



Introduction to Human Geography

Geography 1020

Welcome to *Geography 1020: Introduction to Human Geography*. This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alterations of the Earth's surface. Throughout the semester students will seek to understand the demographic, agricultural, urban, economic, political, and cultural forces that shape the way that humans interact with one another spatially. By examining maps and other geographical tools students will examine correlations between the physical and human world and the interactions that have shaped our understanding of our planet and human life on it.

UNO Course Description: An introductory course which studies the geography of human activity through a topic by topic coverage of cultural traits and complexes that characterize different societies in the world. Major cultural topics of focus are the geography of population, agricultural systems, settlement, language, religion, political patterns, and man's ways of occupying urban and industrial space, among others.

Human Geography Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course students should be able to:

1. Can apply geographic theories and approaches to understanding to contemporary global and environmental issues.
2. Can explore the relationships between physical systems (land, water and climate) and the nature and organization of human spaces.
3. Can use geographic tools and concepts to understand the relationship between human cultures and environments.
4. Understands the relationship between the methods, themes, theories, and techniques used in the discipline of geography

Required Text:

- Human Geography: Landscapes of Human Activities (13th Edition), Bjelland, Montello, & Getis, McGraw Hill Education



Instructor Information

Instructor: Kyle Tredinnick, M.A.

Email: ktredinnick@unomaha.edu

Office Hours: Wednesday 10:30-11:30 via zoom (or by appointment)

[Join Here](#)

Phone: 402-554-2662 (Office phone for Department of Geography/Geology)

Course Meeting Time: Online (Self-Paced)

Course Structure

The course is divided into three units. The first unit covers general principles of geography and then establishing populations (which encompasses population and migration geography). The second unit focuses on Economic geographies, with a comparative approach towards urban and rural landscapes. The third and final unit looks at cultural and political systems, and their spatial distributions.

Each week will be divided in half for an “A” class and a “B” class, unless otherwise noted in the tentative course schedule below. Each class will have a different theme to it, with associated readings from the textbook, additional readings and resources, and pre-recorded mini-lectures. Students should keep up with the readings and the mini-lectures, the additional resources are meant to deepen students’ understanding of select topics.

Weekly Assignments

Each week (excluding exam weeks) students will have an assignment to complete that supports the topics covered that week. These assignments will include discussions (completed on canvas), map activities, quizzes, and short projects, among other formats. The weekly assignments will be made available on canvas during the length of the unit. Students can complete assignments at their own pace but MUST have all assignments done completed by the end of the day of the unit examination. Students will NOT be able to go back and complete assignments from a particular unit after the day of the end of unit exam. Assignment submission windows will close at 11:59pm on the day of the exam.

Exams

Each end of unit examination will be comprised of multiple choice and short answer styled questions meant to test students’ ability to use information from concepts covered during the unit to answer geographic questions. Exams will consist of two different questions, each comprised of multiple parts for students to complete. Students will have 60 minutes to complete all portions of the exam. If students need special accommodations or time, please inform the instructor before the test day. Be sure to check with the Accessibility Service Center (ASC) with any questions about accommodations. Questions will be focused on concepts covered in that particular unit but may contain (in part) content from previously covered units.

ADD IN THAT THERE WILL BE MULTIPLE CHOICE SECTION AS WELL

Exam Task Verbs:

Identify - prove or indicate and/or establish what something is

Describe – to give an account in words of (someone or something), including all the relevant characteristics, qualities, or events.

Explain – to make (an idea, situation, or problem) clear to someone by describing it in more detail or revealing relevant facts or ideas.

Compare - to estimate, measure, or note the similarity or dissimilarity between.

Course Grading

Grading Scale

98-100 (A+), 93-98 (A), 90-92 (A-), 87-89 (B+), 83-86 (B), 80-82 (B-), etc. < 59 (F)

Grade Breakdown

Your grade for lecture will be based on:

Unit I Exam	50 points	(Chapters 1, 3, 4, 11)
Unit II Exam	50 points	(Chapters 8-10, 13)
Unit III Exam	50 points	(Chapters 2, 6, 7, 12)
<u>Weekly Assignments (Canvas)</u>	<u>140 points</u>	
Total for lecture	300 points	

Please contact me with questions regarding your grade via email to set up a time to discuss your scores via zoom.

Course Policies

Academic Integrity

The University takes the issue of academic integrity very seriously in the maintenance of a fair and equitable learning community. Any students found to be in violation of the Academic Integrity policy will be subject to academic and disciplinary sanctions. Violations include plagiarism, copying or cheating on exams and assignment, fabrication or misrepresentation of work's originality, or any of the other infractions outlined in the [University's Academic Integrity standards](#).

Violations will result in an automatic zero on the given examination or assignment. Repeated offense may result in dismissal (with a grade of F) from the course and potentially further referral to UNO administration.

Accessibility Services

Reasonable accommodations are provided for students who are registered with Accessibility Services Center (ASC) and make their requests sufficiently in advance. For more information, contact ASC (Location: 104 H&K, Phone: 402.554.2872, Email: unoaccessibility@unomaha.edu.)

The Accessibility Services Center (ASC) recognizes that amidst the rolling transition back to campus, some students may still need to exercise physical distancing. This is especially the case for students who have underlying health conditions or who may be taking care of others who are at-risk for COVID-19. Please contact the ASC if there are concerns about on-campus courses and programming related to COVID-19.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Readings(s)
Week 1: 8/23-8/27	1.1 History of Geography	Chapter 1: Introduction – Some Background Basics
	1.2 Five Themes of Geography	Chapter 1: Introduction – Some Background Basics
Week 2: 8/30-9/3	1.3 Cartography and Mapwork	Chapter 1: Introduction – Some Background Basics
	1.4 Geographic Inquiry	Esri: Geographic Inquiry – Thinking Geographically
Week 3: 9/6-9/10	1.5 Population Theories and Models	Chapter 4: Population – World Patterns, Regional Trends
	1.6 Population Policies	Chapter 4: Population – World Patterns, Regional Trends
Week 4: 9/13-9/17	1.7 Migration Theories	Chapter 3: Spatial Interactions and Spatial Behavior
	1.8 Patterns of Migration	Chapter 3: Spatial Interactions and Spatial Behavior
Week 5: 9/20-9/24	1.9 Push & Pull Factors of Migration	Chapter 3: Spatial Interactions and Spatial Behavior
	1.10 Urbanization	Chapter 11: Urban Systems and Urban Structure
Week 6: 9/27-10/1	1.11 Urban Organization & Models	Chapter 11: Urban Systems and Urban Structure
	Unit I Test September 30 th or October 1 st , 2021	
Week 7: 10/4-10/8	2.1 Rural Organization Patterns	Chapter 8: Economic Geography – Primary Activities
	2.2 Natural Resources and Energy	Chapter 8: Economic Geography – Primary Activities
Week 8: 10/11-10/15	2.3 Human Imprint on the Environment	Chapters 13: Human Impacts on the Environment
	2.4 Developments in Agriculture	Chapter 8: Economic Geography – Primary Activities

Week 9: 10/18-10/22	2.5 Spatial Distribution of Agricultural Practices	Chapter 8: Economic Geography – Primary Activities
	2.6 Agricultural Regions	Chapter 8: Economic Geography – Primary Activities
Week 10: 10/25-10/29	2.7 Historical Distributions of Economic Development	Chapter 10: Economic Development and Change
	2.8 Geography of Industrial Development	Chapter 9: Economic Geography – Manufacturing and Services
Week 11: 11/1-11/5	2.9 Measures and Theories of Economic Development	Chapter 10: Economic Development and Change
	Unit II Test November 4 th or 5 th , 2021	Chapters 8, 9, 10, 13
Week 12: 11/8-11/12	3.1 Defining Cultural Geography	Chapter 2: Roots and Meaning of Culture – Introduction Chapter 7: Cultural Identities and Cultural Landscapes – Diversity and Uniformity
	3.2 Cultural Diffusion	Chapter 2: Roots and Meaning of Culture – Introduction
Week 13: 11/15-11/19	3.3 Distributions of Cultural Traits	Chapters 6: Ethnic Geography – Threads of Diversity
	3.4 Culture’s Imprint on the Landscape	Chapter 7: Cultural Identities and Cultural Landscapes – Diversity and Uniformity
Week 14: 11/22-11/25	3.5 Defining Political Geography	Chapter 12: The Political Ordering of Space
	Thanksgiving Break – November 25-28, 2021	
Week 15: 11/29-12-3	3.6 Establishing Borders and Territory	Chapter 12: The Political Ordering of Space
	3.7 State Relationships and Sovereignty	Chapter 12: The Political Ordering of Space
Week 16: 12/6-12/10	3.8 Unifying and Dividing Forces	Chapter 12: The Political Ordering of Space
	Student Study Days – December 9-10, 2021	
Week 17:	Unit III Test December 13 th or 14 th , 2021	Chapters 2, 6, 7, 12

- November 5th is last day to withdraw with a “w”
- Schedule & Topics are tentative and subject to change