

G110: Introduction to Human Geography

Instructor: Brian Johnson
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Classroom:
Student Building 138
10:30-11:20 Monday through Friday

Office Hours:
Student Building 304
9:00-10:15 Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Office: Additional Hours By Appointment
Student Building 304
855-6303

Course Objective

This is a lecture and discussion course in which students will become familiar with the basic concepts and ideas that underpin study of the geography of human systems. Topics to be covered include basic cartographic concepts as well as the spatial study of population, migration, development, agriculture, services, industry, resources, settlement, culture, language, religion, ethnicity and political divisions.

To get a good and complete introduction to physical geography, students may also want to take G107: Physical Systems of the Environment.

Textbook Readings

Required textbook available at the IU Bookstore/TIS/online/etc.:

James M. Rubenstein (2008). *An Introduction to Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice-Hall. Ninth Edition. ISBN: 013243573

Readings for a particular day are to be completed before you come to class. In doing this, students will have sufficient background knowledge to fully understand that day's lecture, participate in the discussion, and complete the exercise.

Exercises

Exercises are posted at <https://oncourse.iu.edu>. It is highly recommended that students view and/or print out the exercise and bring it to the class session prior to the due date to ask questions regarding its proper completion.

Since this is a college course, grammar and spelling (especially of geographic phenomena) will obviously be counted in exercise grading. Neatness counts as well and if the instructor cannot read a student response, it will be counted incorrect.

Exams

There will be three exams in this course. Exams may have a mix of multiple choice, map, matching, and true/false questions. Students must take the exams in class on the days designated on the syllabus calendar. The Third Exam will ONLY be administered at the time listed on this syllabus. Don't ask if you can take it early, because the answer will be no.

Class Participation

Students who want full credit for participation will attend class, actively pay attention, take complete notes, contribute to the discussion, ask intelligent questions, and complete class participation exercises. These model students will also refrain from walking in late/leaving early, talking at inappropriate times, reading the newspaper, cramming for another test, using a mobile phone, and generally annoying their fellow classmates and instructor.

Grading

Scale

Exercise 1	10 points	200-194 A+	193-186 A	185-180 A-
Exercise 2	10 points	179-174 B+	173-166 B	165-160 B-
Exercise 3	10 points	159-154 C+	153-146 C	145-140 C-
Exercise 4	10 points	139-134 D+	133-126 D	125-120 D-
Exercise 5	10 points	119-0	F	
Exercise 6	10 points			
Exercise 7	10 points			
Exercise 8	10 points			
Exam 1	30 points			
Exam 2	35 points			
Exam 3	35 points			
Participation	20 points			

There is no extra credit. Also, I do not curve the grades. No exceptions. Honest.

Exam and Presentation Attendance

Attendance on exam dates is mandatory. If you miss an exam, you will receive a zero on that exam unless you have had an emergency documented by a dated doctor's note or accident report attesting to your inability to make it to the exam.

Late Assignment Policy

Students who want an opportunity to earn full credit for their assignments will turn them in on time. Any assignments turned in after the due date will be penalized 10% for each day late. Assignments turned in more than 3 days late will be given a 0.

We will be using Oncourse (<https://oncourse.iu.edu>) for assignment submissions. Don't wait until the last minute to turn things in as computers can sense urgency and will automatically give you trouble at that point. **Students are encouraged to turn in assignments early. Remember, the due date is the last possible day something may be turned in; you can certainly turn your work in early.**

Miscellaneous

Each must student do his/her own quality work to receive credit. The minimum penalty for academic misconduct is a zero credit for the entire work. Any academic misconduct will be referred to the Dean of Students Office and dealt with in accordance with university policy, whose penalties for academic misconduct include failure of the course and/or expulsion from the university.

I reserve the right to change the syllabus. If changes are necessary, a new syllabus will be issued to the students to reflect these changes.

Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				13 First Day of Class
16 Read Chapters 1, 2	17	18 Exercise 1 Due	19	20
23 Read Chapters 3, 9	24	25 Exercise 2 Due	26 Exam 1	27
30 No class Read Chapters 10, 12	1 No class	2 No class	3 Exercise 3 Due	4 No class
7 Read Chapters 11, 14	8	9 Exercise 4 Due	10	11
14 Read Chapters 13, 4	15 Exercise 5 Due	16 Exam 2	17 No class	18 No class
21 Read Chapters 5, 6	22	23 Exercise 6 Due	24	25
28 Read Chapters 7, 8	29	30 Exercise 7 Due	31	1
4	5	6 Exercise 8 Due	7 Exam 3	8 Last Day of Class