

GEOG 2811 FDE- Cultural Geography

Winter, 11:30-1:00 pm, Monday and Wednesday, OA 2015

Course Description

This Geography course examines the spatial aspects of human interaction, culture and techniques. Topics and themes include key concepts in human geography and the spatial aspects of population and health, migration, culture and social media, race and ethnicity, politics, services, settlements and urban patterns. Course delivery involves a series of lectures, class exercises and readings on the cultural landscapes from a human geography perspective. Both traditional and contemporary geographic concepts and theories will be studied in the 'every day world' to understand various identities and cultural landscapes. The relevancy of the 'new cultural geography' will also be discussed as it relates to environmental sustainability, and to better understand current debates on such topics as race and cultural wars, gendered landscapes, culture and the environment.

Learning Objectives and Expected Outcomes

- a) Introduction to human geography's basic concepts in thinking geographically and thematic areas from population to resource issues with emphasis on cultural geography;
- b) Better understand the geographic expression of culture in existing and emerging landscapes and the links between local and the global space and the geographic aspects of culture;
- c) Learn how the traditional and new conceptual bases of Cultural Geography relate to other areas of interest and academic disciplines especially anthropology, history, political science, sociology and other interdisciplinary concerns;
- c) Study and understand the relationship and role of culture in promoting environmental sustainability;
- d) Clearly appreciate the role of place, society and the environment in the evolution of landscapes, identities and inequalities.

Resources and Notes

- The course is delivered in-person, face to face in class.
- The class will also receive messages and announcements via e-mail & D2L.
- The class will have access to *mycourselink* via D2L for electronic class notes/materials from the Instructor.

Required Text*

Rubenstein, James (2011). *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography*, 13th Edition. New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Course Work Evaluation

<i>Evaluation</i>	<i>Important Date/Deadline</i>	<i>Value</i>
Mid-Term via D2L (online)	October 18, 2023	30%
Class Exercises	October 23; November 22	40%
Final Exam via D2L (online)	TBA	30%

* Participation is a must for two class exercises at a value of 20% each= 40%. Your class exercises/homework will be written assignments and submitted via D2L for course to submit your assignments (under Assignments) in *mycourselink*.

Course Schedule and Readings

Week 1 **Introducing Geography and Course Overview
Basic Concepts/Thinking Geographically**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapter 1

Week 2 **Introducing Human/Cultural Geography**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapter 1

Week 3 **Population and Health**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapter 2
Assignment 1 posted @ D2L; Due: October 23, 2023

Week 4 **Migration**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapter 3

Week 5 **Culture & Social Media**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapters 4
Assignment 2 posted @ D2L; Due Nov 22, 2023

Week 6 *Fall Study Break- October 9-13, 2023*

Week 7 **Race & Ethnicity**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapter 7
Mid-Term Exam, via D2L October 18, 2023
Assignment 1 due: October 21, 2021

- Week 8** **Political Geography**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapter 8
- Week 9** **Development Geography**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapters 9
- Week 10** **Food and Agriculture**
Read Chapter 10
- Week 11** **Industry**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapter 11
Read: Norton, Chapter 7
- Week 12:** **Urban Patterns**
Read: Rubenstein, Chapter 13
Assignment 2 due: Nov 22, 2023
- Week 13:** **Research Week & Course Evaluation**
Nov 29-Dec 4, 2023
Final Exam, online Date to be announced (TBA)

Policies and Expectations

1. It is your responsibility to attend classes via Zoom and participate in class exercises. Regular absences will seriously affect your grades or performance. (Please contact your Instructor re: absence for medical reasons.)
2. Assignments should be submitted by due date and posted via D2Lmin *mycourse*link. Please note: no extensions allowed beyond due date, that is, no late assignments will be accepted.
3. Submissions on graded assignments must represent independent work. Highly similar (or identical) assignments will be graded at zero. An assignment may not be submitted for credit in more than one course without the written permission of all instructors involved.
4. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offense and carries penalties varying from failure in an assignment to expulsion from the university. Students are encouraged to review Section the University Regulations regarding academic dishonesty. All offenders will be reported to the Department Chair/Faculty Dean.