

## Spring 2014 GEOG101

### PEOPLE AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

GEOG 101.00 Section 003

Tuesday and Friday 11:10-12-25 HN 1036

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Email: mpavlov@hunter.cuny.edu (See [Email rules](#))  
BlackBoard login page: <http://bb.hunter.cuny.edu>  
Course webpage: <http://www.geo.hunter.cuny.edu/~mpavlov/Courses/G101/G101S01syl.htm>

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### Course description

How do geographers represent, analyze, and understand the world, people, and places they live in? This course introduces students to environmental and human geography and its unique language - maps.

### Objectives

The course is a prerequisite to many geography major courses. It covers a broad range of topics, from plate tectonics and climate change to food security, urbanization, and international economy, all needed for understanding the complex processes shaping our present and future. It fulfills Stage 2 (Broad Exposure) Group B: Social Science but does NOT fulfill the "W" requirement.

### Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this course students will (1) understand the global patterns of natural resources, population, economy, and culture, as well as contemporary political, urban, and social processes; (2)

will learn how to read and interpret maps and become familiar with the role of geospatial technologies in shaping contemporary geographic knowledge; (3) will become familiar with different explanations for today's world problems, inequalities, and power relations; (4) will develop a sense of geography as an academic discipline and an applied field that provides students with important analytical and professional skills.

## Textbooks

- 1) Textbook is: Dahlman, Renwick and Bergman. Introduction to Geography: People, Places & Environment, 6/E. 2014. ISBN-10: 0321843339 • ISBN-13: 9780321843333  
Prentice Hall (\$140-\$160 at major retailers like Barnes and Noble) but \$125 net price at pearsonhighered.com. In addition, less expensive a la carte (loose leaf), digital version (\$60-80), and on-line access (\$38) are available from this website.
- 2) **Atlas:** An up to date atlas is needed to prepare for map quizzes.

Additional texts will be assigned in class.

## Instructional Technologies

BlackBoard is a major instructional technology to be used in this class. All communication regarding the course including the assignments, grades, and **due dates** for all assignments and quizzes as well as group emails will be via BlackBoard. In order to log in on BB you must have a CUNY portal account. All students enrolled in Hunter courses can establish this account by following the instructions on BB page (bb.hunter.cuny.edu). If you cannot see this class in your BB account, contact BB help (see its webpage).

## Evaluation

See Black Board for your current grades.

Quizzes, map quizzes and assignments	40%
Midterm Exam 1	20%
Midterm Exam 2	20%
Final exam	20%

## Exams

- **Exams** include multiple choice, true-false, and short-answer, and map-based questions.
- You are responsible for all lecture AND textbook material, which complement each other.
- All missed tests and assignments will result in zero points. **No makeup exams or tests** are allowed.
- Approximate dates are posted on the schedule below.

## Map quizzes

- A map quiz involves matching geographic place names (e.g. names of mountain ranges, rivers, seas, countries, cities, etc.) and their locations on a blank map. Blank maps will be provided to you via BB. [Use an Atlas \(see below\)](#) to locate places and then mark them on the blank maps. During a quiz, you will be asked to indicate the location of several geographic objects with a number or a letter. Map quiz takes only a few minutes in the beginning of a class.

- Dates will be announced two weeks in advance.

### **Chapter quizzes**

With on-line access, students will take quizzes in the end of most chapters. This is the great way to prepare for the exams too.

### **Map assignments and other exercises**

There will be a total of 4 map-based, internet-based and textbook-based assignments (including a “critical thinking essay” and a video response), 5% each. Map-based assignments will help you to learn how to use maps. All maps will be from the edition of the textbook indicated above. Assignments are due before class. Most assignments should be submitted digitally via blackboard but in some cases you will need to submit paper printouts. Late assignments will be marked down; after the results are handed out, they will not be accepted and result in zero points. All submitted assignments must be written in standard English. **Hand written essays will not be accepted.** The assignments will be distributed throughout the semester.

### **Extra-credit policy**

Some assignments include extra-credit questions. A limited number of extra-credit assignments will be available.

### **Credit/No credit requirements**

The requirements for CR/NC for a final grade are as follows. A student who requests CR/NC must have completed all of the requirements for the course, including taking the final exam. That includes all writing assignments, all quizzes, exams, lab work, assignments, etc., prior to the end of the semester. The student must present the CR/NC form BEFORE the final exam begins, not during, not after. Both the student and the instructor sign the form and each keeps their copy. Forms are available at OASIS. Students on probation are not eligible for CR/NC. Students are allowed only four (4) CR/NC for their entire Hunter career.

### **Email rules**

Email is a major way to get in touch outside my office hours. The rules for contacting me via email are as follows: (1) please include GEOG101 in the subject line; (2) please sign your full name, I will not answer unsigned email messages; (3) I usually answer within one or two days except for the weekends.

### **Classroom rules**

- All policies regarding exams and assignments stated on this syllabus will be strictly followed.
- During the lecture please no talking and no cell phones. Please raise your hand to ask questions. Disruptive behavior is subject to university policies.
- The lecture begins and ends as stated on the syllabus. All announcements are made in the beginning of the class. Late arrivals and early departures are disruptive.

### **Hunter College statement 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 CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College

Academic Integrity Procedures. Plagiarism, dishonesty, or cheating in any portion of the work required for this course will be punished to the full extent allowed according to Hunter College regulations.

### **Writing and reading assistance**

The Hunter College Reading and Writing Center provides students with tutoring and help services across the disciplines and at all academic levels. Students who need assistance can be directed to <http://rwc.hunter.cuny.edu> or sent to Room 416 Thomas Hunter Hall, telephone 212-772-4212. These services are free to registered students.

### **ADA Policy (from Office of AccessABILITY)**

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.

### **Calendar for Spring 2014**

Class meeting dates are 01/28/2014 - 05/13/2014

F, Jan 28	First class
T, Feb 18	Last day to drop for 25% tuition refund; Last day to drop without the grade of "W"
T Feb 21	No class, Monday schedule
Apr 15, 18, 22	No class, Spring recess
T May 13	Last class
TBA	Final exam

### **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. These changes will be announced in class and via Blackboard.

### **Course outline (Order subject to change. See BB for a weekly schedule)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Lecture topics:</b>
Week 1	Introduction, Ch 1.
Week 2	Maps and GIS Ch.1
Week 3	Landforms Ch.2
Week 4	Weather and climate. Global climate change. Ch.3 Biochemical cycles and the biosphere Ch. 4

Week 5	Exam 1
Week 6	Earth resources and environmental protection Ch 5
Week 7	Population and migration Ch 6
Week 8	Cultural geography Ch 7
Week 9	Languages and religion Ch 8
Week 10	Exam 2
Week 11	Food and agriculture Ch 9
Week 12	Cities and urbanization Ch 10
Week 13	Economy and development Ch 12
Week 14	A world of states. Political geography Ch 11
Final exam	TBA

### Using atlas to find geographic objects

There are at least two ways to find place names in an atlas when preparing for map quizzes:

1. If you know that the Appalachian mountains are in North America but are not sure about their precise location.

Go to the table of contents, find the page number for the regional map of North America, and look for the Appalachians on this map. To find a smaller mountain range such as Green Mountains in the state of Vermont, you need a more detailed regional map of the North-Eastern United States.

2. If you do not know at all where the Appalachians are or when you are short on time.

Go to the Index section of the Atlas. In this section, all placenames are listed alphabetically with an indication of a page number of the map that best depicts this place. Find the Appalachians in the index, go to the indicated page, and look for this mountain range on this map.

3. You can use on-line atlases and maps, of course. But remember they are not as comprehensive as printed maps. Also, do not forget to zoom out to get a bigger view of where on Earth :) different geographic objects (rivers, states, cities, mountains) are.

## LINKS OF INTEREST

[World flags](#)

[Measurement systems](#) (US custom to metric conversion).

[Geologic time table](#)

Link to Chernobyl photo trip <http://www.angelfire.com/extreme4/kiddofspeed/>

The story of stuff by Annie Leonard <http://www.storyofstuff.com/>