



## SYLLABUS

NORMAN J. RADOW COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ANTHROPOLOGY  
GEOG 1101-03W: INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN GEOGRAPHY  
SUMMER 4-WEEK 1, JUNE 1-29, 2021

## Course Information

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Class meeting time: Online, Asynchronous  
Modality and Location: Online, Asynchronous

## Instructor Information

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**Office Location:** Math & Statistics Building (MS) 236 (a [SafeSpace](#))

**Office phone:** 470-578-4918

**Office Hours:** Virtual via Microsoft Teams

**Preferred method of communication:** Email or D2L Message

**Faculty Web:** <http://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/pmcdan1>

**Email and Classroom Response Times:** I will check my email and D2L messages at least once a day, not including weekends or holidays. Monday through Friday, I will respond to all emails within 24 hours. Over the weekend (starting Friday at 5 p.m.) I will respond to all emails on Monday. Please contact me when you have questions or need clarification. Please refer to the KSU Writing Center [Guide on Writing Professional Emails](#).

*The professor reserves the right to revise this syllabus at his discretion.*

## Course Description

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This course is a survey of global patterns of resources, population, culture, and economic systems. Emphasis is placed upon the factors contributing to these patterns and the distinctions between the technologically advanced and less advanced regions of the world.

**Note:** GEOG 1101 satisfies one of Kennesaw State University's general education program requirements. It addresses the Area E4: Social Sciences general education learning outcome(s). The learning outcome states: Social Sciences: Students analyze the complexity of how historical, economic, and political relationships develop, persist, or change.

**Note:** After completing GEOG 1101, consider the variety of upper-division regional and systematic geography courses, many of which may be taken as upper-division electives in a variety of majors, and are also part of the BA in Geography (has both a fully online option and a traditional face-to-face option), BS in Geospatial Sciences, and Minor in Geography. Learn more about Department of Geography & Anthropology degree, major, minor, and certificate programs at: [radow.kennesaw.edu/geoanth/](http://radow.kennesaw.edu/geoanth/)

## Course Materials

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**Required Texts:** *Human Geography: A Short Introduction*, 2nd edition, by John Rennie Short, Oxford University Press, 2018. ISBN: 9780190679835. Available in a variety of formats: new, used, printed, and/or electronic.

**Recommended Texts:** To add further context to textbook concepts, class discussions, and ongoing current events, a select set of supplemental readings *may* be made available at the discretion of the instructor. These readings may be drawn from newspapers, magazines, academic journals, book chapters, etc., and would be made available to students online via D2L. Please note that every attempt will be made to include the research and work done by researchers and scholars who have contributed to geographic thought who are often underrepresented in academia, including integrating research and readings by scholars of various races and ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, abilities, and other aspects of intersectionality.

**Technology requirements:** You will need access to a computer with an internet connection to access the D2L course site. To view some course materials, you will also need Adobe Reader to view PDF files, MS PowerPoint to view the lecture slides, MS Word or another word processor to view some course documents and to complete the research paper. To function in this online course, you will also need to be able to use basic Internet functions, be familiar with using KSU's Desire2Learn (D2L) online learning management system, and regularly check your KSU email and D2L messages and announcements.

## Learning Outcomes

Successful completion of this course will provide the following learning outcomes. Students will be able to:

1. Identify, describe, and compare the basic patterns related to and the diversity of the environment, culture, population, economic, urban, and political geography found globally and locally through the usage, interpretation, and analysis of data represented on maps.
2. Apply knowledge of basic geographic processes and concepts to the study of the themes of population, culture, environment, development, and economy.
3. Identify, describe, and analyze current events related to the thematic study of topics such as population, culture, economy, environment, and development.
4. Compare and contrast global patterns and broad geographical concepts and how these patterns affect environments and people at the local level, whether in a foreign landscape or their home culture.
5. Identify the importance of geographic knowledge in understanding the everyday functioning of our planet, and its crucial role in informing policy decision-making.
6. Develop abilities to think critically about how various parts of the planet are connected spatially.
7. Practice communicating effectively through written online discussions.

## Course Requirements, Assignments, Evaluation, and Grading Policies

All activity due dates are clearly listed in the chart below, in the module schedule further below in this syllabus, in D2L on each individual activity page, and in the D2L course calendar.

Activity	Points (course percentage)	Due Dates (each activity is due on D2L by 11:59 PM on the date specified)
<b>Exam 1.</b> Covers Chapters 1-6 and 9. The exam consists of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points.	100 points (20 percent)	June 14
<b>Exam 2.</b> Covers Chapters 7-8 and 10-15. The exam is non-cumulative and consists of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points.	100 points (20 percent)	June 21
<b>Exam 3.</b> Covers Chapters 16-18. The exam is non-cumulative and consists of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points.	100 points (20 percent)	June 28
<b>Reading Quizzes.</b> There will be five multiple choice reading quizzes throughout the course, each with 10 questions worth 2 points each for a total of 20 points for each quiz and an overall total of 100 points for the total reading quizzes grade for the course. The overall total reading quiz grade is 20 percent of the final course grade.	100 points (20 percent)	Reading Quiz 1: June 7 Reading Quiz 2: June 12 Reading Quiz 3: June 19 Reading Quiz 4: June 21 Reading Quiz 5: June 24
<b>Discussions.</b> There will be four online discussion forums throughout the course. Each is worth 25 points for a total of 100 points. You must respond in detail (see discussion grading rubric guidelines below) to the discussion topic prompt/question and respond in one paragraph each to at least 2 other classmates' responses to create a dialogue around the topics that the entire class is participating in.	100 points (20 percent)	Discussion 1: June 5 Discussion 2: June 12 Discussion 3: June 19 Discussion 4: June 24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500 points</b>	

Final course grades will be assigned based upon the total points from the items above out of 700 total possible points, computed to a percentage according to the grade guideline below.

Percentage Grade	Letter Grade
90-100	A
80-89	B

70-79	C
60-69	D
59 and below	F

### Grading Rubric for Each Discussion Assignment

	Exemplary	Midpoint	Unsatisfactory
<b>Content</b>	10 points Post contains unique and novel ideas. Shows you have thought critically about the material and addresses all questions in the prompt.	5 points Post is substantial but does not show much critical thinking about the topic. Mainly summarizes the main point or restates what has already been said by others.	0 points Post has little substance, off topic, does not contribute to the discussion.
<b>Reference and Support</b>	5 points The post has clearly and explicitly referenced material to the readings and personal experiences to reinforce the opinion/statements.	2.5 points Some material or personal experiences are referenced.	0 points There is no clear support for the statements.
<b>Length of Post</b>	5 points Post is 350 words or more.	2.5 points Post is 201 to 349 words.	0 points Post is less than 200 words.
<b>Meaningful Responses to Two Other Students' Posts</b>	5 points Two responses are each 50 words or more and show strong evidence of thought.	2.5 points Responses are 25 to 49 words OR don't show strong evidence of thought OR less than two responses.	0 points No response posts.

## Course Policies

**Financial Aid Attendance Compliance:** You are responsible for determining your enrollment status in all classes to protect your financial aid monies. NOT ATTENDING A CLASS FOR WHICH YOU ARE REGISTERED IS NOT THE SAME AS WITHDRAWING FROM THE COURSE. You must complete an online withdrawal to be removed from a course. If you stop attending class but do not complete an online withdrawal BEFORE the last day to drop without academic penalty, you will receive a grade of WF, which counts as an F in calculating your grade point average and counts as a completed course for determining your financial aid award.

## Institutional Policies

Institutional Policies are found at this link: [Federal, BOR, & KSU Course Syllabus Policies](#)

Non-Discrimination Statement: Kennesaw State University (KSU) is committed to maintaining a fair and respectful environment for living, work and study. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, Board of Regents policy, and University policy, the University prohibits harassment of or discrimination against any person because of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, ethnicity or national origin, religion, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status by any member of the KSU Community on campus, in connection with a University program or activity, or in a manner that creates a hostile environment for members of the KSU community.  
<http://diversity.kennesaw.edu/>

## KSU Student Resources

This link contains information on help and resources available to students: [KSU Student Syllabus Resources](#)

## Course Schedule

Below is an outline of the content and activities in each module of the course. Dates below indicate the date the module begins. Due dates are listed within this schedule below and are also listed in the D2L course calendar and on each graded activity item within D2L. All due dates for activities are in Eastern Time and are due by 11:59 PM on D2L on the specified due date.

Week	Modules	Required Reading, General Topics	Activities/Due Dates
<b>Part 1: The Context of Human Geography (Overview of Physical Geography and Human Geography)</b>			
<b>Week 1: June 1-5</b>	<b>0: Start Here</b>  <b>1: Introduction</b>  <b>2: Discipline of Geography</b>	<b>Part 1: The Context of Human Geography (Overview of Physical Geography and Human Geography)</b>  Chapter 1: The Home Planet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Big Picture</li> <li>▪ Physical Geography</li> <li>▪ Plate Tectonics</li> <li>▪ Life on Earth</li> <li>▪ A Humanized World</li> </ul> Chapter 2: The Nature of Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mapping Absolute Space</li> <li>▪ The Shift from Cosmography to Geography</li> <li>▪ Mapping Relative Space</li> <li>▪ Environment and Society</li> <li>▪ Geography and Society</li> <li>▪ Contemporary Debates</li> <li>▪ The Concerns of Human Geography</li> </ul> <b>Due June 5: Discussion 1 (Introduction)</b>	Review syllabus and course requirements  <b>Due June 5:</b>  Discussion 1
<b>Week 2: June 6-12</b>	<b>3: Population Geography</b>  <b>4: Population and Food</b>  <b>5: Population and Resources</b>  <b>6: Population and Environment</b>	<b>Due June 7: Reading Quiz 1</b>  <b>Part 2: People, Resources, and Environment (Population Geography)</b>  Chapter 3: Population Dynamics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Population Demographics</li> <li>▪ The Demographic Transition and its Phases, Problems, and Opportunities</li> </ul> Chapter 9: The Geography of Population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Distribution of Population</li> <li>▪ Population Differences: Gender, Age, Race, and Ethnicity</li> <li>▪ The Movement of Population</li> <li>▪ Human Migration</li> <li>▪ Models of Population Movement</li> </ul> Chapter 4: Population and Food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Population and Agriculture</li> <li>▪ Population and Disease</li> <li>▪ Malthusian Melancholy</li> <li>▪ Hunger, Famine, and Food Insecurity</li> <li>▪ Sustainable Agriculture</li> <li>▪ Questioning the Food Production System</li> </ul> Chapter 5: Population and Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Laws of Resource Use</li> <li>▪ The Limits of Growth?</li> </ul> Chapter 6: People and the Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environment and Cultural Meaning</li> <li>▪ Environmental Impacts on Society</li> </ul>	<b>Due June 7:</b>  Reading Quiz 1 (Chapters 1-2)  <b>Due June 12:</b>  Discussion 2  Reading Quiz 2 (Chapters 3-5 and 9)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Human Impacts and Environmental Change</li> <li>▪ The Anthropocene: Living in a Modified Earth and Socially Constructed Nature</li> </ul> <p><b>Due June 12: Discussion 2 and Reading Quiz 2</b></p>	
<b>Week 3: June 13-19</b>	<p><b>7: Exam 1</b></p> <p><b>8: Economic Geography</b></p> <p><b>9: Cultural Geography</b></p>	<p><b>Due June 14: Exam 1 covering Chapters 1-6 and 9 due by 11:59 PM.</b></p> <p>June 14: Last day to withdraw without academic penalty</p> <p><b>Part 3: The Economic Organization of Space (Economic Geography)</b></p> <p>Chapter 7: The Geography of Three Economic Sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Primary Sector</li> <li>▪ The Secondary Sector</li> <li>▪ The Tertiary Sector</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 8: The Economic Geography of Uneven Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Global Differences</li> <li>▪ Regional Differences</li> <li>▪ The Role of the State</li> <li>▪ Capital and Labor</li> <li>▪ The Rise of Mass Consumption</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 12: Creating a Global Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Space-Time Convergence</li> <li>▪ Three Waves of Globalization</li> <li>▪ Global Shift</li> <li>▪ International Nongovernmental Agencies</li> </ul> <p><b>Part 4: The Cultural Organization of Space (Cultural Geography)</b></p> <p>Chapter 11: The Geography of Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Language of the Local</li> <li>▪ The Distribution of Languages</li> <li>▪ Language and Power</li> <li>▪ The Language of Place</li> <li>▪ The Place of Language</li> <li>▪ The Political Geography of Language</li> <li>▪ Globalization of Language</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 10: The Geography of Religion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Geography of Major Religions</li> <li>▪ The Geographies of Religious Belief</li> <li>▪ The Religious Organization of Space</li> <li>▪ Religion and Society</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 13: The Global Geography of Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cultural Regions</li> <li>▪ Spatial Diffusion</li> <li>▪ Culture as Flow</li> <li>▪ The Global Production of Culture</li> <li>▪ The Commodification of Culture</li> <li>▪ The Myth of Homogeneity</li> </ul> <p><b>Due June 19: Reading Quiz 3 and Discussion 3</b></p>	<p><b>Due June 14:</b></p> <p>Exam 1 (Chapters 1-6 and 9)</p> <p><b>Due June 19:</b></p> <p>Reading Quiz 3 (Chapters 7-8)</p> <p>Discussion 3</p>

<p><b>Week 4: June 20-26</b></p>	<p><b>10: Political Geography</b></p> <p><b>11: Exam 2</b></p> <p><b>12: Urban Geography</b></p> <p><b>13: Urban Networks</b></p> <p><b>14: Urban Structure</b></p>	<p><b>Part 5: The Political Organization of Space (Political Geography)</b></p> <p>Chapter 14: World Orders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Early Empires</li> <li>▪ Modern Empires</li> <li>▪ Global Integration</li> <li>▪ Imperial Overstretch</li> <li>▪ Imperial Disintegration</li> <li>▪ The Clash of Civilizations?</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 15: The Nation-State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Range of States</li> <li>▪ The Rise and Fall of States</li> <li>▪ The Spatial Nature of the State</li> <li>▪ Nation, State, and Minorities</li> <li>▪ The Territory of the State</li> <li>▪ Boundaries and Frontiers</li> <li>▪ Geography of Elections</li> </ul> <p><b>Due June 21: Reading Quiz 4, and Exam 2 covering Chapters 7-8 and 10-15 due by 11:59 PM.</b></p> <p><b>Part 6: The Urban Organization of Space (Urban Geography)</b></p> <p>Chapter 16: The Urban Transformation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The First Urban Revolution</li> <li>▪ The Second Urban Revolution</li> <li>▪ The Third Urban Revolution</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 17: Networks of Cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regional Networks</li> <li>▪ National Networks</li> <li>▪ Global Urban Networks</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 18: The Internal Structure of the City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The City as Investment</li> <li>▪ The City as Residence</li> <li>▪ The City as Social Context</li> <li>▪ The City as Political Arena</li> <li>▪ Changes in the Contemporary City</li> </ul> <p>June 24: Last day of classes for Summer 2021 4-Week I Session.</p> <p><b>Due June 24: Reading Quiz 4 , Exam 2, Reading Quiz 5, and Discussion 4.</b></p>	<p><b>Due June 21:</b></p> <p>Reading Quiz 4 (Chapters 10-14)</p> <p>Exam 2 (Chapters 7-8 and 10-15)</p> <p><b>Due June 24:</b></p> <p>Reading Quiz 5 (Chapters 15-17)</p> <p>Discussion 4</p>
<p><b>Week 5: June 27-29</b></p>	<p><b>15: Exam 3</b></p>	<p><b>Exam 3 (Final Exam) covering Chapters 16-18</b></p> <p><b>Due June 28: Exam 3 (Final Exam) due by 11:59 PM.</b></p>	<p><b>Due June 28:</b></p> <p>Exam 3 (Chapters 16-18)</p>

The following is information about upper-division courses that go into much more detail related to the different general topic areas covered in this GEOG 1101 Introduction to Human Geography survey course.

**Part 2: People, Resources, and Environment (Population Geography). If this section of content is of further interest, consider:**

**GEOG 3345: Population Geography:** This course examines key issues that affect population patterns and change at different geographic scales, including fertility, mortality, demographic change, race and ethnicity, internal and international migration, refugee movement, and internal displacement. Students gain a theoretical framework to understand local, national, regional, and global population dynamics, and an applied framework to assess contemporary issues such as population growth, labor migration, refugee resettlement, immigration policy, and transnational identity.

**GEOG 3349: Health Geography:** The geography of health is a thriving area of study that considers the impact of natural, built, and social environments on human health. This course introduces students to three geographical contributions to health studies. First, it emphasizes the importance of ecological approaches to health, which consider interactions between humans and their environments, including topics such as how climate change might influence disease distributions, and how the built environment can influence patterns of physical activity. A second focus is social theory, exploring how aspects such as race, socioeconomic status, and identity play a critical role in influencing human health. A third section of the course considers how spatial methods (cartography, GIS, and spatial statistics) can help answer health-related questions such as the global and local impacts of a pandemic.

**GEOG 3700: Introduction to Environmental Studies:** This course is designed to give students an overview of the human dimensions of US environmental issues and is a core course for the environmental studies minor. From a geographical perspective, the course explores how US environmental laws, ethics, viewpoints and economics interact, shape, and manifest themselves across the landscape. Students will be introduced to technologies, such as geographic information systems and satellite images, used by geographers to study environmental issues. The course will examine spatial patterns arising from the ways in which we manage our natural resources and environment. Natural resources such as water, air, soil, energy and fossil fuels will be used as examples in the discussion of spatial patterns arising from resource extraction, transportation and use.

**GEOG 3710: Local and Global Sustainability:** This course is a critical review of the concept of sustainability and sustainable development in theory and practice. Students analyze ideological arguments, sustainability indicators and other tools, and case studies of sustainability projects worldwide. Students examine different interpretations of sustainability across the globe with special attention given to how sustainability is viewed and implemented in both the developed (core) and developing (periphery) regions.

**Part 3: The Economic Organization of Space (Economic Geography). If this section of content is of further interest, consider:**

**GEOG 3330: Economic Geography:** A geographic analysis of global resources and economic growth. The underlying theme of the course is the impact of space (location, distance, area, boundaries) on economic decision-making. Topics to be discussed include population, transportation, rural and urban land use, industrial location, natural resource management, and development/underdevelopment. Differing spatial theories will be employed to explain the global economy in transition.

**Part 4: The Cultural Organization of Space (Cultural Geography). If this section of content is of further interest, consider:**

**GEOG 3340: Cultural Geography:** A thematic approach is applied to analyze human cultures, to examine world cultural regions, to note the spread of cultural traits, to interpret interactions between culture and environment, and to appreciate multiple traits of cultures and cultural landscapes. The five themes of region, diffusion, ecology, integration, and landscape are used to explore historical and contemporary issues of population, agriculture, politics, language, religion, ethnicity, popular culture, and urban spaces. The philosophy of the course is based on the premise that the built environment is a spatial expression of the beliefs, attitudes, and practices of a people.

**Part 5: The Political Organization of Space (Political Geography). If this section of content is of further interest, consider:**

**GEOG 3320: Political Geography:** This course is intended to explore the following concepts and issues from a geographical perspective: territoriality, theories of the state, spatial expressions of ideology, boundary issues, imperialism, geopolitics, nationalism, electoral geography, national identity, religion and governing power in a spatial context, and cultural and/or economic hegemony.

**Part 6: The Urban Organization of Space (Urban Geography). If this section of content is of further interest, consider:**

**GEOG 3300: Urban Geography:** An analysis of the location and distribution of urban centers, urban land uses and the geographical aspects of general urban issues.

**Note: If you're interested in studying all topics from this course in further detail focused on a specific world region in a future semester, consider upper division regional geography courses:**

**GEOG 3312: Geography of Europe:** A geographical survey of Europe and its environs, with emphasis on the tremendous diversity found in both the physical and human geography of the region. Economic, political and cultural geography are examined within the framework of the forces that are rapidly restructuring the landscapes of Eastern and Western Europe.

**GEOG 3350: Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa:** A spatial survey that focuses on the physical, historical, cultural, and economic forces at work on the African continent, south of the Sahara. Special emphasis is placed on the roles of the natural environment, population geography, historical geography, agriculture, economic development, and other factors that shape the landscapes of Sub-Saharan Africa.

**GEOG 3360: Geography of Asia:** This course is designed as a survey of the physical and cultural geography of the Asian region. Students will be provided with an overview of Asian landform features and climate coupled with a discussion of human interaction with a variety of Asian landscapes in terms of historical, political, economic, religious, and ethnic factors using geographic and cartographic analytical techniques.

**GEOG 3370: Geography of Latin America and the Caribbean:** This course studies the major physical, cultural and geopolitical sub-regions in Latin America and the Caribbean. In-depth geographic awareness and knowledge of the Latin American and Caribbean region is gained from the study of physical landscapes, natural hazards, economics, historical geography, environmental and resource issues, cultures and societies, urbanization, development, current events, and prospects for the future.

**GEOG 3380: Geography of North America:** A geographical survey of North America emphasizing the significant diversity found in both the physical and human geography of the region. Past, current and changing locational arrangements of people and resources are examined as they relate to economic, political, urban and cultural geographic perspectives within the framework of the forces that have created the variety of landscapes of the North American continent.

**GEOG 3390: Geography of the Middle East and North Africa:** This course is a spatial survey that focuses on the physical, historical, cultural, and economic forces at work in the Middle East & North Africa. Special emphasis is placed on the roles of the natural environment, demography, historical geography, agriculture, economic development, and other factors that shape the landscapes of this particular region.