

## **Geography 111-01: Human Geography of Global Issues Spring Semester, 2010**

**Class Time and Location:** 1:10-2:10, MWF, Rm 107, Carnegie Hall

**Instructor:** Bill Moseley

**Office:** Rm 104d, Carnegie Hall

**Office Hours:** 2:30-3:30pm MW, 3-3:30pm on Tues-Thurs, or by appointment

**Phone:** 696-6126

**Email:** [moseley@macalester.edu](mailto:moseley@macalester.edu)

**Teaching Assistants:** Joe Rasmussen ([jrasmuss@macalester.edu](mailto:jrasmuss@macalester.edu)), Office hrs: 12-1 on MWF; and Julia Van Horn ([jvanhorn@macalester.edu](mailto:jvanhorn@macalester.edu)), Office hrs: 5-6pm on Sunday, 7:30-8:30pm on Tues and Thurs. Teaching assistants hold office hours in the geography office in Car 104.

### **Course Description and Goals**

This course examines the basic concepts and processes that shape human geography. Global patterns of population, culture, natural resources, economy and urbanization are surveyed and the factors influencing these patterns are discussed. Distinctions between the more developed (core) and the less developed (peripheral) regions of the world are highlighted and regional examples are used to illustrate geographic concepts. The course also relates current social, economic, environmental and political issues and events to the various themes presented.

I have four broad goals for this course: 1) to hone your skills as a critical thinker via reading, discussion and writing; 2) to enhance your knowledge of the world by comparing and contrasting patterns of culture, population, political, and economic systems in various parts of the globe; 3) to foster geographic thinking and analysis through critical examination of spatial patterns of human processes, human-environment interactions, and connections between places and regions; and 4) to stimulate greater interest in understanding the world geographically. The first goal is a general one that, if attained wholly or partially, will serve you well throughout the rest of your life as a professional and citizen. The last three goals relate to my desire to begin to teach you to think about and understand the world like a geographer. Whether or not you go on to take more courses in geography, learning to view the world from a variety of disciplinary perspectives is part and parcel of the liberal arts philosophy.

### **Format**

The class will meet three times a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The class will be conducted with both lectures and in-class discussions. Students are expected to have done all assigned reading before coming to class, and be prepared to discuss it.

This is your class, and I want to know how it's going. Please let me know if you would like to see changes, from lecture topics to grading. You are welcome to speak with me after class or to visit me in my office. The surest way to contact me is to send e-mail ([moseley@macalester.edu](mailto:moseley@macalester.edu)), which normally will be responded to promptly during normal business hours.

## **Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability, or any other problem you think may affect your ability to perform well in this class, please see me early in the semester so that arrangements may be made to accommodate you.

## **Academic Misconduct**

Plagiarism and cheating are both academic crimes. Never (1) turn in an assignment that you did not write yourself, (2) turn in an assignment for this class that you previously turned in for another class, or (3) cheat on an exam. If you do so, it may result in a failing grade for the class, and possibly even suspension from the college. Please see me if you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism. Anyone caught cheating on an exam will be reported to the provost in line with recognized college procedures.

## **Texts**

### Required:

Moseley, W.G., D. Lanegran and K. Pandit (eds). 2007. *The Introductory Reader in Human Geography: Contemporary Debates and Classic Writings*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Press. (ISBN 978-1-4051-4922-8).

Diamond, Gerald. 2003. *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

Discussion readings will be available via library reserves (electronic and hard copy).

### Recommended:

Knox, Paul L. and Sallie A. Marston. 2004/2007. *Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall. Either the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> edition are acceptable.

### Optional

Hudson, J.C. 2003 (or a more current edition). *Goode's World Atlas*. 20<sup>th</sup> Edition. Skokie, IL: Rand McNally.

## **Assignments**

Reading: This course involves a considerable amount of reading, and it is critical that you read the assigned texts for the days indicated in the schedule below.

Discussion: Participation and Leadership (9%): Class will be oriented exclusively towards discussion about one third of the time. Questions and discussion also are encouraged on lecture days. The purpose of discussion is to facilitate critical analysis and lively dialog on key global issues related to human geography. Participation points will be derived from your participation in the discussion sessions (based on the quality and quantity of your involvement in these sessions) and your co-leadership of two discussions. A few participation points also will be derived from my assessment of your participation in the lecture sessions (based on cogency of comments, questions, and answers to questions). Participation points are relatively easy to obtain

if you keep up with the reading and speak up during discussion. Please see me if you have difficulty speaking in class.

In my opinion, the best discussions are those in which: 1) students listen (and learn) from one another and build on what each other is saying; 2) the discussion is focused on understanding the main argument of each reading and breaking down and analyzing this argument to see if it makes sense; 3) making connections between readings (when several are assigned on the same day) by identifying where authors agree and disagree; and 4) relating insight gained from reading and discussion to other texts or real life events. In sum, I want you to approach discussion as an ongoing scholarly debate in which we (as a community of scholars and learners) are attempting to advance our collective knowledge. After the first discussion day, student discussion leaders will be assigned to facilitate our scholarly debates.

#### Reaction Essays to lectures outside of class (4% of grade)

A number of important lectures will occur on campus this semester which are relevant to the course. You need to attend at least two of the three (and ideally all) and turn in two 800-word reflection papers. These are due one week after the lecture occurs. Do not spend more than half of the reflection paper telling me what the lecture was about. The other 50% or more of the reflection should be devoted to the following: 1) how convincing did you find the argument being made in the talk; 2) how did the talk change or not change your understanding of the subject; 3) what are some key questions you would ask the speaker after listening to the talk; and 4) what did you like and/or not like about the speaker's presentation style? These outside lectures, which do not conflict with other course times, are scheduled as follows:

1) "Urban Growth in China: Environmental Challenges and Opportunities"

Speaker: Karen Seto, Associate Professor of Geography, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University

Thursday, Feb 11, from 12-1 in the Davis Lecture Hall of the Campus Center

2) "Fighting HIV/AIDS in West Africa"

Speaker, Joseph Oppong, Associate Professor of Geography, University of North Texas

Tuesday, Feb 16, from 12-1 in the Davis Lecture Hall of the Campus Center

3) "Botswana, Africa's Development Miracle"

Speaker: Abdi Samatar, Professor of Geography, University of Minnesota

Tuesday, March 30, from 12-1 in the Davis Lecture Hall of the Campus Center

#### Writing Goals and Writing Assignments (36% of grade)

There is a moderate amount of writing in this class. I view writing as terribly important, and a fundamental skill honed during a liberal arts education. I use writing to achieve multiple goals in this course, some of which include: 1) to facilitate reflection of read material (i.e., to make you a better reader); 2) to hone your ability to analyze and construct arguments (i.e., to be an engaged citizen who is critical of the material he/she reads and who is able to persuade others through the sound use of information); 3) to process and analyze data and observations collected in the field; and 4) to learn to write/think like a geographer and to understand how social scientists participate in a scholarly discussion via the written word.

You will have four writing assignments (a book review, an ethnic market field exercise, a policy memo, and a cognitive mapping exercise). Details regarding each specific writing assignment will be handed out well in advance of the due dates.

Exams (51% of grade):

You will have three equally weighted exams. Exams largely will be of the essay variety, with a few other questions of a different style (e.g., multiple choice, short answer).

**Grading**

Grade Components

Exam 1 (2/24):	17%	Paper 2 (3/5):	8%
Exam 2 (4/6):	17%	Paper 3 (3/31):	7%
Exam 3 (5/8):	17%	Paper 4 (4/30):	10.5%
Paper 1 (2/12):	10.5%	Two reaction essays (2 x 2%):	4%
		Discussion leader and partic:	<u>9%</u>
		Total:	100%

Note: Another way to think about grading for the course: 51% of your grade is related to exams, 36% is related to writing, and 13% is related to participation.

Final grades are based on a weighted average for the term. Grade cutoff points are as follows: A = 93-100%; A- = 90-92%; B+ = 87-89%; B = 83-86%; B- = 80-82%; C+ = 77-79%; C = 73-76%; C- = 70-72%; D+ = 67-69%; D = 63-66%; D- = 60-62%, NC = < 60%.

**Overview of Lecture Schedule and Important Due Dates**

Please note that this is tentative and subject to change. It is your responsibility to keep up with any changes. All reading assignments are in the main lecture support text by Knox and Marston.

Wk	Dates	Topic			Reading / Outside lectures
		Monday	Wednesday	Friday	
<b>Part I: Introduction, Maps &amp; Power, Urban Geography, Population Geography</b>					
1	25-29 Jan	Course business	Introduction to Geography lecture	Maps and power Lecture	Chap 1
2	1-5 Feb	<b>Discussion 1:</b> What the #@%!! is geography?	Intro to Geography lecture/ Urban Geog Lecture	Urban Geography lecture	Chap 2, 10
3	8-12 Feb	<b>Discussion 2:</b> Urban Geography	Urban Geography Guest lecture by Chris Strunk (ethnic economies)	Population geog lecture; <u>Ethnic market field assignment due</u>	Chap 11; Karen Seto guest lecture on Chinese urban growth on <u>Thurs, Feb 11 from 12-1</u> in campus center
4	15-19 Feb	Population geog lecture	<b>Discussion 3:</b> Population geography	Guest lecture by Holly Barcus (migration in Mongolia)	Chap 3; Joseph Oppong guest lecture on HIV/AIDS in Africa on <u>Tues, Feb 16 from 12-1</u> in Campus Center
5	22-26 Feb	Population/ Agriculture lecture	<u>Exam #1</u>	<b>Discussion 4:</b> <i>Guns, Germs and Steel</i>	Chap 8

<b>Part II: AGRICULTURAL GEOGRAPHY, ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY, DEVELOPMENT GEOGRAPHY</b>					
6	1-5 March	Agricultural geography lecture	<b>Discussion 5:</b> <i>Guns, Germs and Steel</i>	Agricultural geography lecture; <u>book review due</u>	
7	8-12 March	<b>Discussion 6:</b> Agriculture	Econ geog lecture	Econ geog lecture	Chap 7 (pp. 269-295)
	16-20 March	Spring break			
8	22-26 March	Economic Geography lecture	<b>Discussion 7:</b> Economic Geography	Development Geography Lecture	Chap 7 (pp. 249-268)
9	29 Mar – 2 April	Guest lecture by Chris Strunk (development geography in Latin America)	<b>Discussion 8:</b> Development geography; <u>development memo due</u>	No class: holiday	Abdi Samatar guest lecture on development in Botswana, <u>Tues, March 30 from 12-1</u> in campus center
<b>Part III: HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT GEOGRAPHY, PLACE AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY, POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY</b>					
10	6-10 April	Exam #2	Human-Environment geography lecture	Human-Environment geography lecture	Chapter 4
11	12-16 April	Guest lecture by Helen Hazen (Human-Env Geography)	Film	TBA	
12	19-23 April	<b>Discussion 9:</b> Human-Environment Geography	Place and Regional Geography lecture	<b>Discussion 10</b> Regional Geog	Chapter 6
13	26 - 30 April	Lecture: Cultural geography	Political Geography Lecture	Guest lecture by Dan Trudeau ( <u>cog map exercise due</u> )	Chapter 5, 9
14	3 May	<b>Discussion 11</b> Political Geography	No class	<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Exam (Sat, 8 May, 1:30-3:30)</u>	

### Reading Schedule for Discussions

Please note that this is tentative and subject to change. It is your responsibility to keep up with any changes. Most reading assignments are in *The Introductory Reader in Human Geography: Contemporary Debates and Classic Writings* (aka *Reader*) or on electronic library reserve.

#### Discussion 1 (Monday, Feb 1): What the @%\$#! is geography and why is it relevant?

Reader pgs 1-9: Moseley, W.G., D. Lanegran and K. Pandit. "Introduction: Situating Geography."

Reader Chap 1: Pattison, W. "The Four Traditions of Geography."

Reader Chap 2: National Research Council. "Geography's Perspective"

Reader Chap 3: De Blij, HJ. "Geography and Foreign Policy."

Reader Chap 4: Moseley, W.G. "Reflections of an American Geographer on the Anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>."

## **Discussion 2 (Monday, Feb 8): Urban Geography**

Reader Chap 22: Allen, James P. and Eugene Turner. "Ethnic Residential Concentrations in United States Metropolitan Areas."

E-reserve. Kaplan, David. 1997. "The Creation of an Ethnic Economy: Indochinese Business Expansion in Saint Paul." *Economic Geography*. 73(2): 214-233.

Reader Chap 21: Kennedy, Eugene. "Greenville: From Back Country to Forefront."

Reader Chap 24: Beaverstock, Jonathan V., Richard G. Smith and Peter J. Taylor. "World-City Network: A New Metageography?"

## **Discussion 3 (Wed, Feb 17): Population Dynamics and Migration**

Reader Chap 7: Malthus, Thomas. "Essay on the Principle of Population."

E-reserve: Lohmann, Larry. 2003. "Re-imagining the population debate." *The Corner House*.

Reader Chap 9: Gould, W.T.S. and R.I. Woods. "Population Geography and HIV/AIDS: The Challenge of a Wholly Exceptional Disease."

Reader Chap 10: Fan, Cindy C. "Interprovincial Migration, Population Redistribution, and Regional Development in China: 1990 and 2000 Census Comparisons."

## **Discussion 4 (Friday, Feb 26): The Physical Environment and the Rise and Spread of Food Production**

Prologue and Chapters 1-10. In Diamond, Jared. 2003. *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*. New York: Norton.

## **Discussion 5 (Wednesday, March 3): From Food Production to Development**

Chapters 11-19 and Epilogue. In Diamond, Jared. 2003. *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*. New York: Norton.

## **Discussion 6 (Monday, March 8): Debating the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Agricultural Revolutions**

Reader Chap 11: Diamond, Jared. "The worst mistake in the history of the human race."

Reader Chap 12: Innis, DQ. 1980. "The Future of Traditional Agriculture."

E-reserve: Collier, Paul. 2008. "The Politics of Hunger: How Illusion and Greed Fan the Food Crisis." *Foreign Affairs*. November/December.

E-reserve: Aal, William, Lucy Jarosz, and Carol Thompson. 2009. "Response to Paul Collier." Forthcoming in *Review of African Political Economy*.

### **Discussion 7 (Wednesday, March 24): Economic Geography**

Reader Chap 27: Grigg, David. "Wine, Spirits and Beer: World Patterns of Consumption."

Reader Chap 25: Bridge, G. and A. Wood. 2005. "Geographies of Knowledge, Practices of Globalization: Learning from the Oil Exploration and Production Industry." *Area*. 37(2): 199-208.

Reader Chap 26: Herod, Andrew. "The impact of containerization on the New York – New Jersey Waterfront."

Reader Chap 29: Domosh, M. and J. Seager. "Women at Work."

### **Discussion 8 (Wednesday, March 31): Development Geography**

E-reserve: Bhagwati, Jagdish. 2002. "Trading for Development: The Poor's Best Hope," *The Economist*. June 21.

E-reserve: Hausmann, Ricardo. 2001. "Prisoners of Geography." *Foreign Policy*. January/February.

Reader Chap 30: Grant, Richard & Jan Nijman. "The re-scaling of uneven development in Ghana and India."

Reader Chap 34: Oppenheimer, Andres. "Geography, Culture and Prosperity."

### **Discussion 9 (Mon, April 19): Human-Environment Geography (Wilderness and Hazards)**

Reader Chap 16: Cronon, William. "The Trouble with Wilderness; or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature."

Reader Chap 15: Meyer, William B. "Americans and Their Weather."

Reader Chap 32: Cupples, Julie. "Rural Development in El Hatillo, Nicaragua: Gender, Neoliberalism and Environmental Risk."

### **Discussion 10 (Friday, April 23): Regions and Place**

E-reserve: Moseley, W.G. 2004. "Yankee Go Home: Tales of a Northerner Educated in the South." In: Wheeler, JO and SD Braun. *The Role of the South in the Making of American Geography: Centennial of the AAG*. Blackwell Publishers. Pp 91-96.

E-reserve: Meinig, Donald W. 1994. "American Wests: Preface to a Geographical Interpretation." In: Kenneth Foote et al. *Re-Reading Cultural Geography*.

E-reserve: Tuan, Yi-Fu. 1996. "Space and Place: Humanistic Perspective." In Agnew, J. D. Livingstone and A. Rogers. (eds) *Human Geography: An Essential Anthology*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.

### **Discussion 11 (Monday, May 3): Geopolitics, Mackinder, and Public Space**

Reader Chap 35: Megoran, Nick. "Revisiting the 'pivot': the influence of Halford Mackinder on analysis of Uzbekistan's international relations"

E-reserve: Kaplan, Robert. 2009. "The Revenge of Geography." *Foreign Policy*. May/June Issue.

E-reserve. Various authors. 2009 "Revenge of the Geographers." *Foreign Policy*. June. This is a response by several authors to Kaplan's article above. In particular, please read the responses by Toal and Dalby.

Reader Chap 37: Mitchell, Don. "The End of Public Space? People's Park, Definitions of the Public, and Democracy."

*Welcome to the course! I look forward to working with you this semester.*