

HUNTER COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
 DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY  
 GEOG 247 CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY  
 Exercise Guidelines

Cultural landscape: the study of the visible human imprint on the land.

**Exercise 4: Associated Images (*Cultural Landscape*).**

**DUE DATE: Thursday, November 16, 2017**

- a) Search the travel and tourism web sites for 8 examples of cultural/ethnic destinations from the 12 world regions listed below that are **considered iconic** (i.e., illustrative/typical/representative) for that place or culture. *Look at river cruises, train and bus tours, and cruise lines offering land side trips (sea/land packages). Look for images that the tourist literature uses to express the essence of an area's cultural landscape, as the Manhattan skyline or Central Park or Lincoln Center.*
- b) Create a list of 8 cultural locations with images from different areas of the world that are characteristic (iconic) of those locations. These cannot be just natural features; **must have people (cultural) significance.**
- c) Next to each image provide the details of the location shown and explain how the natural setting or associated artificial landscape came into being, i.e., the story behind the scenery or how the image displays the essence of the area's culture. Include a thumbnail locator map.
- d) Add a bibliography of source material at the end of your write-up.

<b>Choose any 8 from the following:</b>
A. North America (but not Mexico or Hawaii; do not use the NYC metropolitan area)
B. Central America/Caribbean
C. South America
D. North Africa/Southwest Asia
E. Sub-Saharan Africa

F. Europe (but not Russia)
G. Russia
H. South Asia
I. Southeast Asia
J. East Asia
K. Australia/New Zealand
L. Polynesia/South Pacific

- 1) Start with an **introductory paragraph** in which you set the theme by defining *cultural landscape* and telling what you are going to do. Focus on travel and tourism lures.
  - a. **Define/discuss “visualization” and “iconic imagery.”**
  - b. Explain how comparing images of different landscapes from travel and tourism information sources (this includes travel & tourism offices/departments of national and regional governments), helps us get a “feel” of the area.
  - c. Relate, in general, how travel and tourism sources use specific images as a lure/selling point for their packages/tourism campaigns. Why those images?
- 2) Then **select EIGHT cultural travel destination images from around the world** from the 12 regions listed above (only one from any region selected and not any of my examples; also, do not use NYC for North America). Remember, these cannot

be just pretty, natural features; each must have people (cultural) significance. For example, a mountain may have religious associations or a lake may be part of folklore or a scenic valley may contain a unique agricultural environment or a river may have been an important historic trade route.

- 3) **Locate each illustration on a world outline map** (inserted after the introductory section but before the 8 examples). PLUS be sure to include a thumbnail locator map for each location within each descriptive paragraph.
- 4) **STAY ON TOPIC**. Focus on **cultural landscape** and the **visual identification** of the cultural region. What are the characteristics (*clues*) that make a person associate the image with that area? What is the essence of the image that makes you associate it with a particular place on earth? What makes this France, Cuba or Cambodia?

Each entry can be about a **paragraph in length, no more than half a page**, unless it's so full of imagery that you really need to expound upon it.

- 5) **End with a summary and conclusion**. Here you highlight your findings as discussed in the body of the assignment. Here is where you summarize the cultural aspects of the visible landscape. Point out any unifying characteristics, if any, in iconic image selection. Here is where you extol visualization as a tool for cultural landscape analysis. **Remember, NO NEW INFORMATION or afterthoughts.**
- 6) Your **bibliography** includes source information for each of the 8 images plus entries for the maps and illustrations used. NEVER use just one source of information. NEVER use just Wikipedia. All web addresses must be annotated to tell me what the link contains. Sometimes it is oblivious. Most times it is not.

#### **REMINDER:**

DO NOT CUT AND PASTE FROM SOURCE MATERIAL. Summarize and paraphrase in your own voice. Your source material does not know this assignment!

#### **PROOF READ, SPELL CHECK and PROOF READ AGAIN.**

Check sentence structure, capitalization and the sense of the sentence/paragraph. *What are you saying? Does it make sense?* If you are not sure let someone else read the paragraph.