

INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Global Patterns and Processes

Spring 2008

Geography 101
180 Science Hall
TR 9:55-10:45

Lecturer: Reece Jones
418 Science Hall
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Office hours: Tuesday 11:00-12:00;
Thursday 2:00-3:00; or by appointment

Welcome to Geography 101!

The purpose of this course is to acquaint you with the field of human geography by exploring the recent global patterns and processes that have come to be known as *globalization*. To do this, we will systematically explore globalization through the use of a series of human geographic 'lenses', including: economic geography, social and cultural geography, population geography, environmental geography, urban geography and political geography/geopolitics. While we will use human geographic lenses to examine 'globalization', similarly, we will study globalization to better understand what we mean by *human geography*. In each unit, you will get a sense of what different research traditions within human geography emphasize, what types of questions researchers from each of these subfields might ask about the world, and what unites these diverse interests as 'human geography.' With respect to what is shared by these perspectives, you will gain an appreciation for what it means to interpret data and trends with a focus on space and scale; the importance of place, environment, boundaries, territory and other elements of geography to human relationships and experiences; as well as attention to mapping and other approaches common to the geographic toolkit.

In short, human geography refers to understanding, interpreting, and representing the human world in ways that emphasize spatial relations, spatial processes, and relationships to the non-human world. You will discover that while economic geographers might ask questions about the location of particular industries, or the effects on trade of new regional institutions such as the European Union or the Central American Free Trade Association, political geographers might focus on territorial conflicts, or the inter-connections between power, place and identity. With respect to globalization, we will investigate spatial patterns related to flows of goods, people, and services, and the ways that local places are changing in relation to global patterns (and vice versa). In addition, we will explore emergent institutions, technologies, and networks that fundamentally change relationships between people and places. In studying these aspects of globalization, we will be particularly attentive to geographic differences, for instance, analyzing the diverse and uneven effects of global economic investment patterns and labor practices. As such, we are interested in understanding the geographically specific forces and actors that contribute to globalization trends (e.g., US-based transnational corporations), just as we are interested in the geographically uneven outcomes of globalization (e.g., socio-spatial inequalities such as uneven access to food, education, jobs, health care, etc.).

Course Readings:

Required Textbook: Paul Knox and Sallie Marston, *Places and Regions in Global Context: Human Geography*, 4th edition (Prentice Hall, 2007). New and used copies of this book are available for purchase at Rainbow Bookstore, on 426 W. Gilman St. (just off State Street). Also note the website for this text: <http://www.prenhall.com/knox/>

Required Articles: A small number of supplemental articles are assigned throughout the semester, which are listed in the detailed schedule below, and are available to you on electronic reserve in College Library via *E-Reserves*.

Current Affairs: It is strongly recommended that you:

- (a) Visit the BBC News web site **daily** given its international focus, and its analytical quality (compared to CNN). The BBC site is available at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/>. I also suggest you watch the BBC News or the News Hour on PBS TV. The News Hour is on at M-F at 6:00 and 11:00 pm, and BBC News is on M-R at 11:00 pm or 12:30 am.
- (b) Read a newspaper with a strong international (versus US) focus on a **daily** basis. If you can afford a newspaper subscription, consider reading the *New York Times* (which is available at a reduced rate in the Memorial Union. You can also access the newspaper free of charge at: <http://www.nytimes.com>), and it is in various UW libraries as well. I also recommend the *International Herald Tribune*. It is available at: <http://www.ihf.com>.

These current affairs resources will be used for exercises in the course, to complement lecture material, and in the exams.

Course Requirements:

Geography 101 is a **Communications B** course, with an emphasis on learning through written and oral communications. As part of the Communications B format, you will be required to complete three primary writing assignments. You will have the opportunity to revise and resubmit the second and third writing assignments. Each of the writing assignments requires that you make effective use of the library resources on campus, and is structured to encourage you to develop your writing skills with an aim toward crafting clear and convincing arguments (rather than summarizing or reporting information). We will focus on citing and bibliographic conventions early in the semester, so please be very attentive to this throughout the research and writing process for each of your assignments. While web research may provide a good place to start to get ideas, all writing assignments

should engage scholarly articles and/or books. Any bibliography that is web-focused will be downgraded. Your TA will discuss appropriate sources with you in section. To work towards the goal of improving your writing, your TAs will also work with you to give you feedback on your work, and you will have the opportunity to revise the second and third writing assignments with the benefit of input from your TA.

In addition to the major writing assignments, there will be a series of smaller assignments given in lecture and section, as well as a midterm and a final examination. The shorter assignments will include participation in two debates, write-ups related to section activities, and peer reviews of your classmates papers. Exams will consist of essay-style questions, as well as some short-answer questions regarding key concepts. Review sessions will be offered prior to each exam.

Throughout the semester, you are required to read the course materials *prior* to the class for which they are assigned, to attend lectures, and to attend and participate in discussion sections. Unlike some other lecture courses, I also expect students to be active during lectures, asking questions, and responding to the questions I ask of you. We realize that students may occasionally miss a lecture or section; however, regular attendance and active participation are critical for success in this course and will be considered in evaluating students.

During class time you will also hear several guest lectures. Videos related to the topics under discussion will also be shown periodically. The guest lectures will focus on substantive issues (e.g., labor markets; migration) as well as the practice of geographically informed research. The exact timing of these guest lectures and videos will be announced as the term proceeds.

As one way to communicate about evolving scheduling issues, readings, and other assignments, I will email you periodically with updates and reminders. You are responsible for checking your email regularly and reading these updates as they may contain information important for completion of course assignments. If you are not a regular email devotee, at a minimum please check your email account at the beginning and end of each week. I will send a test email message to all students before the end of the first week of class. If you do not receive it, please verify that you are officially enrolled in the course and notify your TA.

Please note that I will *not* distribute copies of my PowerPoint course slides via Learn@UW or email. I will, however, distribute study guides just prior to the two exams, as well as relevant handouts throughout the term. The rationale for this policy is to structure the course so that your note-writing abilities are enhanced, and to encourage you to come to class (as the slides only convey some of the content from the lecture). If you missed content on a particular slide, or didn't understand something from lecture, please ask for clarification during the lecture, via email, or during my office hours.

I am always open to feedback, or calls for assistance or advice. Please come to my office hours or make arrangements to meet in my office if there is anything about the course you would like to discuss.

Grading:

Your final grade will consist of the following components:

Writing Assignments (40%)

Essay 1 final paper (3-4 pages)	5%
Essay 2 draft and final paper (5-7 pages)	15%
Essay 3 draft and final paper (8-10 pages)	20%

Essay Exams (35%)

Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	15%

Discussion activities (25%)

Debates, Presentations and Section Activities	15%
Attendance and participation	10%

TOTAL **100%**

Note: late papers will suffer a 10% reduction per day unless unavoidable circumstances arise. In the case of illness, family emergency or other similar circumstance, please contact the Instructor and your TA as soon as possible, preferably before an assignment is due. Please also be aware that if you miss section or lecture for any reason, *you* are responsible for the material covered. Please also note that the UW policy on academic honesty states that students can be expelled for one case of cheating or plagiarism. Your TA will go over appropriate citing practice in section before the first assignment is due. If you have any lingering questions about what is covered, please do not hesitate to ask your TA..

Teaching Assistants (TAs)	Email Address	Discussion Sections
Kara Dempsey (Head TA)	kedempsey@wisc.edu	304 (W 11:00) 305 (W 9:55)
Todd Courtenay	wtcourtenay@wisc.edu	309 (M 2:25) 311 (M 1:20)
Todd Dresser	dresser@wisc.edu	307(T 1:20) 313 (T 11:00)
Po-Yi Hung	hung2@wisc.edu	301 (R 1:20) 306 (R 2:25)
Amanda Kolpin	amandakolpin@gmail.com	303(M 12:05) 308(M 11:00)
Chris Muellerleile	chrismuellerleile@yahoo.com	310 (W 2:25) 314 (W 3:30)

Schedule of Exams and Writing Assignments:

Midterm exam	Mar. 27, 180 Science Hall
Final exam	May 16, 10:05 am, Location TBA
Essay 1 final paper	Week 3 in Discussion Section
Essay 2 draft	Week 5 in Discussion Section
Essay 2 final paper	Week 7 in Discussion Section
Essay 3 proposal	Week 8 in Discussion Section
Essay 3 draft	Week 13 in TA Mailboxes by Friday
Essay 3 final paper	Week 16 in Discussion Section

Summary Schedule of Lecture Topics:

Week 1	Geography and Globalization I
Week 2	Geography and Globalization II
Week 3	Economic Geographies I
Week 4	Economic Geographies II
Week 5	Social and Cultural Geographies I
Week 6	Social and Cultural Geographies II
Week 7	Political Geographies/Geopolitics I
Week 8	Political Geographies/Geopolitics II
Week 9	Spring Break
Week 10	Review and Midterm Exam
Week 11	Population Geographies I
Week 12	Population Geographies II
Week 13	Research and Writing Week
Week 14	Urban Geographies I
Week 15	Urban Geographies II
Week 16	Environmental Geographies and Exam Review

Detailed Schedule:

Week 1 (1/22, 1/24)	Geography and Globalization I
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Readings: Knox and Marston, Chapter 1
 Alan Cochrane and Kathy Pain 2004 “A globalizing society?” (*E Reserves*).

Note: Discussion sections do not meet during week one

Week 2 (1/29, 1/31)	Geography and Globalization II
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Readings: Knox and Marston, Chapter 2
 Alan Cochrane and Kathy Pain 2004 “A globalizing society?” (*E Reserves*).

Note: Essay 1 assigned during discussion section

Week 3 (2/5, 2/7)	Economic Geographies I
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Reading: Knox and Marston, Chapter 7

Note: Essay 1 due in discussion section
 Essay 2 assigned in discussion section

Week 4 (2/12, 2/14)	Economic Geographies II
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Readings: Jamie Peck and Nik Theodore 2001 “Contingent Chicago: Restructuring the spaces of temporary labor” (*E Reserves*).

Note: Guest Lecture (2/12): Professor Jamie Peck
 Essay 1 returned in discussion section
 Debate I in discussion section

Week 5 (2/19, 2/21)	Social and Cultural Geographies I
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Readings: Knox and Marston, Chapter 5

Note: Essay 2 draft due in discussion section
 Peer review activity in discussion section

Week 6 (2/26, 2/28)	Social and Cultural Geographies II
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Readings: Knox and Marston, Chapter 6

Kay Anderson 1987 "The idea of Chinatown: The power of place and institutional practice in the making of a racial category" (*E-Reserves*)

Note: Writing Conferences, discussion sections do not meet

Week 7 (3/4, 3/6)	Political Geography/Geopolitics I
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Readings: Knox and Marston, chapter 9

Klaus Dodds 2003 "Cold War geopolitics" (*E-Reserves*).

Note: Essay 2 final draft due in discussion section

Week 8 (3/11, 3/13)	Political Geography/Geopolitics II
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Readings: Knox and Marston, chapter 9

Klaus Dodds 2003 "Cold War geopolitics" (*E-Reserves*).

Note: Essay 3 proposals due in discussion section

Week 9 (3/18, 3/20)	Spring Break
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Week 10 (3/25, 3/27)	Review and Midterm Exam
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Week 11 (4/1, 4/3)	Population Geographies I
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Readings: Knox and Marston, chapter 3

Note: Midterm exams returned in discussion section

Week 12 (4/8, 4/10)	Population Geographies II
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Readings: Knox and Marston, chapter 3

Week 13 (4/15, 4/17)	Research and Writing Week
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Note: Discussion sections do not meet
 Essay 3 draft to be turned in to TA Mailboxes by Friday at 4:00 pm

Week 14 (4/22, 4/24)	Urban Geographies I
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Readings: Knox and Marston, chapter 10
 Mike Davis 2004 “Planet of slums” (*E-Reserves*).

Note: Essay 3 drafts returned

Week 15 (4/29, 5/1)	Urban Geographies II
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Readings: Knox and Marston, chapter 11
 Michael Watts 2007 “Revolutionary Islam: A geography of modern terror” (*E-Reserves*).

Note: Debate II in discussion section

Week 16, (5/06, 5/08)	Environmental Geographies and Final Exam Review
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Readings: Knox and Marston, chapter 4

Note: Final Essay 3 due

May 16th 10:05 am	FINAL EXAM
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Location to be announced