

Eastern Illinois University
Revised Course Proposal
GEG 1100G, Cultural Geography

1. Catalog Description

GEG 1100G. Cultural Geography. (3-0-3) F,S, Su. Cultural Geog. A geographic survey of population, agriculture, politics, language, religion, folk and popular culture, ethnicity, and cities, focusing on origins, processes, and patterns in western and non-western cultures. Writing active.

2. Student learning objectives

a. To achieve goals of general education and university wide assessment:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to write and speak effectively with the completion of the writing active segment of the Cultural Geography course and through active participation in class discussions. Students will complete writing exercises based on map questions, map activities, quizzes and writing of short papers (2-3 pages). Students will participate in discussions about reading, lecture and multimedia material. (writing, speaking, critical thinking)
- Students will demonstrate understanding of geography as an integrating and synthesizing spatial discipline that examines human environmental interactions over time. Students' understanding will be demonstrated through analytical thinking on exams. Students must be able to synthesize and coordinate specific geographic relationships between the cultural and physical landscape to answer analytical questions. (critical thinking)
- Students will have an opportunity to develop as responsible citizens through an understanding of the evolution of spatial patterns of cultural diversity including the cultural origins, diffusion and study of maps of population, agriculture, politics, language, religion, folk culture, popular culture, diversity of national origins and ethnicity, and the evolution of cities and industry. Quizzes and tests will assess students' level of understanding. (critical thinking and responsible citizenship)
- Students will learn to understand, appreciate, and respect the diverse cultures of the world through class discussions on diverse cultural issues. Tests will assess students' level of understanding. (speaking and critical thinking)
- Students will learn to understand, appreciate, and respect the diverse cultures of the world through reading and writing assignments. Tests will assess students' level of understanding. (writing and critical thinking)
- Students will learn to understand, appreciate, and respect the diverse cultures of the world through viewing multi media presentations (slides, videos, power point presentations) that provide an awareness and understanding of the global geographic foundations of modern civilizations. Quizzes following multimedia presentations will assess students' level of understanding. (critical thinking and responsible citizenship)

b. Additional objectives

- Students will gain the requisite background for taking more advanced course work in geography and other disciplines through the completion of this introductory course.
- Students will learn to appreciate cultural diversity in their personal and professional lives.
- Students will learn to understand the importance of global cooperation.

3. Course outline

Week 1 Themes In Cultural Geography

Culture Regions

Formal Cultural Regions, Functional Cultural Regions, and Vernacular or Perceptual Culture Regions

Cultural Diffusion

Expansion and Relocation Diffusion, and Barriers to Diffusion

Cultural Ecology

Environmental Determinism, Possibilism, Cultural Adaptation, Environmental Perception

Cultural Integration

Cultural Landscape

Artificial Landscapes, Relics as Diagnostic Clues to Past Cultures and Diffusion

Week 2 Population Geography

Demographic Regions

Population Density, Patterns of Natality, Patterns of Mortality, The Population Explosion

Diffusion In Population Geography

Migration

Population Ecology

Environmental Influences on Population Distribution

Cultural Integration and Population Patterns

Cultural, Political, and Economic Factors

Settlement Patterns in the Landscape

Clustered Rural Settlement and Dispersed Rural Settlement

Week 3 Agricultural Geography

Agricultural Regions

Paddy Rice Farming

Nomadic Herding

Plantation Agriculture

Commercial Dairying

Commercial Grain Farming

Agricultural Diffusion

Origin and Diffusion of Plant Domestication

Origin and Diffusion of Animal Domestication

Agricultural Ecology

Agriculturalists as Modifiers of the Environment

Cultural Integration in Agriculture

The von Thunen Model

Agricultural Landscapes

Traditional Survey, Cadastral, and Field Patterns

Week 4 Discussion, guest lecture, video and review EXAM 1

Week 5 Political Geography

Political Culture Regions

Voting Patterns in the Eastern United States

Independent States

Diffusion of Political Innovations

Nation Building as Expansion and Relocation Diffusion

- Diffusion of Nationalism in Africa
- Diffusion of Suffrage for Women In the United States
- Political Ecology
 - Halford McKinder and the Heartland Theory
- Cultural Integration in Political Geography
- Political Landscapes
 - Political Symbolism

Week 6 Geography of Languages

- Linguistic Culture Regions
 - Language Families
 - English Dialects In the United States
- Linguistic Diffusion
 - Indo-European Diffusion
- Linguistic Ecology
 - Environment and Vocabulary
 - The Environment: Guide for Migration
- Linguistic Cultural Integration
 - Language and Conquest
 - Language and Nationalism
- Linguistic Landscapes
 - Toponyms
 - Generic Toponyms of the United States

Week 7 Geography of Religions

- Religious Culture Regions
 - Christianity
 - Islam
 - Judaism
 - Hinduism
 - Buddhism
- Religious Diffusion
 - The Semitic Religious Hearth
 - The Indus-Ganges Hearth
- Religious Ecology
 - The Environment and Monotheism
- Cultural Integration in Religion
 - Religion and Economy
- Religious Landscapes
 - Religious Structures
 - Landscapes of the Dead

Week 8 Discussion, guest lecture, video and review EXAM 2

Week 9 Folk Geography

- Folk Culture Regions
 - Material Folk Culture Regions in Eastern North America
- Folk Cultural Diffusion
- Folk Ecology
- Cultural Integration in Folk Geography

Folk Architecture in the Cultural Landscape
Common Housing in Eastern North America and Illinois

Week 10 Popular Culture Geography

Popular Culture Regions
Food and Drink
Formal Culture Regions in American Sport
Cultural Diffusion in Popular Culture
The Ecology of Popular Culture
Cultural Integration In Popular Culture
Landscapes of Popular Culture
Elitist and Amenity Landscapes
The American Scene

Week 11 Ethnic Geography

Ethnic Regions
Ethnic Culture Regions In Rural North America
Urban Ethnic Neighborhoods
Cultural Diffusion and Ethnic Groups
Ethnic Migration
Cultural Ecology and Ethnicity
Cultural Integration and Ethnicity
America's Ethnic Landscapes
Illinois German Region

**Week 12 Discussion, guest lecture, video and review
EXAM 3**

Week 13 The City in Time and Space

Culture Regions
Origin and Diffusion of the City
Models of Urban Origins
Urban Hearth Areas
Evolution of Urban Landscapes
Greek City
Roman Cities
Medieval City
The Renaissance and Baroque Periods
The Industrial City and Urbanization
The Landscape of Non-Western Cities
The Ecology of Urban Location
Cultural Integration in Urban Geography

Week 14 The Urban Mosaic

Urban Culture Regions
Social Areas
Cultural Diffusion in the City
Centralization
Decentralization
The Cultural Ecology of the City
Urban Weather and Climate

Cultural Integration and Models of the City

Concentric Zone Model

Sector Model

Multiple Nuclei Model

Urban Landscapes

Themes in Townscape Study

Perception of the City

Components of the Landscape

Week 15 Industrial Geography

Industrial Regions

Diffusion of the Industrial Revolution

Industrial Ecology

Industrial Cultural Integration

Integration Industrial Landscapes

EXAM 4 (Final Exam Week)

4. Evaluation of student learning

- a. Students' 1) ability to write and speak effectively, 2) ability to understand geography as an integrating and synthesizing spatial discipline, 3) development as responsible citizens, and 4) appreciation for diverse cultures of the world, will be evaluated on the basis of performance on four examinations (objective), ten map exercises or quizzes, writing of short papers, and class discussions based on assigned readings from the text and other supplementary material. As an example, students will write a short paper about ethnicity and geographic relationships identified in the lyrics of a song of their choice. Alternate semesters, instead of writing about ethnicity and geographic relationships found in song lyrics, students will write about geographic relationships observed in a movie set at an international location. Other essays involve scholarly journal articles or relevant newspaper articles with an oral presentation and class discussion of the topic.

Specific allocation of points are as follows:

Exams 4 @ 100 points each -- 80%

Writing assignments 100 points -- 20% (map exercises, quizzes, in class short papers, discussions, etc.)

- b. This course satisfies the "writing active" criterion by employing writing exercises based on map questions, quizzes, and occasional writing of short essays.

5. Rationale

- a. This course will be placed in the Social and Behavioral Sciences segment of the general education program. Cultural Geography examines the technological or developed regions and the developing regions of the world from a topical and comparative perspective. International knowledge and understanding develop at various geographic scales such as local, region, country and world and the topics of Cultural Geography, such as population issues, agriculture, the city, religion, geolinguistics, geopolitics, ethnicity, industry and folk and popular culture are examined and compared at these differing geographic scales. Geography at the general education level provides the perspectives, information, concepts, and skills to understand ourselves, our relationship to the earth, the similarities and differences of the cultures of countries and regions, and our interrelationships with other peoples of the world.

This is also an appropriate course for the Cultural Diversity requirement of the general education program. Cultural geography develops a sense of dynamic change and a sense of cultural consciousness of one's own culture and how it compares with the similarities and differences of other cultures. In today's highly interdependent world, a university education should develop in each individual the realization that his or her own culture is both unique and ordinary. Students' understanding of their own culture improves through the study of other cultures, thereby acquiring international awareness in a learning matrix of interactions and interrelationships. Cultural Geography serves a pivotal role in molding international knowledge and understanding necessary in broadly-educated, responsible citizens who are prepared to serve and to lead in a free society.

- b. This is an introductory level course and has no prerequisites.
- c. This is a revision of GEG 1100C and should maintain the same curriculum i.d. as GEG 1100C.
- d. This is a required course for the geography major and the geography minor for teacher certification. It may also count in the geography minor.

6. Implementation

- a. Faculty member initially assigned: any member of the geography staff.
- b. Text: The Human Mosaic: A Thematic Introduction to Cultural Geography by Terry G. Jordan and Lester Rowntree, New York: Addison Wesley Longman Publishers, 1999 (8th ed.)
Goode's World Atlas, Chicago: Rand McNally and Company, 1999 (latest edition)
- c. There is a \$ 3 approved course charge.
- d. Term course first offered as revised: Spring 2001

7. Community College Transfer

A community college course may be judged equivalent to this course.

8. Date approved by the Department of Geology and Geography: 2/18/2000

9. Date approved by the College of Sciences Curriculum Committee: 3/24/2000

10. Date approved by CAA: 10/19/2000

Departmental contact person: Dr. Alan Baharlou, Chairperson

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