GEOG 101
ANALYTICAL ESSAYS

Please read this completely and carefully. Your grade will depend on it.

The purposes of the analytical essays are to test your knowledge of “the Five Themes of Geography” and to emphasize the relevance of geography to contemporary events. You are required to submit two (2) analytical essays. The first is due in class on March 13, 2006 and is worth 10% of your final grade. The second is due in class on May 8, 2006 and is worth another 10% of your final grade. Late submissions will be penalized by a full letter grade deduction. The definition of late is anytime after the end of class on the respective due dates.

Each essay must be based on a regular news article (not an editorial, letter or advertisement) in The New York Times. Articles from other newspapers or periodicals are not acceptable. The article you choose must be (a) at least 500 words in length; (b) have some relation to geography; and (c) be taken from any section of the Times except the Sunday Travel Section. Be sure to cut out the article, which must be submitted along with your essay. Other instructions follow.

First Analytical Essay (due in class on March 13th)

- It must be based on an article published after January 25, 2006.
- The essay must be at least two full pages in length.
- The essay must be typed or word-processed. Use 12-point type.
- Use double-spacing.
- Begin your essay by summarizing in your own words the content of the article. This discussion should take up no more than the first page of your essay.
- The remainder of the essay must describe how the article relates to geography. To do this, identify four of the Five Themes of Geography (Location, Place, Human-Environment Interaction, Movement and Region) that are evident in the article, and discuss how each theme relates to the article’s content. Be specific. Begin this portion of your essay by writing “Geography is evident in this article, which demonstrates the themes of . . . .” Here you should mention the 4 themes you have identified. Each theme should be the subject of separate paragraphs that clearly identify the theme in question, and how that theme is apparent in the article.
- Staple the original copy of the article to your essay (no photocopies allowed).

Second Analytical Essay (due in class on May 8th)

- The essay must be based on an article published after March 13, 2006.
- Otherwise, the instructions for this essay are the same as above.