

# GEOG 101 People and Their Environment

## Spring 2017

### Course Information

- GEOG 101 People and Their Environment
- **Fully Online**

### Contact Information

- Professor Ines Miyares
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- Office: HN 1045
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- Office Hours: Thursday 4:30-5:30 or by appointment
- Department Office: HN1006

### Course Materials

- *Introduction to Geography: People, Places and Environment* 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, by C. T. Dahlman and W. H. Renwick. 2014. Prentice Hall. This book is available in hard copy or e-book or rentable. You do NOT need to order the Mastering edition.

### Course Description

- Our earth is an integrated system of natural environments, built environments, and social and cultural environments. Geographers study all of these various environments in each of the specialty areas of geography. This semester we will be examining these environments and their interactions with each other through this introductory geography course.
- I believe the best way for you to learn geography is to both learn the content and apply the content to the real world. Each week you will be posting responses to questions in the textbook. In some cases, you will be applying information available from the media or the book to the content of the week. Some weeks you will be making landscape observations.
- By the end of this course, you should have a better understanding of the complex and dynamic interrelations between and within human and non-human systems on earth. These systems include climate, landforms, ecosystems, cultures, economics, food, cities, politics, and more. Moreover, you will be equipped with tools, frameworks, and strategies that can be used in both everyday life and in future classes to examine and analyze the world around us, from our neighborhoods to the global economy.
- By the end of this course, you should:
  - Be able to describe the major content areas of geography, and have the prerequisite knowledge to take more advanced geography courses
  - Be able to make informed observations about the built and natural environments around us
  - Be able to make informed decisions concerning some of the key geographic environmental and social justice issues facing our world today

- Be able to think and write critically about these issues

### Requirements:

- Weekly Assignments: 50%
- Lecture quizzes: 20%
- Midterm: 15%
- Final: 15%

### Weekly Assignments:

- Each week, you have a folder with lecture videos for the week, lecture quizzes based on the videos, and reading and writing assignments
- All assignments are to be uploaded to Blackboard. All assignments will run through SafeAssign to check for plagiarism.
- Points will be deducted for late assignments.
- Assignments will not be accepted if more than two weeks late unless you have an excellent documentable excuse.
- I do not give incompletes except in cases of legitimate documentable emergencies.

### Grading Policy:

- Each writing assignment will be worth 10 points and will have a specified due date noted on Blackboard. To earn the full 10 points, you must complete the assignment as given, written in correct formal English, and showing evidence of critical thinking. There will be significant deductions in points given for late assignments. No points will be given for an assignment submitted more than two weeks late unless you have given me an *excellent* excuse. ***I do not give incompletes.*** The only students who will be eligible to request a grade of Cr/NC at the end of the semester are those who have completed **ALL** assignments in a *timely manner* (that is, each one *on or before its due date!*).

### Course Calendar & Content

#### Schedule:

Below I have listed the topics for each week and the corresponding readings and weekly assignment. You will find the assignments chapter tabs in Blackboard. **They are due by Friday at 10 pm unless otherwise noted or unless Blackboard is down.**

Week 1: Introduction to course. Introduction to geography. Ch 1.  
 Week 2: Weather and Climate. Ch 2.  
 Week 3: Continue Weather and Climate. Ch 2  
 Week 4: Landforms. Ch 3.  
 Week 5: The Biosphere. Ch. 4.  
 Week 6: Start Population.  
 Week 7: Continue Population. Ch 5.

#### Week 8: Midterm Exam

Week 9: Cultural Geography. Ch. 6, 7.  
 Week 10: Geography of Food. Ch 8.  
 Week 11: Resources and Environmental Stewardship. Ch. 9.

- Week 12: Cities and Urbanization. Ch 10.  
Week 13: Nations, States, and Nation-States. Ch. 11.  
Week 14: Economic Geography and Globalization Ch 12-13  
Week 15: Final exam

**Essential Policy Information:**

- As stated above, I do not give incompletes unless you have an excellent documentable reason
- Significantly late assignments will only be accepted with an excellent documentable reason
- If you have a situation that arises that may result in a late assignment, please do not be afraid to contact me
- Email Policy: I do check my email regularly. I do expect professional respectful legitimate English via email. I am not your buddy or your Facebook friend; I am your professor. Please no text message shorthand.

**Hunter College Policy on 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 or (212) 650-3230. If you have a documentable disability or condition that makes it impossible to complete an assignment as written, please contact me immediately so an alternative can be arranged. However, I have had blind students who completed the field assignments with assistance.

**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.
- If changes are made to the syllabus, I will notify you via email through Blackboard.