

GEOG 221 Economic Geography Fall 2009

Prof. Francesca TC Manning

Email: fmanning@gc.cuny.edu

(if you email me, please write "GEOG 221" in the subject line)

Course Page: geog221hunter.wordpress.com

Office: TBA

Office Hours: By Appointment

Scheduled Class Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm

Overview:

This class will be an introduction to the field of Economic Geography, which will include an exploration of the history of the discipline of "economics" as well as "geography", and a rigorous global approach to the subjects. We will take care to understand the history of the development of economic thought, leading up to and transformed by today's crisis, as well as the particularly geographical nature of economic phenomena and processes, and the immense contributions geographers have made to the understanding of economics. We will focus on the dominant form of global economic activity today, which is capitalistic, and the way this economic structure plays out through different geographies at different historical moments.

Readings:

The following book is on order at Shakespeare Books, and will be available on reserve at the Hunter Library:

Foley, Duncan, 2008. *Adam's Fallacy: A Guide to Economic Theology*. Harvard University Press. ISBN 9780674027299.

Additional readings will be available to download from the course website:
geog221hunter.wordpress.com

Assignments and Grading:

Reading Questions (Due: in class most Mondays): 25%

Take-Home Test #1 (Due: October 8, in class): 25%

Take-Home Test #2 (Due: TBA): 25%

Proposal for Final Project/Written Assignment (Due: November 2): No Grade, but you will not get a final grade unless you turn this in.

Final Project/Written Assignment (Due: December 10): 25%

Reading Questions are very easy and simple, and they make up a large part of your final grade. They should be two to four sentences about some part of the readings you have done for that day. They should be thoughtful and show that you have read the readings with care. They are due most weeks on Mondays at the beginning of class (note: you can hand-write your questions as long as they are legible and I can read them). These allow me to see what you are thinking about and responding to in the readings, so that I can address issues that interest or confuse people. The grading is straightforward, you can get either an A, a C, or an F for you question.

A if you clearly did the readings and thought about it.

C if it is clear that you did some but not all of the reading – for instance, if your question is answered within the reading itself.

F if you clearly did not do the readings or you did not turn in a question at all.

Because there are many weeks and many questions to turn in, you will have 2 free questions. That

means if you turn all your questions in and get two C's, I will drop them. Or, if you don't turn in 2 questions, you will not be penalized.

Take-Home Tests: These tests will be made up of 5 to 8 short-answer questions covering a range of important topics in the field of Economic Geography that we will have covered in class. They are open-book and you are welcome to work together, but everyone must write their own responses, in their own words.

Written Assignment: Will be 6-8 pages, due at the end of term. You will receive a handout on the final project with suggested topics later on in the semester. Everyone must turn in a proposal for their final project in order to receive a grade.

Late Grades and Incompletes: Don't do it. I discourage incompletes, and I won't accept late grades without a very, very good excuse (computer problems don't count).

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.

This policy is available at:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/senate/assets/Documents/Hunter%20College%20Policy>