSION ABOUT FINAL PAPER**

12/09 **WRAP UP!!!!**

12/16 **FINAL EXAM – 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**