

**HUMAN GEOGRAPHY
GE 260 -01
Spring 2013**

INSTRUCTOR: Anne Phillips

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Human Geography (GE 260) is described in the University of North Alabama Bulletin as follows: "A conceptual approach to the study of humans, their distribution, economic systems, behavior patterns, value systems, and environmental perceptions, with emphasis given to the resulting patterns of cultural landscapes that characterize the earth. "

This course is designed to acquaint you with the human attributes which give uniqueness and diversity to patterns on the Earth's surface. The information gained from this course is useful to you from several points of view. Human Geography helps you to develop both a local and a global perspective from which you can see the human world in its uniqueness as well as its totality. You will recognize the interconnectedness of various human elements of planet Earth and will understand that everyone is a citizen contributing to its personal welfare and to its environmental change. This outlook is achieved by using the fundamental themes of geography and by investigating specific topics within the different culturally defined regions of the world. Each of you will have a different reason for studying geography, but all of you will learn that a knowledge of human geography is critical to being a well-informed citizen.

TEXT AND MATERIALS:

Required:

Jordan-Bychov, Terry G. and Mona Domosh. The Human Mosaic. (New York: W. H. Freeman & Co., 12th edition, 2009)

Suggested Readings: Any newspaper or news magazine with a large amount of international news such as the Christian Science Monitor, Time, Newsweek, or USA Today. In addition to learning about areas of the world from the textbook, you should be able to keep up to date on current affairs and be able to discuss them as they relate to this course. Getting into the habit of reading a newspaper or news magazine will help increase your knowledge of the world substantially.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the course, you should gain a greater knowledge of the world through the perspective of geography. The course has several objectives which are divided into Instructional Objectives and Skills Objectives. I

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

The primary objectives of the course are to acquaint you with the major elements of human geography, familiarize you with the five fundamental themes of geography, and relate instruction to the national geographic standards. Following instruction in human geography, you will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the five basic themes of geography.
- Understand basic map use - reading, analysis, and interpretation.
- Understand the use of maps, globes, charts, and other graphic material in geographic inquiry.
- Distinguish the world-wide spatial distributions of human landscapes.
- Distinguish the world-wide spatial distributions of major demographic, cultural, political, and economic attributes.
- Investigate the differences between the developed and lesser developed areas of the world.
- Understand that knowledge of locations and their characteristics is a key in understanding human (global) interdependence.

SKILL OBJECTIVES:

Instruction in human Geography will include skills development which will enable you to:

- Ask geographic questions distinguished by the "where" and "why there" aspects of the problem.
- Acquire geographic information by observing human and physical characteristics of places, and by obtaining data about people's geographic information.
- Analyze geographic information obtained from maps, graphs, and tabular data
- Apply problem solving and critical thinking skills to geographic information.

Alabama Quality Teaching Standards (AQTS) for GE260			
Standard Code		Standard Description	Assessment
(1)(a)3.	Gain knowledge of:	How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions.	Pre and post-test; in-class exercises
(1)(a)6.		The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface.	Pre and post-test; in-class exercises
(1)(a)7.		The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics.	Pre and post-test; in-class exercises
(1)(a)8.		The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface.	Pre and post-test; in-class exercise
(1)(a)9.		How human actions modify the physical environment.	In class exercises
(1)(a)10.		How physical systems affect human systems.	In class exercises
(1)(b)4.	Demonstrate the ability to:	Describe the processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement.	In-class exercise; GIS project
(1)(b)5.		Examine how the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface.	In-class exercise; discussion thread; GIS project
(1)(b)6.		Examine the changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources.	In-class exercises; GIS project
(1)(b)7.		Interpret the past and present and to plan for the future.	Discussion thread
(1)(b)8.		Ask geographic questions and to acquire, organize, and analyze geographic information to answer those questions as they engage in the study of substantive geographic content.	In-class exercises; GIS project

GRADING:

The course grade will consist of class participation in on-line discussions, week quizzes on assigned text material, several major exams, essay assignments, and a final essay. The week quizzes and major exams will consist of objective questions. Mastery of instructional objectives will be assessed via tests. A passing grade on assignments is required to meet instructional and skill objectives. Grades will be based on the total number of points below and the following scheme:

A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	59% and below

The current point values of the graded item groups are shown below. Course development is an on-going activity, which will result in a mix in the types of weekly work done, and changes are possible at any time. In any specific week you can expect to see a quiz on the text material, some form of class discussion, and written work. Constantly monitor the course calendar, the Course Master Schedule, and the contents of the weekly folders to insure you know all work that is due. This may cause changes to absolute point totals below, but the total work load and relative weighting will remain about the same:

Item	Point Value	Course Points
Major Exams	200 each	600
Quizzes, GIS projects	50 each	600
Written Assignments, Class Discussions	varies	approximately 600
Course Total		1800

COURSE POLICIES:

RESEARCH SOURCES: All sources used for work in this course must be based in legitimate academic and scientific sources. This is particularly true for information taken from the internet. Use of the internet is recognized as a powerful tool to access information from a wide variety of journals and other traditional forms of publications. However, any information used as a source that is published only on an internet site must come from the site of a legitimate academic, scientific, or government organization (a university, NASA, National Geographic Society, USGS, etc.), or it will not be accepted as a source for your work. Use of the site "Wikipedia.org" is specifically prohibited. The accuracy of information on this site cannot be trusted due to the lack of content review and control by which the site operates. Do not use sites such as Ask.com and About.com as assignment sources. This type of site is not appropriate for university level academic research. Be selective and use only high quality sources to support your work. The quality of the sources you use is a significant factor in the grade an assignment receives.

ORIGINAL WORK: All work submitted in this course is expected to be the original work of the student, presented in the student's own words. "Plagiarism, a serious offense, is the use of someone else's work without giving proper credit to the originator.

Instructional brochures are also available at the Collier Library Reference Desk." (Source: [UNA Collier Library Web page on plagiarism](#)). Any work that shows even the slightest degree of plagiarism will receive a grade of zero. The use of "cut and paste" techniques to extract information from sources and place it into submitted assignment work is regarded as plagiarism. Even when proper credit to the originator is provided, the quoting of excessive amounts of material is not acceptable and is not regarded as meeting the original work policy of this course.

STUDY/WORK GROUPS: Informal study/work groups formed outside of course assignment requirements are completely acceptable. In the event such a group jointly develops material to submit to meet an assignment requirement, the following procedures must be followed for each and every instance in which joint work will be submitted. Before the material is submitted, each member of the group will send an individual course mail message to the instructor. This message will specifically identify the assignment requirement for which the material will be submitted, and the names of all members participating in the group. Each member of the identified group will receive the same grade for that assignment. In the event an assignment submission is found to duplicate the submissions of other students, and prior notification of a group submission as required in this policy has not been made, it will be regarded as a case of file theft/plagiarism and be subject to a grade of zero.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY: It is the policy of the University of North Alabama to afford equal opportunity in education to qualified students. If you have a disability that may prevent you from meeting the course requirements, contact the instructor within the first three class sessions to file a Student Disability Statement and to develop an accommodation plan. Course requirements will not be waived but accommodations will be made to allow you to meet the requirements, provided that you are timely in working with the instructor to develop an accommodation plan.

***The Instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus, course schedule and course web site as needed, based on circumstances during the semester.**

COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Topic/Activity	Assigned Reading
1 01/09-01/11	Welcome and Introduction; definition of geography	
2 01/14-01/18	The Nature of Geography; The Nature of Human Geography	Ch 1- pp 1-16; pp16-29
01/21	MLK-UNIVERSITY CLOSED	NO SCHOOL
3 01/23-01/25	The Nature of Human Geography	Ch 1 pp 16-29
4 01/28-02/1	Folk and Popular Culture	Ch 2
5 02/04-02/08	Folk and Popular Culture Geography of Language	Ch 2 Ch. 4
6&7 02/13-02/22	EXAM 1 – Monday, February 11 Geodemography	Ch. 1,2,4 Ch. 3
8 02/25-03/01	Ethnic Geography	Ch 5
9 03/04-03/08	Ethnic Geography Political Geography	Ch 5 Ch 6
10 03/11-03/15	Geography of Religion	Ch 7
11 03/18-03/22	Geography of Religion EXAM 2 – Friday, March 22	Ch7 Chs. 3,5,6,7

03/25-03/29	SPRING BREAK!!!!	
12 04/01-04/05	Agricultural Geography	Ch 8
13 04/08-04/12	Industrial Geography	Ch 9
14 04/15-04/19	The City in Time and Space	Ch 10
15 04/22-04/26	Inside the City	Ch 11
16 04/29-05/01	Inside the City	Ch 11
05/02	STUDY DAY	NO CLASS

NOTE: This course outline is tentative. Deviations, while not guaranteed may be inevitable.