

GRG305: This Human World

unique # 37725-37780

T/Th 2:00-3:30, room WCH 1.120

Instructor:	Dr. Paul Adams	Office: CLA-3.410
	Phone: 232-1599	Office Hours: T&W 11:00-12:00
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We all know that geography means learning *where* things are. More importantly it means understanding *how* those things got where they are, and *why* they are the way they are. These questions lead us away from simply memorizing place names toward the challenge of in-depth inquiry about the processes behind the patterns. Geographical processes are fundamentally cultural; their roots reach into religion, language, political culture, and built environments, as cultural traits diffuse through space and form culture regions. Geographical processes also reflect the inherent opportunities and constraints offered by natural environments. A major focus of this course is therefore on the patterns and flows that shape the geographies of various aspects of culture, while a secondary focus is human-environment interactions. In regard to both foci we will discuss what is entailed by responsible citizenship.

TEXTBOOK

- *The Human Mosaic*, by Domosh, Neumann, Price & Jordan-Bychkov, 12th Edition.
- Also see Online Supplements at: http://bcs.whfreeman.com/domosh12e/#t_685405

GRADING	
PARTICIPATION A mix of the following: contribution during lectures and discussion sections, in-class projects, quizzes, notes from special events, and randomly sampled attendance.	40 pts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture: 10 pts.• Discussion section: 30 pts.
EXAMS Exams are mostly multiple choice format with a few short answer questions	180 pts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exam 1: 50 pts.• Exam 2: 50 pts.• Final Exam: 80 pts.
PROJECTS This component of the grade see how well you can apply ideas introduced in the lecture through self-directed mapping, research, group problem solving and analytical writing.	80 pts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project 1: 20 pts.• Project 2: 40 pts.• Project 3: 20 pts.
300 pts. total	

CLASS POLICY

Attendance

It will be impossible to do well in this class without physically attending class and sections. Your participation grade will directly reflect your attendance and participation, but will also require you to visit and make use of the website created by the textbook's publisher, W. H. Freeman & Co. If you are sitting in class but are texting or using social media you are not actually in attendance; you are distracted and so are the people around you. Please respond promptly and without argument if asked to turn off your computer, cell phone, or other media.

Reading Assignments

Each reading assignment should be completed *before* the class period in which it is scheduled. Completing readings on time will help you earn participation points.

Late Projects

Projects are due at the time specified on the project handout/web-posting. Late projects will be penalized 10% per weekday (weekends count as one day). Projects may be turned in early. Turn late projects in by handing them to Dr. Adams or using his mail box in the main office, not by slipping them under his door.

Exams

Exams will include topics covered in the lecture, the textbook, the discussion sections, and the projects. Exams may include a mix of multiple choice, true-false, short answer, and essay questions. The Final Exam will be cumulative. "Makeup" exams are not normally given in this class; if you anticipate a schedule conflict with any of the Exam dates, DO NOT TAKE THE COURSE.

Computation of Grades

Grades will be computed on the following scale based on a projected maximum possible score of 300 points:

- 93-100%: A
- 90-92.9%: A-
- 87-89.9%: B+
- 83-86.9%: B
- 80-82.9%: B-
- 77-79.9%: C+
- 73-76.9%: C
- 70-72.9%: C-
- 67-69.9%: D+
- 63-66.9%: D
- 60-62.9%: D-
- 0-59.9%: F

Exams will not be "curved." The actual maximum points used in calculation may be lowered at the professor's discretion. Grades cannot be raised through "extra credit."

Honesty

All work submitted must be your own. You may discuss assignments with other students, but all that you write, map, and turn in should be entirely your creation. If you wish to incorporate someone else's ideas, you must explicitly acknowledge your sources in your paper and place quotes around anything written or otherwise produced by another person, whether it is a published author, journalist, professor, TA, or another student. Plagiarism is a serious offense and may result in partial or total loss of course credit, a permanent record of the offense in your academic file, and other penalties. For more information, refer to UT Student Judicial Services <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/>.

Problems

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic adjustments for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY. You are responsible for bringing any problems, concerns and/or complaints to my attention in sufficient time for me to try to address the concerns. Nothing can be done at the last minute. "I had to work," "I had to babysit," "my car broke down," "my computer crashed," and "my dad bought my plane ticket and he didn't know when the exam was" are not acceptable excuses and will not alter the requirements stated in this syllabus.

Flag

This course carries the Global Cultures flag. Global Cultures courses are designed to increase your familiarity with cultural groups outside the United States. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one non-U.S. cultural group, past or present.

SESSIONS	READINGS	DEADLINES	TOPICS
Aug 29			Introduction to the Class What is Geography?
Sep 3	Ch. 1		Hidden Geographies
Sep 5			Region, Diffusion, and the Cultural Landscape
Sep 10			Globalization
Sep 12	Ch. 2		How to Lie with Maps
Sep 17			Cultural Transformation
Sep 19	Ch. 3	Project 1 Due	What's in an Ad?
Sep 24			Demography: Distributions and Dynamics
Sep 26			Demography: Cultural Factors
Oct 1		EXAM 1	Ch. 1, 2, 3
Oct 3	Ch. 4		Language Struggles and Linguistic Transformation
Oct 8			Communication Technologies Old and New
Oct 10	Ch. 6		Political Geography
Oct 15			Geopolitics and Critical Geopolitics
Oct 17			Above and Below the State
Oct 22	Ch. 7		Religious Realms
Oct 24			Religious Ecology
Oct 29		Project 2 Due	Dharmic Religions
Oct 31			Israel and the Palestinians
Nov 5			Sustainability and Deep Ecology
Nov 7		EXAM 2	Ch. 4, 6, 7
Nov 12	Ch. 9		Economic Geography
Nov 14			Human Impacts on Natural Systems
Nov 19	Ch. 10		Urban Site and Situation
Nov 21	Ch. 11		Urban Morphology
Nov 26			Urban Sprawl
Dec 3		Project 3 Due	Public Space and the Urban Renaissance
Dec 5			Final Thoughts and Careers in Geography
Mon, Dec 16, 2:00-5:00 pm	FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM	Covers all lectures, assigned chapters and projects