

## **SURVEY OF GEOGRAPHY: INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY (GEO 100)**

**Dr. Kumkum Bhattacharyya, Ph.D**

**Winter, 2006  
5 Credits Bldg. 26, Rm. 213  
M-Th, 12.10-1.14 pm  
Office: Bldg. 16, Room 3**

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**Office Hours: 11-12 pm. M-Th  
or by appointment**



**Do not let it pass by----- learn it**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Survey of Geography: Introduction to Geography 100 is a 5-credit course, designed to acquaint students with the basic principles of geography, as well as the major tools and techniques of the field i.e., cartography, remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS). Geography, as a holistic discipline, is concerned with the distributions of all sorts of phenomena, both human and physical, and with the interactions between and among those phenomena. There are, therefore, three fundamental properties of Introduction to Geography: First, geography examines the interrelationships between humans and their natural environment, second, the basic principles of geography can be studied in your home town and even in your campus. And third modern geography is dynamic. Introduction to Geography 100 provides an overview of physical geography and human geography and attempts to help you answer three interrelated questions of geography ----

- ▶ What is where?
- ▶ Why it is there?
- ▶ Why do I care?

## **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

1. Bergman, E.F and Renwick, W.H. 2005 *Introduction to Geography: People, places and environment*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Prentice Hall.
2. Mapping Workbook: Michael H. Madsen, 2005. Prentice Hall

Access to an atlas is recommended.

3. Atlas of World Geography, The Rand McNally paperback is good

## **ADDITIONAL CLASS MATERIALS:**

Students will need to take notes every day so bring **notepaper and a pen/marker**. You must have a **folder with pockets** to arrange your notes.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**--Grading is on a 500-point scale, allocated as follows:

- Quizzes 5 × 25 pts: 125 pts, lowest score dropped
- Midterm Exam: 100 pts
- Final Exam: 150 pts
- Written Assignments: 50 pts
- Map Workbook: 25 pts
- Participation & Attendance: 50 pts

▶ There will be five quizzes. Quizzes include Multiple Choice, Matching, Short Answer, True/False and Map quiz. Quizzes may be given at the beginning or end of the class and will not take very long. In class quizzes are closed book.

▶ Midterm Exam and Final Exam will test your knowledge of all materials from the lectures, readings and video/films. The exam format will consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer and Essay questions. The exact format of examinations will be announced during the week prior to the examinations.

▶ Written Assignment overview will be handed out in the second week of the class

▶ Attendance is very important. Students are expected to attend all classes. I record attendance everyday. Students who do not attend class regularly will not do well in this course. Please make every effort to come to class on time. Unexcused absences always affect the final grade negatively. The class ends at 1.14 pm, so do not begin packing up materials until the appropriate time as it disturbs other students and are impolite behavior.

► Active participation is essential. Do not interfere with the aptitude of others to hear or contribute in class. I strongly encourage students to share their knowledge and experience of other places to enrich students and make the class enjoyable.

**MISSED or LATE ASSIGNMENTS:** All miss or late assignments (except the Final and Map quiz Exam) can be turn in with 50 % late penalty. There are no make-up exams unless under extraordinary circumstances.

**GRADING SCALE:**

Students should keep all returned assignments. Your frequent grade updates will be given to inform you where you stand. After the final exam your total percentage of points earned will be converted into a decimal grade, as indicated below:

4.0 = 95-100 % 475 + points	3.2 = 87	2.4 = 79	1.6 = 71	0.8 = 63
3.9 = 94	3.1 = 86	2.3 = 78	1.5 = 70% 350 pts	0.7 = 62% 310 pts
3.8 = 93	3.0 = 85% 425 pts	2.2 = 77	1.4 = 69	0.6 = Failing
3.7 = 92	2.9 = 84	2.1 = 76	1.3 = 68	0.5 = Failing
3.6 = 91	2.8 = 83	2.0 = 75% 375 pts	1.2 = 67	0.4 = Failing
3.5 = 90% 450 pts	2.7 = 82	1.9 = 74	1.1 = 66	0.3 = Failing
3.4 = 89	2.6 = 81	1.8 = 73	1.0 = 65% 325 pts	0.2 = Failing
3.3 = 88	2.5 = 80% 400 pts	1.7 = 72	0.9 = 64	0.1 = Failing

**To earn a grade of 4.0 you need to:**

1. Complete all assignments 2. Produce work of high quality 3. Assume a leadership role in the class. 4. Earn at least 95% (475/500 points). No bonus points may be included as part of the 475 points.

**To earn a grade of 3.0- 3.9, you need to:**

2. Complete all assignments 2. Produce work of good quality. 3. Earn at least 85% (425/500 points). No bonus points may be included as part of the 425 points.

**To earn a grade of 2.0- 2.9, you need to:**

3. Turn in all assignments 2. Produce work of average quality. 3. Earn at least 75% (375/500 points). Up to 25 bonus points can be included as part of the 375 points.

**To earn a passing grade of 0.7, you need to:**

4. Turn in all assignments 2. Produce work of possible quality. 3. Earn at least 65% (325/500 points). Up to 25 bonus points can be included as part of the 325 points.

**Be advised: Try to get at least 1.0. A grade of 0.7 only gives you credit for the class at Highline Community College. This grade will not transfer to a 4-year school, and will not earn credit at most high schools.**

**POINTS TO REMEMBER:**

I have a generous bonus point policy. You may earn up to 25 bonus points (5% of the total grade) to help you pass. However, be advised that I will not add any bonus points to your score if you are not attentive and disciplined in class and if you don't turn regular assignments in time.

**COURSE GOALS AND POLICIES:**

**Course Goals for every student in this class.**

1. Achieve a high level of basic geographic literacy, including an understanding of the major tools and techniques of the field i.e., cartography, remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS).
2. Learn to describe major physical, social, economic and demographic forces that shape the characteristics of the earth's surface.
3. Cultivate geographic skills through understanding, collecting, analyzing and interpreting information about the earth's dynamic environment.
4. Develop general skills needed for success in college and in the work world, including critical and creative thinking, oral and written communications, and technological expertise.
5. Build up habits to learn about various people and cultures of the world to better survive in a dynamic environment.

**In order to create and maintain an atmosphere conducive to attaining our goals, this class abides by five policies.**

1. Arrive on time prepared to do the scheduled activities during the entire class.
2. Conduct yourself with maturity and personal self-management at all times.
3. Do the best work and go over what you have learned in class
4. Be attentive, disciplined and active in class and perform non-class related activities elsewhere.
5. Respect yourself, your colleagues and your instructor.

**As your instructor, I commit to helping every student achieve the class goals by:**

1. Being enthusiastically organized for each class.
2. Implement the class policies.
3. Returning graded work within one week or less.
4. Starting class on time each day with enthusiasm.
5. Treating every student with fairness and respect.

Peer and community support are powerful incentive for appropriate behavior. Therefore, I will note when the class is successfully following the policies. Students ignoring the class policies risk losing that day's attendance points.

Note: Please refer to the Student's Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, p. 8-9 for a comprehensive discussion of policies developed for the campus community.

**WORK EXPECTATION:**

A typical college class requires two hours of "homework" for every one hour spent in class. (You spend about 4 hours a week in this class, so theoretically you would spend about 8 hours a week outside of this class working on the course). If you subscribe to this theory you will be very successful in this class.

**LETTER OF ACCOMMODATION:**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability; if you have emergency or medical information to share with the instructor; or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please provide the instructor with a Letter of Accommodation from the Office of Access Services (located in Building 6 in the Student Development Center).

**PLAGIARISM:**

All forms of **cheating and plagiarism** are absolutely forbidden. If you are caught cheating, you will obtain a failing grade and be subject to HCC penalties. Cheating on exams or plagiarism in written assignments will result in a zero score for the assignment.

**TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Lecture Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Important dates</b>
1	Jan 3	T	Introduction to course  Introduction to Geography	Ch1 Appendix 1	
	Jan 4	W	Introduction to Geography	Ch 1 Appendix 1	
	Jan 5	Th	Introduction to Geography	Ch1	
	Jan 9	M	Introduction to Geography	Ch1	
2	Jan 10	T	Weather and Climate	Ch. 2	
	Jan 11	W	Weather and Climate	Ch. 2	
	Jan 12	Th	Weather and Climate	Ch. 2	<b>Quiz 1</b>
	Jan 16	M	No Classes		
3	Jan 17	T	Landforms	Ch. 3	
	Jan 18	W	Landforms	Ch. 3	
	Jan 19	Th	Landforms	Ch. 3	
	Jan 23	M	Biogeochemical cycles and the biosphere	Ch. 4	
4	Jan 24	T	Biogeochemical cycles and the biosphere	Ch.4	
	Jan 25	W	Biogeochemical cycles and the biosphere	Ch.4	
	Jan 26	Th	Population, Population increase and migration	Ch.4	
	Jan 30	M	Population, Population increase and	Ch.4	<b>Quiz 2</b>

			migration		
	Jan 31	T	Population, Population increase and migration	Ch. 5	
	Feb 1	W	Cultural Geography	Ch. 6	
	Feb 2	Th	Cultural Geography	Ch. 6	
	Feb 6	M	Cultural Geography	Ch. 6	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
6	Feb 7	T	The Geography of Languages and Religions	Ch. 7	<b>Quiz 3</b>
	Feb 8	W	The Geography of Languages and Religions	Ch. 7	
	Feb 9	Th	The Geography of Languages and Religions	Ch. 7	
	Feb 13	M	The Human Food Supply	Ch.8	
7	Feb 14	T	The Human Food Supply	Ch.8	
	Feb 15	W	The Human Food Supply	Ch. 8	
	Feb 16	Th	Earth's Resources and Environmental protection	Ch. 9	<b>Quiz 4</b>
	Feb 20	M	Earth's Resources and Environmental protection	Ch. 9	
8	Feb 21	T	Earth's Resources and Environmental protection	Ch. 9	
	Feb 22	W	Cities and Urbanization	Ch.10	
	Feb 23	Th	Cities and Urbanization	Ch.10	
	Feb 27	M	Cities and Urbanization	Ch.10	<b>Quiz 5</b>

9	Feb 28	T	Globalization, consumption, sustainability.	Ch. 12	
	Mar 1	W	Globalization, consumption, sustainability.	Ch. 12	
	Mar 2	T	Globalization, consumption, sustainability.	Ch. 12	
	Mar 6	M	Global Environment	Ch. 13	
10	Mar 7	T	Global Environment	Ch. 13	
	Mar 8	W	Critical Issues for the future	Ch. 13	<b>Mapping Workbook due</b>
	Mar 9	Th	Exam Review		<b>Written Assignment Due</b>
	Mar 13	M	Exam Review		<b>Review</b>
	Mar 14	T	Exam Review		<b>Last class meeting</b>
11	Mar 15	W			<b>Final Exam</b>
	Mar 16	Th			
12	Mar 17	M			<b>Grade Submission on HCC web</b>