

GEOG 1400: Human Geography

Fall 2016

MBH 101

MW 1:25-2:45pm

Instructor:

Richard Medina

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(801) 585-6245

Office Hours: W 10:00-11:30am or by appointment

Textbook:

Bjelland, Montello, Fellman, Getis, and Getis (2013) *Human Geography: Landscapes of Human Activities, 12th Edition* McGraw-Hill.

Course Overview:

Human geography is the study of human activities, structures, organization, and relationships in our world. This course will focus on human existence in, and use of, space and place. Current events will be discussed as they relate to course material. Key geographic concepts will be covered throughout the semester. Class discussion will be an integral part of this course.

This course meets two days per week and should be attended regularly. Approximately 75% of the test information will come from the book, and 25% from the lectures.

Course Objectives:

- Students will understand human geography topics pertaining to society, culture, conflict, economy, politics, and human/environment interactions.
- Use current events to illustrate human geography concepts and spatial theories
- Introduce basic cartographic concepts
- Prepare students for formal research through instruction on paper structures, citations, and bibliographies.

Evaluation:

Student evaluation is based on four exams and a term paper. Grades are weighted as follows:

4 Exams -----	60% (15% each)
Homework -----	20%
Term Paper -----	<u>20%</u>
	100%

You will not be graded on participation, but it will definitely NOT hurt your grade.

Tentative schedule of exams:

Exam 1 – Monday, September 14th

Exam 2 – Wednesday, October 5th

Exam 3 – Monday, November 14th

Exam 4 – Monday, December 12th, 1:00 – 3:00pm

Grading will be as follows:

A+	97% - 100%
A	93% - 96%
<u>A-</u>	<u>90% - 92%</u>
B+	87% - 89%
B	83% - 86%
<u>B-</u>	<u>80% - 82%</u>
C+	77% - 79%
C	73% - 76%
<u>C-</u>	<u>70% - 72%</u>
<u>D</u>	<u>60% - 69%</u>
F	less than 60%

Exams:

Exams will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and true/false. More specific descriptions will be given prior to each exam. In the case of emergency or illness, an exam may be rescheduled. Notice of absence prior to the exam will be required for rescheduling. If I cannot read your writing, no points will be given.

Homework:

Assignments are assigned throughout the semester. If you miss class it is your responsibility to find out if anything has been assigned, requirements, and due dates. Homework assignments typically consist of brief write-ups on various topics.

Term Paper:

A study on any Human Geography topic will be acceptable. The only requirement is that the topic must express “spatial thinking.” Try to find a topic you have an interest in. Topics must be selected and approved by the instructor by the 6th week of class. The paper should be 3-4 pages in length, not including figures, with 1in margins, single spaced, font size 12. It must display proper use of in-text citations and references. At a minimum, six sources of information should be used, at least three of which should be peer reviewed journal articles. Failure to follow any of these rules will result in substantial grade reductions. The term paper is due on Wednesday, December 7th.

Policies:

- 1) Individual extra credit will not be assigned.
- 2) An "incomplete" will be given only in extreme cases when conditions beyond the student's control require an extended period of absence. Even in this case, at least 80% of the course requirements must be completed.
- 3) Examinations must be taken during scheduled times announced in class. If you have a legitimate excuse (such as medical, family illness or unavoidable work conflicts), you must contact the instructor before the examination. If you do not contact the instructor before the

examination you will not be able to make up the examination unless the circumstances were extreme and contacting the instructor was difficult.

4) Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Penalties may include failure of an assignment, the entire course, and/or the filing of formal charges with appropriate university authorities. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one's work, and plagiarism:

- Cheating involves the unauthorized possession or use of information in an academic exercise, including unauthorized communication with another person during an exercise such as an examination.
- Misrepresenting one's work includes, but is not limited to, representing material prepared by another as one's own work or submitting the same work in more than one course without prior permission of all instructors.
- Plagiarism means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in one's own work offered for academic consideration or public presentation.

Important Dates:

Last day to add, drop (delete), elect CR/NC, or audit classes: Friday October 21st.

Last day to withdraw from classes: Friday, November 11th.

Last Day of Class: Thursday, December 8th

Holidays:

Labor Day: Monday, September 5th

Fall Break: Sun-Sun, October 9-16th

Thanksgiving: Thurs-Fri, November 24-25th

Faculty and Student Responsibilities: The class will follow accepted University of Utah policies and procedures. Please refer to the University of Utah Faculty Handbook (<http://www.admin.utah.edu/fhb/>) and Student Code (<http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>).

Specifically: All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty's responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.

Disability Accommodation: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make

arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Harassment: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

Note: The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification, particularly when the modification is done to rectify an error that would disadvantage the student.