

INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

University of Oregon

Fall 2014

Online Course

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Office hours: By appointment on Wednesdays from 9:00-11:00am, online or in room 202 Condon Hall

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a course about critically exploring interconnections between people and places in the contemporary globalized world. We will investigate how economic, political and cultural systems interact both with individual human behavior and with various places around the earth. With its entirely online format and students participating from multiple locations, this session of Introduction Human Geography will explore what it means to inhabit a globalized world through both course content and course format.

This class introduces students to the discipline of human geography and is a gateway to the Geography major/minor at the University of Oregon. It also fulfills general education requirements for the social sciences and multicultural requirements for the International Cultures category.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to facilitate development of students' knowledge and skills for engaging critically in geographical inquiry. By the end of the term, students who invest their time and effort fully in meeting course expectations and requirements should be able to:

- Understand geographical perspectives and explain key concepts, themes, and approaches in human geography,
- Synthesize and apply theories of human geography and engage in applications related to specific subfields of geography,
- Recognize and interpret the emergence and influence of economic globalization at different scales and in different sites,
- Recognize and describe geographical problems and analyze how they are typically framed,
- Articulate viable courses of action for addressing issues in human geography, and
- Use their own voices to contribute meaningful ideas to public discourse about geographical issues.

COURSE TEXTS

Knox, Paul L. and Sallie A. Marston. 2012. *Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context, 6th Edition*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. (Note: the 5th edition of this book is also acceptable).

Additional required reading and video assignments will be posted to Blackboard.

Students may purchase the print or the e-book version of the textbook. The e-version costs much less than the printed version and you have the option of paying for only the chapters we will use for the class. Purchase of the 6th edition gives you access to the book's website, which has additional content, videos, readings, etc. Because of these high costs, students may also choose to purchase the 5th edition of this book. While it can be found online for a lower price than the 6th edition, the disadvantage of buying the 5th edition is that you may have trouble reselling it. A few copies of Knox & Marston will be on reserve at the UO Knight Library; course reserves are available for checkout in increments of two hours.

ABOUT ONLINE LEARNING AND THE TEACHING PHILOSOPHY OF THE COURSE

We intend to capitalize on the unique opportunity the online format offers us to investigate and share perspectives on geographical issues while each of us is in a different place. While traditional lectures and textbook readings provide grounding for the course, much of the learning experience will come from students' application of course concepts through multiple applied assignments and their interaction with each others' work. Students are in this sense responsible for helping each other explore geographical concepts by sharing their perspectives from different communities and by engaging thoughtfully with each other. Assignments will include required feedback on other students' work. Details will be provided with each assignment handout.

Important Note: Students should be prepared to put in at least as much time for this course as for the same course offered in an in-person format. Regular participation and interaction with other students, the GTF and the instructor are required. Far from being a correspondence-type course, this online version of Introduction to Human Geography broadens the interactions of a typical university classroom in both space and time to allow for expanded modes of interaction, inquiry and exchange. As this is an entirely online course, it is imperative that each student has reliable access to a computer and to the internet.

COURSE ACCESS AND COMMUNICATION

With the exception of the required textbook, all course materials, lectures, assignments, quizzes, exams and communications can be accessed via Blackboard.

If you have trouble accessing or using Blackboard, technical help is available through the UO Blackboard FAQs for students. Please make use of these resources prior to contacting the GTFs or instructor for assistance:

<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/scis/blackboard/faq/questions.html?category=students>

You can find in-person Blackboard assistance on the Main Floor of the Knight Library on the UO campus.

Contacting the instructor and the GTF: To ensure consistent communication, all questions about course assignments, quizzes, exams and grades should go first to the GTF. The instructor and the GTF are both available to address any questions about course concepts, readings, videos and lectures.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING SCALE

Participation: 10%

Weekly Reading Quizzes: 10%

Assignments (2 at 5%, 1 at 10%): 20%

Essay: 20%

First Exam: 20%

Second Exam: 20%

Grading Scale	
A = 94-100	C+ = 77-79
A- = 90-93	C = 74-76
B+ 87-89	C- = 70-73
B = 84-86	D+ = 67-69
B- = 80-83	D = 60-66

As all due dates and exam dates are provided in advance, no make-ups will be provided for any of the required course components. No late assignments will be accepted.

Participation and Discussion

Weekly discussion participation is required and will take place via the Blackboard interface. Your GTF will facilitate online discussion by posting a set of conversation prompts to Blackboard at the beginning of each week. Students will respond to the GTF prompts and to each others' posts and will complete additional short activities throughout the term. Details will be provided as the term progresses. Students are expected to spend approximately fifty minutes per week on discussion and weekly quizzes, just as they would in an in-person class.

Weekly Reading Quizzes

Quizzes will be delivered via Blackboard each week. Material included in the quizzes will be drawn directly from the lectures, readings and videos assigned for the week of the quiz. The quizzes will be timed (usually at ten minutes each), which means that although students will have access to course materials while taking the quiz, scoring well will depend on having completed the readings, lectures and videos for the week prior to taking the quiz.

Exams

Students will complete two exams. Each exam will consist of some combination of true/false, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice and essay questions. The first exam will draw from the first five weeks of the course materials and the second exam will draw from weeks five through ten of course materials. Students may refer to course notes and materials during the exam, but the exams will be timed with the intention that students should complete them from memory with no reference to other materials. Copying answers from any materials from any source will be treated as plagiarism and will be addressed as indicated in the course policies detailed below. No make-ups or alternative times will be provided for exams, unless you notify the instructor of a University-approved absence *before* the test.

Assignments

Assignments will provide opportunities for application of critical reading, thinking and communication skills and for collaborative learning. Instructions for each assignment will be posted to Blackboard approximately one week in advance of the due date.

Essay

Each student will produce an essay that investigates the geographical connections of a particular issue. The essay may be completed in either written or video format. The aim of the project is to get students to consider the ways the contemporary world is constituted through a dense web of connections among people and things. More details and requirements for the essay will be posted to Blackboard.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Weekly Focus	Assigned Readings (see BB for weekly video assignments)	Assessments and Assignments Due
Week One: Introduction to the Class and Human Geography	Murphy, Alec. "Awash in a Sea of Geographical Ignorance" (on BB), K&M: Chapter 1, pages 2-33	Quiz One
Week Two: Globalization	K&M: Chapter 2, pages 41-63	Quiz Two Assignment One due by Sunday, October 12 at 23:59 Pacific Time
Week Three: Population and Migration	K&M: Chapter 3, pages 66-102	Quiz Three
Week Four: Geographies of Economic Development	K&M: Chapter 7, pages 214-249	Quiz Four Assignment Two due by Sunday, October 26 at 23:59 Pacific Time
Week Five: Political Geography	K&M: Chapter 9, pages 300-348, Nutall. "Self Rule in Greenland" (on BB)	Quiz Five Midterm Exam due by by Sunday, November 2 at 23:59 Pacific Time
Week Six: Cultural Geographies	K&M: Chapter 5, pages 144-183	Quiz Six

Week Seven: Food and Agriculture	LaDuke, Winona. "Ricekeepers: A struggle to protect biodiversity and a Native American way of life" K&M: Chapter 8, pages 248-299	Quiz Seven Assignment Three due by Sunday, November 16 at 23:59 Pacific Time
Week Eight: People and Nature	K&M: Chapter 4, pages 104-143	Quiz Eight
Week Nine: Urbanization	K&M: Chapter 10, pages 350-383	Quiz Nine Essay due by by Sunday, November 30 at 23:59 Pacific Time
Week Ten: Cities	K&M: Chapter 11, pages 384-413	Quiz Ten
Week Eleven: Final Exam	---	Final exam due by Monday, December 8th at 23:59 Pacific Time

EXPECTATIONS

You can expect the instructor and the graduate teaching fellow (GTF) to do our best to facilitate your learning. Specifically, we will communicate clear expectations, criteria and feedback on your efforts, demonstrate the value of course activities and requirements, and guide you in the completion of tasks in a timely manner so you can demonstrate your achievement and be successful in this class.

You are expected to complete class readings and assignments on time and in the manner required, to check Blackboard announcements and your email regularly, and to participate actively in assignments and activities. This means you will share your ideas openly, relate course concepts and skills to your interests and real world experiences, and work to synthesize information from a variety of sources.

All of us are expected to respect everyone in the course, to listen (when available), read, reflect upon, and comment appropriately on each others' contributions, to challenge each other to clarify our ideas, and to encourage each other to deepen our mutual learning.

POLICIES

Academic Honesty: Violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated. The instructor will follow the protocol detailed in the Academic Misconduct Code of the University of Oregon for any and all suspected cases of academic misconduct. Violations of academic honesty will be met with disciplinary action (the usual result is an "F" for the

course). We cannot stress enough how seriously we will take any acts of academic misconduct. Students violating the code will be penalized to the extent allowed by the University; the instructor will submit records of each incident to the Office of Student Conduct, which maintains records for the duration of each student's tenure at the University. Students should carefully review and memorize all of the University codes of student conduct.

The Academic Misconduct Code is included at the end of this syllabus and is also available here: <http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/>

Changes to the course schedule: Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grading policy and course standards, may be changed with advanced notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor. Should any schedule changes be made, the instructor will notify students via a Blackboard announcement. Please always refer to the copy of the syllabus posted on Blackboard to make sure you have the latest version.

Computers and other electronic equipment: To complete this course, you will need reliable access to a computer and internet service. You will also need access to a digital camera, a computer or other similar device that can record audio and preferably video as well.

Incompletes and Extensions: As all due dates and exam dates are provided in advance, no 'make-ups' will be allowed for any of the required course components. Except in the case of documented emergencies, no late assignments will be accepted.

Retaining copies of all coursework: Please retain copies of all work submitted and the original copy of all work returned to you during the term until the final course grade has been posted. In the event of any question concerning whether grades have been accurately recorded, it is your responsibility to provide these copies as documentation.

Individual Differences: If you experience difficulty in this course for any reason, please don't hesitate to consult with me. If you have a disability that may prevent you from fully demonstrating your abilities, you should contact me personally as soon as possible so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure your full participation and facilitate your education process.

The university offers a wide range of services to support you in your efforts to meet the course requirements, including the following:

University Teaching and Learning Center (TLC): TLC provides numerous resources (including courses, workshops, and tutoring) to help UO students succeed. They work with a diverse student body with a wide range of needs. If you are unsure which resources would work best, they are happy to answer questions and share suggestions. Web: <http://tlc.uoregon.edu/> – Phone: 541-346-3226.

University Counseling and Testing Center (UCTC): The UCTC provides comprehensive mental health care and testing services to the University of Oregon campus. The primary mission of the UCTC is to provide quality clinical/therapeutic services, psychological testing and assessment, psychoeducational workshops, and outreach as well as emergency services. Web: <http://counseling.uoregon.edu/dnn/> – Phone: 541-346-3227

Accessible Education Center (AEC): The AEC is dedicated to facilitating and supporting accessible education through active collaboration with students, faculty, staff, and the community. The AEC works to create and sustain physical, curricular, and informational environments that are informed by and responsive to the diverse characteristics and experiences of students with disabilities and variations of ability. Web: <http://aec.uoregon.edu/> – Phone: 541-346-1155

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

The following code is copied from:

<http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/AcademicMisconduct.aspx>

571-021-00105: Definitions

(1) *“Academic Misconduct” means the violation of university policies involving academic integrity. Examples include, but are not limited to:*

- (a) Intentional tampering with grades, resubmitting assignments for more than one class without the permission of the professor; and*
- (b) Intentionally taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a test that has not been administered;*
- (c) Cheating, as defined in 571-021-0105(3);*
- (d) Plagiarism, as defined in 571-021-0105(26);*
- (e) Knowing furnishing false information to a University Official; and*
- (f) Fabrication, as defined in 571-021-0105(14).*

(3) *“Cheating” means any act of deception by which a student misrepresents or misleadingly demonstrates that he or she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he or she has not mastered. Examples include but are not limited to:*

- (a) Giving or receiving unauthorized help in an academic exercise;*
- (b) Use of sources or resources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;*
- (c) Acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the University faculty or staff; and*
- (d) Engaging in any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion.*

(14) *“Fabrication” means the intentional use of information that the author has invented when he or she states or implies otherwise, or the falsification of research or other findings with the intent to deceive.*

(26) "Plagiarism" means using the ideas or writings of another as one's own. It includes, but is not limited to:

(a) The use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement; and

(b) The unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

571-021-0215: Academic Misconduct Procedures

(1) Notice. Upon the discovery of suspected Academic Misconduct, as defined in 571-021-0100(1), the University Official with responsibility for the academic matter or the faculty member in whose course the incident occurred shall promptly notify the Student of the incident. This notice shall include a discussion of the option of having the case referred directly to the Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards.

(2) If a Student admits to Academic Misconduct in a course, the faculty member shall impose an appropriate academic sanction up to and including a grade of "N" or "F" and report the incident to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. Written notice of the sanction or resolution without sanction shall be given the Student. If, in the judgment of the faculty member, further disciplinary action is warranted, the report to the Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards shall so indicate. The Student may appeal the academic sanction to the faculty member's department head and, ultimately, to the dean of the college or school in which the incident originated.

(3) If a Student admits to Academic Misconduct in a situation other than a course, the responsible University Official may determine and implement an appropriate response and report the incident to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. Written notice of the sanction or resolution without sanction shall be given the Student. If, in the judgment of the University Official, further disciplinary action is warranted, the report to the Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards shall so indicate. The Student may appeal the academic sanction to the University Official's department head or director.

(4) If a faculty member or University Official and a Student cannot agree as to whether Academic Misconduct has occurred, the University Official or faculty member will, not later than fourteen calendar days during which the University is in session after the date the faculty member or University Official notifies the Student, make a written referral of the case to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards for resolution. The case will then be conducted in accordance with the procedures established in this Code.

(a) If there is a finding that the Student engaged in Academic Misconduct in a class, in addition to sanctions imposed through the regular student conduct procedures, the faculty member will assign an appropriate grade.

(b) If there is a finding that the Student did not engage in Academic Misconduct, no academic sanction may be imposed.

(5) Reporting Academic Misconduct. Regardless of the method of resolution, University Officials, including faculty members are required to file a written report of any Academic Misconduct with the Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards. These reports shall be treated as confidential and maintained consistent with the Student Records Policy, OAR571-020-0100 et seq.

(6) Withdrawing from a Course.

(a) If a Student's Academic Misconduct in a course results in an academic sanction, the student will not be permitted to drop or withdraw from the course, or to change the course's grading option, and shall be reinstated in the course in if they have dropped or withdrawn.

(b) If a Student's Academic Misconduct does not result in an academic sanction, the Student may withdraw from the course or change the course's grading option at the later of:

(A) Expiration of the withdrawal deadline for the course;

(B) Expiration of the deadline for changing grade options; or

(C) Five business days after the student receives notification of the decision or termination of Student Conduct Code proceedings without sanction.

(c) In the event the Student is found not responsible for Academic Misconduct and the Student no longer feels comfortable returning to the class, the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards will assist the student to attempt to remove the "w" from the transcript.