

GEO 321-001
Land, People, and Development in Appalachia
Fall 2010
MWF 9:00-9:50 am
Whitehall Classroom Building – RM 242

Instructor: Amanda Fickey, Department of Geography, University of Kentucky
Office: 1418 Patterson Office Tower
Office Hours: Monday, 8 am – 8:50 am, Wednesday, 8 am – 8:50 am, or by appointment
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Introduction:

The term “Appalachia” may be understood in multiple ways. While the term is often associated with various socio-economic and political meanings, it also refers to the remarkable physical geography of ancient mountains that created a diversity of distinctive ecologies, with incredible flora and fauna. This course will focus on the dynamic interplay between these meanings, power, wealth, biodiversity and landscape in shaping the cultural, economic and political history and geography of this region over the past 200 years.

Bulletin Description:

GEO 321 LAND, PEOPLE, AND DEVELOPMENT IN APPALACHIA. (3 hours)
Major themes revolve around regional diversity and regional development. Major topics examined include physical environmental context, historical development, and economic and population geography. The study region includes the upland areas between southern New York State and central Alabama. Prereq: GEO 130, 152 or 172, or consent of instructor.

Readings:

All readings will be available on Blackboard. You will be required to check your Blackboard account frequently for this course. Questions regarding readings will be included on exams.

Evaluation and Grade Breakdown:

Points

50	Student Story-telling Project for MACED (Mountain Association for Community Economic Development)
50	Reading Responses – (10 points each)
100	Attendance – Sign-in Sheets (10 points each)
100	Exam 1 (Multiple Choice and Short Essay)
100	Exam 2 (Multiple Choice and Short Essay)
100	Exam 3 (Multiple Choice and Short Essay)
500	Total Possible Points

There is no curve for this class. The grading scheme is as follows:

A = 100-90; B = 89-80; C = 79-70; D = 69-60; E 59-0. Grades will be posted on Blackboard!

Reading Responses:

Each student will be responsible for submitting a 1 page, single spaced, 12 pt. font, response piece to each assigned reading (5 total). Responses are due at the beginning of the class period on which the reading is assigned. Responses *should not* simply state what the reading was about. Rather, the responses should explore how the reading is related to current/previous lecture material – *In what way did this reading further your understanding of the subject material? What questions do you feel were left unanswered?*

Story-telling Project:

Each student will be responsible for locating and examining an economic development organization within the region of Eastern Kentucky. The student will complete a three-page analysis of an organization's history and what the organization is doing that benefits this geographic region. At the end of the semester, these stories will be submitted to the Mountain Association for Community Economic Development for review for the 'MACED Story-telling Map Project': <http://www.maced.org/story-map.htm>. Guidelines and rubric will be handed out at a later date.

Reading Schedule:

Week 1: Where is Appalachia?

8/25 – Review Syllabus, Introduction to Course Material

8/27 – Where is Appalachia – mapping exercise and discussion of Geographic, Political, Cultural, Socio-Economic, and Historical Definitions

Discuss Reading: "Regional Definitions" – Raitz, Ulack, and Leinbach (1984) – Reading Response #1 (Due at the beginning of class)

Week 2: Appalachia's Physical Geography

8/30 – Physical Terrain and Landscape Analysis

9/1 – *Video – Appalachia: A History of Mountains and People (Part I: Time and Terrain)*

9/3 – Pre-History and Settlement

Week 3: Migration, Settlement and Population

9/6 – Labor Day – No Class Meeting

9/8 – Continue Pre-History and Settlement/Civil War/Antebellum Appalachia

9/10 – *Video – Appalachia: A History of Mountains and People (Part II: New Green World)*

Week 4: The Industrial Age – "Development"

9/13 – Literary Discovery, Feuds, and "Modernization"

9/15 – The Selling of the Mountains – Outsiders and Local Elites

9/17 – *Guest Speaker: Zeb Weese, Regional Nature Preserves Manager, Central and Northeastern Kentucky, Kentucky State Preserves Commission*

Week 5: Cultural Resistance and Social Change

9/20 – Exam 1

9/22 – Class Cancelled – Professor Away

9/24 – Class Cancelled – Professor Away

Week 6: Union Struggles of the Early Years

9/27 – *Discuss Reading: “Modernization and the Mountaineer” – Eller (1982) – Reading Response # 2 (Due at the beginning of class)*

9/29 – Early Organizing Efforts/ Post WWI Mine Wars

10/1 – Class Cancelled – Professor Away

Week 7: The Great Depression

10/4 – The Federal Government in Appalachia

10/6 – Tennessee Valley Authority

10/8 – *Discuss Reading: “Standing the Times” – Williams (2002) – Reading Response #3 (Due at the beginning of class)*

- *Discuss Story-telling Project – Each student must submit the title of the organization which they will be documenting on this date.*

Week 8: Appalachia – 1940s/1950s – WWII and Out-migration

10/11 – WWII

10/13 – The Great Migration

10/15 – *Discuss Reading “The Rape of the Appalachians” – Caudill (1963) Reading Response #4 (Due at the beginning of class)*

Week 9: The War on Poverty – Technical Development and Professionals

10/18 – War on Poverty and the OEO

10/20 – *Video – Stranger with a Camera*

10/22 – Exam 2

Week 10: Regional Economic Development – ARC

10/25 – Kennedy Administration, Johnson Administration, and the 1965 Area Redevelopment Act

10/27 – President’s Appalachian Regional Commission

10/29 – Appalachia: A Report by the President’s Appalachian Regional Commission – Discussion of Development Document and Significance to Development Programs

Week 11: Models of Development and Cultural Values

11/1 – Culture of Poverty Theory

11/3 – Grassroots Organizations

11/5 – *Discuss Reading – “Introduction: Uneven Ground” – Eller 2008 – Reading Response #5 (Due at the beginning of class)*

Week 12: Environmental Alterations and Resource Extraction/Mountain Top Removal

11/8 – Anti-Surface Mining Movement and Mountain Top Removal

11/10 – *Video – Appalachia: A History of Mountains and People (Part IV: Power and Place)*

11/12 – Class canceled – professor away

Week 13: Lessons from History and Alternative Economic Strategies

11/15 – Studying Diverse Economies

11/17 – Thinking Critically about “Development”

11/19 – *Guest Speaker: Gwenda Adkins, FCS Agent, Elliott County Extension Service & JoAnn Butts, Folk Artist*

Week 14: ‘Social Economy’ as Development Strategy

11/22 – Creative Industries and the Role of the State

11/24 – *Thanksgiving – No Class*

11/26 – *Thanksgiving Holiday – No Class*

Week 15: Exploring Future Research Possibilities

11/29 – *Video – 20/20 ABC Special: A Hidden America: Children of the Mountains*

12/1 – Stereotypes and Qualitative Research

12/3 – Brief Review of Current Research in Appalachian Studies

Week 16 (Dead Week):

12/6 – Student Presentations/Story-telling Project Presentation

12/8 – Student Presentations/Story-telling Project Presentation

12/10 – Student Presentations/Story-telling Project Presentation

Final Exam: 12/17, 8:00 a.m., CB 242

Class Decorum:

- No food, sleeping, or snoring will be permitted in class.
- The reading of newspapers, magazines, love letters, novels or other material is forbidden.
- While class discussion is encouraged, discussion with your neighbor is not.
- No audio recorders are allowed. Laptops are permitted if usage does not disturb other students. If class is disturbed, you will be asked to remove the laptop.
- Please do not come late to class and do not get up and leave during class.

Withdrawal/Incomplete Policy:

Official withdrawal from the class is required by the registrar to avoid a failing grade. The instructor will not withdraw you automatically simply because you quit attending class.

Student Rights and Responsibilities:

Student’s rights and responsibilities are articulated in the Student Code of Conduct. See <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part1.html>.

Academic Honesty:

Academic integrity is one of the most important aspects of education at the University of Kentucky. Instances of cheating or plagiarism are absolutely unacceptable and constitute academic misconduct. There are significant penalties for students who engage in this activity. Full details of the procedures and penalties for academic offenses can be found on the Office of Academic Ombud Services website at <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/>. You are expected to be familiar with these procedures and penalties.

Students with Disabilities:

Reasonable accommodation will be made for students with physical and/or learning disabilities. Any student with a disability who is taking this course and needs classroom or exam accommodations should inform me of such and contact the Disability Resource Center, 257-2754, Room 2 Alumni Gym, jkarkes@uky.edu.