

Geography 10100–02 People and their Environment

FALL 2022

Tuesday & Friday, 11:30am – 12:45pm

Instructor: Joao M. Da Silva
Email: jdasilva@gradcenter.cuny.edu
Office hours: Tuesdays 2:30-3:30pm
Room: West Bldg W415

SYLLABUS

Course overview

Required Textbook – *Introduction to Geography: People, Places & Environment (6th Edition)* by Dahlman, Carl T. & Renwick, William H. (2015)

All course materials, sign-up sheets, and evaluations will be posted on the course Blackboard page.

This class is in-person and synchronous.

Geography is a dynamic and interdisciplinary field of study that draws from both the physical and social sciences to examine the relationships between people and their environment. This course is a geographic approach to current issues impacting our communities and our planet considering their environmental, cultural, economic, political, and social implications. We will learn and discuss the tools (maps, GIS, Remote sensing, etc.), fundamental terms, concepts, and theories of Geography and explore how they are applied in everyday life. We will also examine the relationships between the natural, social, and built environments.

Course objectives and learning outcomes:

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. Understand the links among people, places, and environments
2. Define and describe the field of geography and identify its major subfields.
3. Describe the basic concepts, terms, and theories of Geography.
4. Explain physical and social phenomena through a geographic lens.
5. Identify the tools and techniques used for geographic data collection and analysis.

Email Policy

I encourage you to email me with any questions about the class. Please make sure to review the syllabus and Blackboard announcements prior to contacting me.

When you email me, you must do so from your @myhunter email address. You must also sign your message with your name as it appears in CUNYFirst. **Please include "GEOG 10100" in your subject line.** You should expect a response from me within 24 hours. But allow 48 hours over the weekend and/or observed holidays. Remember that professionalism is expected in the communication through email (I encourage you to check the website [netiquette](#) if you have any doubt).

Grading Criteria

Final grades for the course will be determined according to the following percentages:

Attendance/Participation (30%)

Attendance is mandatory and class participation is expected and is an important component of this class as you will take part in graded group projects throughout the semester. Up to two excused absences will be accepted, a third absence requires a doctor's note or similar documented reason (exceptions will be made for special circumstances). Unexcused absences will count as – 0.5 point from the attendance/participation grade. Students who miss class sessions are responsible for keeping up to date with class content and due dates listed in this syllabus and course blackboard.

Quizzes (40%)

There will be four short quizzes over the semester. The quizzes will be multiple choice and will cover the material in the textbook and class discussions. They will be accessible on Blackboard for over a period of 7 days. Students who miss a quiz due to specific circumstances will have the possibility to ask for an exceptional re-opening of the quiz.

Final Exam (30%)

The final exam will be a combination of multiple choice and short-answer questions, which will be based on the content you have read throughout the semester and discussed in our sessions.

Policy on the Giving of IN as a Grade

No incompletes (IN) for this course are given unless there are exceptional and documented individual circumstances. If you miss a quiz, you must provide a documented reason and plan to make up the work. If you have

a documented need for an extended absence due to illness or family emergency, you must plan with the instructor to complete an appropriate alternative assignment for any missed graded activities.

Learning Environment:

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with your legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

You are expected to treat your instructor and all other participants in the course with courtesy and respect in all interactions. Your comments to others should be factual, constructive, and free from harassing statements. You are encouraged to disagree with other students, but such disagreements need to be based upon facts and documentation (rather than prejudices and personalities).

Academic Integrity

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

ADA Policy

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: [\(212\) 772- 4857](tel:2127724857) or [\(212\) 650-3230](tel:2126503230).

Mental Health:

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are resources available at Hunter College to assist you. The Counseling and Wellness Services division at Student Affairs offer free and confidential short-term counseling to students. Please visit their website for all contact information:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/cws/counselingservices/welcome>.

Hunter College Policy on Sexual Misconduct:

In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

- a. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444).
- b. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose (jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry (colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123.

CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct Link:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/diversityandcompliance/repository/files/cuny-policy-on-sexual-misconduct.pdf>

Syllabus Change Policy

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. Updates will be posted regularly on Blackboard.

Preliminary Course Schedule

Date	Day	Topic
August 26	Friday	Class introduction +
August 30	Tuesday	Chapter 1 - Introduction to Geography
September 6	Tuesday	Introduction to Geography
September 9	Friday	Ch. 2 - Weather, Climate and Climate Change
September 13	Tuesday	Weather, Climate and Climate Change
September 16	Friday	Ch. 3 - Landforms
September 20	Tuesday	Landforms
September 23	Friday	Ch. 4 - Biosphere
September 30	Friday	Biosphere
October 11	Tuesday	Ch. 5 - Earth's Resources and Environmental Protections
October 14	Friday	Earth's Resources and Environmental Protections
October 18	Tuesday	Ch. 6 - Population and Migration

October 21	Friday	Population and Migration
October 25	Tuesday	Population and Migration
October 28	Friday	Ch. 7 - Cultural Geography
November 1	Tuesday	Cultural Geography
November 4	Friday	Ch. 8 - Languages and Religions
November 8	Tuesday	Languages and Religions
November 11	Friday	Languages and Religions
November 15	Tuesday	Ch. 9 - Food and Agriculture
November 18	Friday	Food and Agriculture
November 22	Tuesday	Ch. 10 - Cities and Urbanization
November 29	Tuesday	Cities and Urbanization
December 2	Friday	Ch. 11 - A World of States
December 5	Tuesday	A World of States
December 9	Friday	Ch. 12 - Economy and Development
December 13	Tuesday	Economy and Development
December 16	Friday	No class - Final Exam Week until 12/21

Quiz and Exams: will go live on Blackboard after class sessions on the first date indicated below, and will close on the second date. Students will have 7 days to complete each quiz and 7 days for the final exam.

Tuesday, September 13

First Quiz – Chapters 1 and 2.

Tuesday, October 18

Second Quiz – Chapters 3, 4, and 5

Tuesday, November 8

Third Quiz – Chapter 6,7,and 8

Tuesday, December 5

Fourth Quiz – Chapters 9,10 and 11

Friday, December 16

Final Exam – All chapters.

Group Activities/Presentations:

At the beginning of the semester, a sign-up sheet will be shared where each student can choose a topic/date to participate in a group presentation. Each presentation will be based on content from the chapter(s) we are reading in that week's class. Participants in each group will collaborate on a 15-20 minute

presentation on a designated topic and will be expected to produce (a slide or slides) and discuss their findings and answer questions. More specific instructions will be given at the start of the semester.

--- CONTENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE ---