SPRING 2010
GEOG 101 - People and Their Environment
Wednesday 10:10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Revised 01/27/10

Instructor: Paramita Sen

Contact: paramita 7_5@ hotmail.com Please make sure that you include the phrase “GEOG 101” in the subject line of any email message you send me. Also make sure to sign your message with your full name. I will not respond to unsigned email messages.

Office hours: Wednesday 1:00 to 1:30 pm or by appointment.
Lecture hall: Hunter North 1022.
Black Board web site: http://bb.hunter.cuny.edu/
For any technical snag email: bb@hunter.cuny.edu.

Additional reading will be handed out in class or posted in BB.
Recommended: Goode’s World Atlas, 19th edition or later

Hunter College’s Policy on Academic Integrity
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. 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. The policy is available at http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/senate/assets/Documents/Hunter%20College%20Policy%20on%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf

Class Format
The class will be a combination of lecture and discussion. Participation in the discussion process is highly encouraged as a small portion of your grade will depend on your class participation.

Course Overview
This course is an introduction to the discipline of geography and emphasis is placed on basic concepts. It has been designed to give you a general outline on topics ranging from landforms, atmosphere, as well as the societal concept of geography. We will discuss societal and developmental factors as driving forces of human transformation of the environment. A new college –wide theme, ‘New York minute,’ will be incorporated into the course and your will complete a project based on this concept. Enough time will be given for completion of the project and the idea will be discussed in the class.
Exams and grading
There will be three exams and three map quizzes over the course of the semester. I will not drop your lowest grade so it is mandatory that you all exams and quizzes.

- 7 Quizzes 4% each (28%) ☺
- 3 Exams 10% each (30%).
- 3 Map quizzes 3% each (9%).
- Attendance 1% ☇
- Final Exam 20%
- Project Report 10%
- Participation/attendance up to 2% ☼

Material to be covered in the weekly quiz will be discussed the week before and will be posted on Blackboard.

The format of the exams will be multiple choice questions. There will be one exam which requires BB posting. The questions will emphasize basic geographic concepts. There can be one or two short essay style questions in the exams also.

Extra Credit
For extra credit, there will be an optional assignment you can turn in during the last two weeks of the semester. Extra credit work can earn you up to five (5) extra points on your final semester average. This way you might be able to go from a B- to a B or an A- to an A or an A to an A+. But handing in an extra credit assignment does not mean you will get all five (5) points. In some cases the work might be worth only two (2) points. Quality work is essential. To qualify for the extra credit assignments you must have taken all quizzes and exams. Do not ask me for additional extra credit work, especially if you have excessive absences or lateness.

Syllabus for Exam 1
1. Concepts of Geography (chapter1)
2. Landforms (chapter 3)
3. Weather and Climate (chapter4)

Syllabus for Exam 2
1. Natural Resources (chapter5)
2. Population Geography (chapter6)
3. Cultural Geography (chapter7)

Syllabus for Exam 3
1. Economic Geography (chapter 10)
2. Globalization (chapter8)

Taking exams and quizzes on the scheduled date is a must. There will be no make up of any missed exam or quiz unless your absence was the result of a documented emergency or illness. Proper documentation must be produced and presented to me. Makeup exams and/or quizzes will be given at a mutually convenient date and time.
Hunter College Grading System
97.5–100 = A+ 92.5–97.4 = A 90.0–92.4 = A– 87.5–89.9 = B+
82.5–87.4 = B 80.0–82.4 = B– 77.5–79.9 = C+ 70.0–77.4 = C
60.0–69.9 = D <60.0 F

Credit/No Credit Policy
To receive a CR/NC you must have completed all the course requirements (exams, quizzes, etc.) and have requested the CR/NC option prior to beginning your final exam. If you choose this option, then all grades above 70% will be assigned CR and below 69.9% will be assigned NC unless you choose the assign D option for grades between 60 and 69.9%. There is no option of getting Incompletes.

Technology Policy
During class time there will be absolutely no cell phone use (talking, texting, emailing, IMing, etc). No iPods or other musical devices nor ear buds or ear phones will be allowed. You will be reminded of the policy once, after that you will be asked to leave the classroom. The use of electronic dictionaries will be permitted but only during lectures, NOT during a quiz or an exam.

Attendance Policy
Attendance will be taken in the class on a regular basis. It is your responsibility to attend and take notes in the class. Regular attendance can only increase your comprehension and your final course grade. Please make sure to get to class on time. Your late arrival can disrupt my lecture as and possibly interrupt students who will have to move in order for you to sit down. Subways and buses can and will be late or stalled. Leave plenty of time to get to class.

Course Calendar
03/02 Introduction to the course, some core geographic concepts
02/10 Rocks and different landforms
02/17 Weather and climate
02/24 **FIRST EXAM, Population Geography**
03/03 Population Geography
03/10 Geography of Natural Resources
03/17 Geography of Natural Resource, Economic Geography
03/24 Economic Geography
03/31 Spring Recess
04/07 **SECOND EXAM, Urban Geography**
04/14 Urban Geography
04/21 Concept of the city
04/28 **THIRD EXAM, Cultural Geography**
05/05 Cultural Geography
05/12 Wrap Up!!!!

**FINAL EXAM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010, 10:10 am - 12:10 am**