

Las Positas College  
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## Course Outline for GEOG 2

### CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY

Effective: Spring 2019

#### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

GEOG 2 — CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY — 3.00 units

The course is a study of diverse human populations, their cultural origins, diffusion and contemporary spatial expressions. Topics include: demography, languages and religions, urbanization and landscape modification, political units and nationalism, and economic systems and development.

3.00 Units Lecture

#### Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

#### Discipline:

- Geography

	<b>MIN</b>
<b>Lecture Hours:</b>	54.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	54.00

#### II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

#### III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

#### IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

**Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

- Describe the distribution of the human population and the processes (both historical and contemporary) that shape this distribution by explaining the 5 stages of the demographic transition model and how it related to population growth
- Explain the origins, diversity, and distribution of basic cultural patterns, with particular attention given to: language, religion, urbanization, political and economic patterns, and human-environmental interactions, and map, analyze, and describe the location and reasons for the locations of each of the above cultural geography characteristics
- Explain basic concepts used in the geographic study of human patterns including diffusion, cultural landscapes, cultural ecology, and cultural regions by defining, describing and analyzing different examples related to above cultural geography concepts

#### V. CONTENT:

- Thinking Geographically
  - Why do Geographers Address Where Things Are?
    - Maps
    - Contemporary Tools
  - Why Is Each Point on Earth Unique?
    - Place: Unique Location of a Feature
    - Regions: Areas of Unique Characteristics
  - Why Are Different Places Similar?
    - Scale: From Local to Global
    - Space: Distribution of Features
    - Connections Between Places
- Population
  - Where Is the World's Population Distributed?
    - Population Concentrations
    - Sparsely Populated Regions
    - Population Density
  - Where Has the World's Population Increased?
    - Natural Increase
    - Fertility
    - Mortality
  - Why Is Population Increasing at Different Rates in Different Countries?
    - The Demographic Transition
    - Population Pyramids
    - Countries in Different Stages of Demographic Transition
    - Demographic Transition and World Population Growth
  - Why Might the World Face and Overpopulation Problem?
    - Malthus on Overpopulation
    - Declining Birth Rates

- c. World Health Threats
- C. Migration
  - 1. Why Do People Migrate?
    - a. Reasons for Migrating
    - b. Distance of Migration
    - c. Characteristics of Migrants
  - 2. Where Are Migrants Distributed?
    - a. Global Migration Patterns
    - b. U.S. Immigration Patterns
    - c. Impact of Immigration on the United States
  - 3. Why Do Migrants Face Obstacles?
    - a. Immigration Policies of Host Countries
    - b. Cultural Problems Living in Other Countries
  - 4. Why Do People Migrate Within a Country?
    - a. Migration Between Regions of a Country
    - b. Migration Within One Region
- D. Folk And Popular Culture
  - 1. Where Do Folk and Popular Cultures Originate and Diffuse?
    - a. Origin of Folk and Popular Culture
    - b. Diffusion of Folk and Popular Cultures
  - 2. Why Is Folk Culture Clustered?
    - a. Isolation Promotes Cultural Diversity
    - b. Influence of Physical Environment
  - 3. Why Is Popular Culture Widely Distributed?
    - a. Diffusion of Popular Housing, Clothing and Food
    - b. Role of Television in Diffusing Popular Culture
  - 4. Why Does Globalization of Popular Culture Cause Problems?
    - a. Threat to Folk Culture
    - b. Environmental Impact of Popular Culture
- E. Language
  - 1. Where Are English-Language Speakers Distributed?
    - a. Origin and Diffusion of English
    - b. Dialects of English
  - 2. Why Is English Related to Other Languages?
    - a. Indo-European Branches
    - b. Origin and Diffusion of Indo-European
  - 3. Where Are Other Language Families Distributed?
    - a. Classification of Languages
    - b. Distribution of Language Families
  - 4. Why Do People Preserve Local Languages?
    - a. Preserving Language Diversity
    - b. Global Dominance of English
- F. Religion
  - 1. Where Are Religions Distributed?
    - a. Universalizing Religions
    - b. Ethnic Religions
  - 2. Why Do Religions Have Different Distributions?
    - a. Origin of Religions
    - b. Diffusion of Religions
    - c. Holy Places
    - d. The Calendar
  - 3. Why Do Religions Organize Space in Distinctive Patterns?
    - a. Places of Worship
    - b. Sacred Space
    - c. Administration of Space
  - 4. Why Do Territorial Conflicts Arise Among Religious Groups?
    - a. Religion Versus Governmental Policies
    - b. Religion Versus Religion
- G. Ethnicity
  - 1. Where Are Ethnicities Distributed?
    - a. Distribution of Ethnicities in the United States
    - b. Differentiating Ethnicity and Race
  - 2. Why Have Ethnicities Been Transformed Into Nationalities?
    - a. Rise of Nationalities
    - b. Multinational States
    - c. Revival of Ethnic Identity
  - 3. Why Do Ethnicities Clash?
    - a. Ethnic Competition to Dominate Nationality
    - b. Dividing Ethnicities Among More than One State
  - 4. What Is Ethnic Cleansing?
    - a. Ethnic Cleansing in Yugoslavia
    - b. Ethnic Cleansing in Central Africa
- H. Political Geography
  - 1. Where Are States Located?
    - a. Problems of Defining States
    - b. Development of the State Concept
  - 2. Why Do Boundaries Cause Problems?
    - a. Shapes of States
    - b. Types of Boundaries
    - c. Boundaries Inside States
  - 3. Why Do States Cooperate With Each Other?
    - a. Political and Military Cooperation
    - b. Economic Cooperation
  - 4. Why Has Terrorism Increased?
    - a. Terrorism by Individuals and Organizations
    - b. State Support for Terrorism
- I. Development
  - 1. Why Does Development Vary Among Countries?
    - a. Economic Indicators of Development
    - b. Social Indicators of Development

- c. Demographic Indicators of Development
- 2. Where Are More and Less Developed Countries Distributed?
  - a. More Developed Regions
  - b. Less Developed Regions
- 3. Where Does Level of Development Vary by Gender?
  - a. Gender-Related Development Index
  - b. Gender Empowerment
- 4. Why Do Less Developed Countries Face Obstacles To Development?
  - a. Development Through Self-Sufficiency
  - b. Development Through International Trade
  - c. Financing Development
- J. Agriculture
  - 1. Where Did Agriculture Originate?
    - a. Origins of Agriculture
    - b. Location of Agricultural Hearths
    - c. Classifying Agricultural Regions
  - 2. Where Are Agricultural Regions in Less Developed Countries?
    - a. Shifting Cultivation
    - b. Pastoral Nomadism
    - c. Intensive Subsistence Agriculture
  - 3. Where Are Agricultural Regions in More Developed Countries?
    - a. Mixed Crop and Livestock Farming
    - b. Dairy Farming
    - c. Grain Farming
    - d. Livestock Ranching
    - e. Mediterranean Agriculture
    - f. Commerical Gardening and Fruit Farming
    - g. Plantation Farming
  - 4. Why Do Farmers Face Economic Difficulties?
    - a. Issues for Commercial Farmers
    - b. Issues for Subsistence Farmers
    - c. Strategies to Increase Food Supply
- K. Industry
  - 1. Where Did Industry Originate?
    - a. The Industrial Revolution
    - b. Diffusion of the Industrial Revolution
  - 2. Where Is Industry Distributed?
    - a. North America
    - b. Europe
    - c. East Asia
  - 3. Why Do Industries Have Different Distributions?
    - a. Situation Factors
    - b. Site Factors
    - c. Obstacles to Optimum Location
  - 4. Why Do Industries Face Problems?
    - a. Industrial Problems from a Global Perspective
    - b. Industrial Problems in More Developed Countries
    - c. Industrial Problems in Less Developed Countries
- L. Services
  - 1. Where Did Services Originate?
    - a. Types of Services
    - b. Origin of Services
    - c. Services in Rural Settlements
  - 2. Why Are Consumer Services Distributed in a Regular Pattern?
    - a. Central Place Theory
    - b. Market Area Analysis
    - c. Hierarchy of Services and Settlements
  - 3. Why Do Business Services Locate in Large Settlements?
    - a. World Cities
    - b. Hierarchy of Business Services
    - c. Economic Base of Settlements
  - 4. Why Do Services Cluster Downtown?
    - a. Central Business District
    - b. Suburbanization of Businesses
- M. Urban Patterns
  - 1. Where Have Urban Areas Grown?
    - a. Urbanization
    - b. Defining Urban Settlements
  - 2. Where Are People Distributed Within Urban Areas?
    - a. Three Models of Urban Structure
    - b. Use of the Models Outside North America
  - 3. Why Do Inner Cities Have Distinctive Problems?
    - a. Inner-City Physical Problems
    - b. Inner-City Social Problems
    - c. Inner-City Economic Problems
  - 4. Why Do Suburbs Have Distinctive Problems?
    - a. The Peripheral Model
    - b. Contribution of Transportation to Suburbanization
    - c. Local Government Fragmentation
- N. Resource Issues
  - 1. Why Are Resources Being Depleted?
    - a. Energy Resources
    - b. Mineral Resources
  - 2. Why Are Resources Being Polluted?
    - a. Air Pollution
    - b. Water Pollution
    - c. Land Pollution
  - 3. Why Are Resources Renewable?
    - a. Renewing Resources
    - b. Recycling Resources

- 4. Why Can Resources Be Conserved?
  - a. Sustainable Development
  - b. Biodiversity

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** - 1. White Board Presentation 2. PowerPoint Presentations 3. Computer Programs such as Google Earth 4. Slides 5. Videos
- B. CD-ROM 1. Human Geography in Action
- C. Applications
- D. **Discussion** - 1. 10 Minute Student Discussions, Beginning of Class 2. Topical Current Events

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Weekly Homework Assignments from Textbook and Student Workbook which includes answering questions at the end of the chapter.
- B. Project having students identify different cultural regions for different countries, states of the USA or cities around the world.
  - 1. Students will have to create, identify and describe each of the cultural regions in detail.
- C. Term paper related to some relevant cultural geography topic.

VIII. EVALUATION:

**Methods/Frequency**

- A. Home Work
  - weekly
- B. Other
  - 1. bi-weekly or tri-weekly quizzes and final exam (or) two or three midterm (unit) exams and final exam
  - 2. projects and/or term paper to be assigned at the discretion of the instructor

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Rubenstein, J.M. (2019). *Contemporary Human Geography* (4th ed.). Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Higher Education.
- 2. Rubenstein, J.M. (2017). *Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography* (12 ed.). Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Higher Education.
- 3. Fouberg, E. (2015). *Human Geography: People, Places and Culture* (11 ed.). New York, New York: John Wiley.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Computer access with Google Earth