

GRG305: This Human World

First Summer Session, 2011

M-F 1:00-2:30, Room 102

Unique Number: 84660

Instructor:	Dr. Paul Adams	Office: GRG-414
	Phone: 232-1599	Office Hours: M-F 1:00-1:30
Teaching Assistant:		

We all know that geography means learning *where* things are but more importantly it means understanding *how* things got where they are, and *why* they are there. Beyond simply memorizing place names we need to inquire deeply into the processes behind spatial patterns, into roots that include religion, language, politics, and the built environment. Geographical processes also reflect and modify the inherent opportunities and constraints offered by the natural environment. This course therefore focuses on the patterns and flows that make culture spatial, while a secondary focus is human-environment interactions. In regard to both foci we take the time to think intensely about what is involved in responsible citizenship.

TEXTBOOK

- *The Human Mosaic*, 11th edition (by Domosh, Neumann, Price and Jordan-Bychkov)
- Online Supplements at: <http://bcs.whfreeman.com/jordan11e/>
- *Student Atlas of World Geography*, 6th edition (by John Allen)

GRADING	
PARTICIPATION This portion of the grade includes a mix of the following: contribution to discussions, in-class activities, quizzes, special events on campus and randomly sampled attendance.	30 pts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation: 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. (Ch. 1-3 + mapping)• Exam 2: 50 pts. (Ch. 4-7)• Final Exam: 80 pts. (cumulative)
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.	90 pts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project 1: 25 pts.• Project 2: 40 pts.• Project 3: 25 pts.
300 pts. total	

CLASS POLICY

Attendance:

It will be impossible to do well in this class without physically attending class. The participation grade will directly reflect your attendance and contribution to class, as well as offering optional credit for attending certain special events in town or on campus, but may also require you to make use of the website created by the textbook's publisher, W. H. Freeman & Co.

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, not by using mail boxes or slipping them under the door.

Exams:

Exams will include topics covered in the lecture, the textbook, the discussion sections, and the projects. Exams will 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:

- 90% and up: A- or A
- 80% to 89%: B-, B or B+
- 70% to 79%: C-, C or C+
- 60% to 69%: D-, D or D+
- 0% to 59%: F

Exams will not be "curved." Fractions of a point will be rounded down. Grades cannot be replaced or 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.

SESSIONS	READINGS	DEADLINES	TOPICS
Jun 2			Introduction to the class What is Geography?
Jun 3			Some Randomly Selected Objects
Jun 6	Ch. 1		Key Geographical Concepts and Terms
Jun 7			The Language of Maps
Jun 8	Ch. 2		Folk and Popular Culture
Jun 9		Project 1 Due	What's in an Ad?
Jun 10	Ch. 3		Demographic Issues
Jun 13			Demographic Issues
Jun 14		EXAM 1	Ch. 1, 2 & 3 + mapping
Jun 15	Ch. 4		The English Language in Time and Space
Jun 16			When Languages Collide
Jun 17	Ch. 6		Political Geography, Microgeographical Processes
Jun 20		Project 2 Due	Geopolitics and Critical Geopolitics
Jun 21			Challenges to the State from Above and Below
Jun 22	Ch. 7		Religious Realms and Religious Ecology
Jun 23			Hinduism, Taoism, Buddhism
Jun 24			Islam
Jun 27			Israel and the Palestinians
Jun 28		EXAM 2	Ch. 4, 5, 6 & 7
Jun 29	Ch. 9		Industrial Sectors and Economic Restructuring
Jun 30			Human Impacts on Natural Systems
Jul 1	Ch. 10	Project 3 Due	The Roots of the City
Jul 4			Urban Site and Situation
Jul 5	Ch. 11		Urban Morphology
Jul 6			The History of Urban Sprawl
July 7	FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM	Covers all CHAPTERS of the book, all lectures, and all projects!