

**Geography 108: Human Geography**  
**5 Credits**  
**Spring 2015**  
**2:00 – 2:50 PM, Monday-Friday, Dean Hall 102**

Instructor: Priyanka Ghosh  
 Office: Dean Hall 323  
 Office Phone: 509-963-2180  
 Office Hours: Monday: 3:00 – 5:00 PM;  
 Thursday: 3:00 – 5:00 PM and by appointment  
 E-mail: [ghoshp@cwu.edu](mailto:ghoshp@cwu.edu)



**“Geography is the study of WHERE is it, WHY is it there... and WHO cares?”**  
**Dr. John Fraser Hart**

### **Course Introduction**

This course is an introduction to human geography dealing with spatial organization of human activities on the earth's surface. In this course, we will be studying concepts of place, space, migration, population, settlement forms, land utilization and human-environment relations. This course provides you an understanding of Earth's physical and human systems and the interdependence between them. Additionally, this course attempts to expand your geographical imagination and help you to understand why geography and place matters. We will treat this course as an overview of human geography as a subject, covering a number of different topics.

### **Required Text**

Paul L. Knox and Sallie A. Marston (2015) *Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context*. 7<sup>th</sup> edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-0321984241

### **Grading:**

Exam 1	60 points
Exam 2 (noncumulative)	60 points
Exam 3 (noncumulative)	60 points
In-class exercises/quizzes/film review	60 points
Attendance	50 points
Writing Assignment	70 points

**Total Points: 360**

### **Remember, there is no curve for this class.**

Your final grade in this course will be calculated as follows:

93 percent or higher: A	80-82.9: B-	67-69.9: D+
90-92.9: A-	77-79.9: C+	63-66.9: D
87-89.9: B+	73-76.9: C	60-62.9: D-
83-86.9: B	70-72.9: C-	59.9 percent and lower: F

### **Exams**

Each exam will be of 60 points. Questions will be in the form of fill-in-the-blank, true/false, multiple choice, map quiz, and short answer type questions. Make up exams will be given only in the case of excused absences. You should provide a document (e.g. a request to excuse

your absence from your team coach, a doctor's note, a note from a physician's assistant, counselor, or nurse) explaining why you missed the exam.

### **In-Class Exercises/Quizzes/Short Writing Assignments**

Through the quarter, there will be some in-class activities in the form of exercises and quizzes. These in-class activities will provide you an opportunity to apply your knowledge in relation to the recent lectures and textbook.

**In-class exercises and quizzes will be worth of 5 to 15 pts. If you miss the class on the day of in-class activities and if you cannot provide any documentation, you will receive a zero for that specific in-class activity.** However, in case of excused absence, you will be given an opportunity to make-up the missed activity.

### **Writing Assignment:**

**You will write one essay during the quarter.** More details about the essay and grading criteria will be provided later on the Canvas.

#### **Topic #1**

Write an original essay on global warming and climate change. Your essay must identify one source region of greenhouse gas emission and one impact region and explain how the impact region is affected by the source region. For example, countries like China, USA, European Union, and India are sources of huge amount of greenhouse gases. In 2012, the largest contributors of greenhouse gases were China (27%) followed by the USA (14%) and European Union (10%). The production of greenhouse gases in these source countries affects the economically less developed countries like Bangladesh, which is more likely vulnerable to global climate change and sea level rise. You can focus on China and examine how the rapid economic development, increased energy use, and meat consumption in China are contributing to the global warming and climate change which in turn affect the people living in coastal areas of Bangladesh.

#### **Topic #2**

Write an original essay on population policy/migration policy/urban policy. Your essay must compare population policies between two countries and discuss how these policies will impact future development of these countries. For example, you could compare and contrast between population policies of India and China. India's population policy targeted female sterilization whereas China adopted a draconian one-child policy in 1979. How these population policies affected women in these two countries? Did it reduce gender inequality in any way? How did one-child policy affect sex-ratio in China? At the current rate of population growth, India will take over China in 2020 and will become the most populous country in the world. By 2020, India will also become one of the youthful countries in the world. On the contrary, China will have to deal with an aging population in the coming decades. How would that affect the future socio-economic development of these two countries?

You could also contrast countries with different migration policies (e.g., Japan versus Canada), different urbanization policies (e.g., both Myanmar and Nigeria have moved their capitals within the past quarter century but for different reasons), or even different policies towards the role of women in society.

**The writing assignment should be completed in two steps.** First, you should write a draft of your essay on which I will provide comments. The draft should be at least 2-3 pages long. **You should cite at least five sources for your essay.** One source could be your text book. The other sources could be books, journal articles, newspaper articles, media, and internet. **Please do not cite Wikipedia or similar sources such as content from Ask.com.** Your final essay should be 4-5 pages long. *Please use Times New Roman, 11-point font, 1 inch margin and double space for your essay.*

*5 points will be deducted per weekday for late assignments. So, turn in your assignments on-time!*

**AVOID plagiarism! If you have any doubts how to cite sources, please ask me.**

### **Required Film Review: (10 points)**

You will watch a film on Bolivia's water conflict and write a review. The details of this assignment will be posted later on Canvas. **Please bring a hard copy to the class on April 27 and upload the soft copy on the Canvas by the midnight of the due date.**

### **Optional Extra Credit: (10 points)**

Close to half of the 7000 languages spoken on Earth are under threat of disappearance. Write about a language that is under threat, and the reasons it is disappearing, including economic and geographic factors affecting its speakers. What language(s) is/are replacing this language and why? What efforts are being made to rescue this language?

The word limit for this assignment is 1000. *An assignment less than 500 words is unacceptable.* You should use Times New Roman, 12 font, and 1 inch margin. The grading criteria or the rubric will be provided later on the Canvas. **Please bring a hard copy to the class on June 4 and upload the soft copy on the Canvas by the midnight of the due date.**

### **Attendance Policy**

**Students are expected to attend class on a regular basis.**

**Attendance will be taken daily beginning April 8.** To facilitate attendance-taking, please sit in **the same spot each day beginning April 8.** **Every student will be permitted three UNEXCUSED absences during the quarter.** **After that 5 points will be deducted for each unexcused absence.**

Absences will be EXCUSED if any of the following three circumstances:

#### **Circumstance 1:**

If you are sick or if you have a different medical issue and you are able to provide an appropriate documentation such as a note from a doctor, physician's assistant, counselor, or nurse, your absence will be excused. In the case of excused absences, you will be given the opportunity to make up in-class exercises, quizzes, and exams and turn in the assignments that were due during your absence.

#### **Circumstance 2:**

If you need to miss class due to university approved activities such as a field trip for another class or for an extracurricular activity, please notify me in advance and provide an appropriate

documentation. With this documentation, your absence will be excused and you will be given the opportunity to make up in-class exercises, quizzes, and exams that occurred during your absence and turn in the assignments that were due during your absence.

### **Circumstance 3:**

If you are sick, or have a different medical issue but do not have a doctor's note or appropriate documentation, you need to send me an e-mail ([ghoshp@cwu.edu](mailto:ghoshp@cwu.edu)) stating your name, your student ID number, the date or dates you missed, and the reason for your absence. Please always mention the course number and course name (e.g. Geo 108: Human Geography) in the subject line of your email. **You must send this e-mail within 48 hours of the first day you are absent (e.g. the first day excluding the three days in a row that you miss).** Your absence(s) will be excused if you send me email but you will NOT be able to make up any quiz or exam or in-class activities you missed and any work that you turn in late as a result of the absence WILL BE TREATED AS LATE.

It is my recommendation that **ALWAYS GET A NOTE** if you miss class due to illness or other medical issues.

### Classroom Civility

Please arrive on time. If you need to leave early, please talk to me before the class starts.

**Students who arrive to class ten minutes late or leave early without my permission will be counted as having an unexcused absence.**

Please do not engage in side conversations with your classmates.

While you should feel free, and are encouraged to express your opinions and beliefs, disparaging remarks targeted to other students will not be tolerated.

*Please don't sleep, doodle, talk, stare out, or read newspaper.*

### Electronic Devices Policy

The following policies will be enforced in this course.

- **Please turn off your cell phone when you come to class.** If I observe you speaking on cell phone or texting on a cell phone or if your cell phone rings during class, I will warn you the first time. The second and subsequent times, I will assume that you have a family or personal emergency and will ask you to leave the classroom for the remainder of the class period.
- You may use a computer for note taking purposes. If you are observed using a laptop, tablet, or other computer in any other way (e.g. e-mailing, surfing the internet, using Facebook), even if those other activities are somehow class related, **you will lose 10 points per incident on the next exam. Students using a computer should sit in the first two rows of the classroom whenever there is space available.**
- Please do not wear headphones while you are in the class.

### Email Policy

I check my email regularly. I encourage you to email me with any questions or concerns about the course or to schedule an appointment with me. I respond to all emails within 48 hours. So, wait until 2 days before sending a second email.

### Canvas

For this course you need to be familiar with Canvas. You need to check Canvas for announcements, lecture slides, any additional course materials, and grade.

**Please make sure that your email address on Canvas is correct.**

### Office Hours

If you find yourself falling behind or having any trouble with this course, please see me sooner rather than later.

### My Expectations from you

I take my teaching responsibility seriously. I assume that you will share this responsibility by

- Reading all materials
- Studying for all tests
- Participating in class activities and completing your writing assignment
- Take good notes

In order to help you meet these objectives, I promise to help when needed, monitor your progress, and provide an opportunity for you to apply your knowledge. Please note that I do not share my notes with students. ***Some PowerPoint slides will be available on the Canvas after we complete each chapter.*** Remember these slides provide an outline but not complete lecture notes and as such will not be sufficient to do well in the class. So, please pay attention to the lecture and take detailed notes.

### Note Taking Strategy

Read the text chapter in close conjunction with the class lectures. Note the key points and underline it. Also underline important generalizations, interpretations, and conclusions. Be sure to consult maps when you feel that you don't know the location of a place or region.

Your notes should be written legibly and headed by date and subject of the lecture. They should reflect a general outline of the material covered, with emphasis on major interpretations and important points.

### Writing Center

I encourage you to use take advantage of CWU's University Writing Center, which is located in Brooks Library. At the writing center you will have free consultations on any writing project. I highly recommend you to edit your writing assignments from the writing center prior to the submission. Please drop by or call 963-1270.

For more information please check their website at <http://www.cwu.edu/learning-commons/university-writing-center>

### Center for Disability Services

If you have a disability and require accommodations for this course, please speak with me privately as soon as possible so that your needs may be appropriately met. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with Disability Services (DS). DS is located in Bouillon 140. Call (509) 963-1202 or email [ds@cwu.edu](mailto:ds@cwu.edu) for more information.

### Student Misconduct

All incidents of misconduct shall be handled according to Central Washington University's Student Conduct Code (see this: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=106-120>). Student misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following examples: cheating on an

examination, collaborating with others in work contrary to the stated rules of the course, plagiarism, and disruptive behavior in class.

Please take great care when you use sources from the internet such as an online newspaper article, blog or a website. Each needs to be cited properly as per the citation guidelines.

Copying any passage from any internet source without proper attribution is as much a violation of the rules of academic conduct as is copying any passage from a published book, magazine, or newspaper. To learn how to avoid plagiarism please check this useful resource:

<http://www.lib.cwu.edu/Avoiding-Plagiarism>

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

(Please note that this is a tentative schedule and it is subject to change. In case there is any change, a new course outline will be distributed. You should complete reading assigned chapter(s) by the end of the respective week.)

<b>Geography 108: Human Geography</b>	
March 31-April 3	Geography Matters: Read Ch 1
April 6-April 10	The Changing Global Context: Read Ch 2
<b>Monday, April 13 : Quiz # 1( Chapter 1 and 2; 15 pts)</b>	
April 13-April 17	Population Geography: Read Ch 3
<b>Friday, April 17: In-class exercise # 1; 5 pts</b>	
April 20-April 21	People and Nature: Read Ch 4
<b>April 22-24: No Class (Faculty Development Day and AAG Conference): You will be watching a film during this time and write a review: 10 pts)</b>	
<b>Monday, April 27 Exam 1(Chapter 1, 2, 3 and 4)</b>	
April 27-May 1	Cultural Geographies& Language: Read Ch 5 & 6
<b>Monday, May 4: Draft Essay due in class</b>	
May 4-May 8	Interpreting Places and Landscapes: Read Ch 7
<b>Friday, May 8: Quiz # 2 (Chapter 5 and 6; 15 pts)</b>	
May 11-May 15	Geographies of Economic Development: Read Ch 8
<b>Monday, May 18 Exam 2 (Chapter 5, 6 and 7)</b>	
May 18-May 22	Food and Agriculture: Read Ch 9
<b>May 25: No Class; Memorial Day</b>	
May 26-May 29	Political Geographies: Read Ch 10
<b>Monday, June 1 : Quiz # 3 (Chapter 8 and 9; 15 pts)</b>	
June 1-June 5	Read Ch 11 and 12: Urbanization and City Spaces
<b>Wednesday, June 3: Final Essay due in class</b>	
<b>Thursday, June 4: Extra Credit Due in class</b>	
June 5	Final Exam Review
<b>Final Exam (Chapter 8,9, 10, 11) Tuesday, June 9: 12 noon-2 PM</b>	