



Shepherd University Course Syllabus

“Geography is subject which holds the key to our future” Michael Palin

GEOG 105-04 (CRN 31503)
World Cultural Geography 3 Credit Hours
Fall 2016 Online Course
Instructor Name: Monica V. Fleming, MA

Instructor’s Office Building and Room
Number: Off Campus
Instructor’s Contact Information
mfleming@shepherd.edu
Instructor Office Hours: by email or course forums

I. Course Description:

A survey of human populations in their natural environments by the study of physical and cultural geographic components such as climate, landforms, culture, migration, settlement, economic activities, and global interconnectedness. Emphasis on geographic skills development through the use of maps, models, and satellite imagery.

Required Books:

1) Rubenstein, James M. *An Introduction to Human Geography, The Cultural Landscape*, 11th edition, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2014. ISBN13:9780321831576.

Recommended Map Resources: *Goode’s World Atlas* 22nd Edition; and online sites, for example, CIA World Factbook, National Geographic, and the National Council for Geographic Education.

Purpose of the Course, Competencies, and Outcomes:

Geography 105 *World Cultural Geography* is a Core Curriculum course in Tier II: Social Sciences aimed at building “knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world.” **The primary competencies:** critical thinking, written communication (especially spatial), lifelong learning, and global understanding and respect. **Learning outcomes:** Students will understand and appreciate the importance of society and human behavior; explore factors including the individual, family, peers, and a range of institutional structures; gain an understanding of the complexity and interconnectedness of individuals, groups, and social structures; and learn to apply approaches and methods in the discipline of geography. The course will require students to critically evaluate issues and problems using geographic principles; prepare education majors to be competent in teaching geographic concepts consistent with state and national geography standards; help students to appreciate and promote geographic education; and encourage holistic thinking through geography’s interdisciplinary and integrative perspectives. This course is consistent with Shepherd University’s commitment to a liberal arts education, with particular emphasis on diversity, multiculturalism, and global awareness and education. All events occur within a geographic context; thus, knowledge of the earth’s physical and cultural patterns is fundamental to dealing with the multiplicity of problems in today’s shrinking world. “A sound geographic education provides the



Shepherd University Course Syllabus

perspectives, information, concepts, and skills to understand ourselves, our relationship to the earth and our interdependence with other peoples of the world." (*Guidelines for Geographic Education*, Association of American Geographers)

Teaching Methods: The course is Online based using the Sakai Learning Management System.

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

1.Exams: Exams will be based on material from the Sakai, assigned readings, and audiovisual aids. Exams are composed mainly of multiple choice and short answer questions; exams are not comprehensive. The Midterm and Final exams will be available the entire week of their scheduled dates on the University calendar. Exams may only be taken at this time, exams will NOT be given after those dates except by extenuating circumstance or by prior approval.

2.Quizzes: Announced map quizzes where you will fill in the corresponding country with the label. Spelling will be assessed and if incorrect they will be counted wrong.

3.Forum and discussion items.

The final grade will be determined from the cumulative points achieved on the exams (2), the map quizzes (12 at varying points each), chapter assignments (4 at varying points) and forums/discussions (determined as we go). The potential total score will be about 800 points, divided as follows:

Chapter Assignments c. 20 points each

Midterm Exam 100 pts.

Final Exam 100 pts.

Map Quizzes 250 pts.

Other assignments c.70 pts.

Evaluation will be based upon a percentage of total points as follows:

A 90-100%, B 80-89%, C 70-79%, D 60-69%, F 0-59%

Class Attendance: Since this course is online, you should be checking in and working on assignments regularly. Role/participation will be checked for class otherwise, **your financial aid may be revoked** either partially or in full. This would result in an amount due by you to the University immediately. Please refer to <http://www.shepherd.edu/financialaid> for more details.

Course Readings: See the required textbook above, readings will be from this text and other additional readings linked or posted on the Sakai site.

Academic Integrity:

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Shepherd University Academic Integrity Procedures found in the **Shepherd University Student Handbook:**

<http://www.shepherd.edu/students/studenthandbook.pdf>



Shepherd University Course Syllabus

Disability Support Services:

Disability Support Services at Shepherd University believes that every student should succeed, and works closely with students to meet their needs. Students requesting any disability related accommodation should contact the Disability Coordinator at 304-876-5122. This includes students with learning disabilities needing classroom accommodations, students requesting specific housing accommodations for health-related reasons, and all other disability accommodations. Accommodations need to be documented and provided to instructors. Please see <http://www.shepherd.edu/disability> for more information.

Note: Martinsburg Center Students: Students at the Martinsburg Center, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, have access to Disability Support Services.

Tutoring: FREE TUTORING! ANY COURSE! TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A FREE “PERSONAL TRAINER FOR THE MIND!” LET YOUR STUDENTS KNOW FREQUENTLY THAT WE HAVE AN ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER IN 103 Library:
www.shepherd.edu/ascweb; 876-5221; 8:00 am–4:30 pm.

Emergency Information:

Students are encouraged to sign up for “RAVE alerts”(<http://www.shepherd.edu/university/rave/>) in order to be informed of campus closures. Also, students are encouraged to check the Shepherd website for additional information (<http://www.shepherd.edu/>).

Course Timeline

August 22--Week 1- Introductions to course and each other
August 29--Week 2- Chapter 1 – Basic Concept, Continent and Oceans Map Quiz
September 5--Week 3- Chapter 2 – Population and Health, Canada Provinces Map Quiz
September 12--Week 4- Chapter 3 – Migration, United States Map Quiz
September 19--Week 5 – Chapter 4 –Folk and Popular Culture, Central America Map Quiz
September 26--Week 6 – Chapter 5 – Languages, South America Map Quiz
October 3-- Week 7-- Midterm Exam (Chapters 1-5)available online all week, Chapter 6 – Religions, Europe Map Quiz
October 10-- Week 8-- Chapter 7 – Ethnicities, Middle East Map Quiz
October 17-- Week 9 – Chapter 8 – Political Geography, Africa Map Quiz
October 24-- Week 10 – Chapter 9 – Development, Russia and Transcaucasia Map Quiz
October 31 – Week 11-- Chapter 10 – Food and Agriculture, East Asia Map Quiz
November 7 – Week 12 – Chapter 11 – Industry and Manufacturing, South East Asia Map Quiz
November 14 – Week 13 – Chapter 12 – Services and Settlements, South Asia Map Quiz
November 21 – Week 14 – THANKSGIVING BREAK
November 28 – Week 15 – Chapter 13 – Urban Patterns
December 5 – Week 16 – Final Exams (Chapter 6-13) available online all week



Shepherd University Course Syllabus

Specific Course Competencies and their Assessment:

Critical Thinking: Assessed by exams, quizzes, and worksheet activities.

1. Understand the depth, breadth and value of geography as an integrative, spatial science by
 - a. the study of the basic geographic traditions: earth science, culture environment, location, and area/regional analysis.
 - b. exposure to major themes in current geographic research
2. Understand human environmental interaction, including consideration of climate, terrain, vegetation, soils, and water supply.
3. Understand and analyze human spatial distributions, movements, and interactions
4. Exercise the skills of creative and critical thinking through individual and group activities
5. Mentally transfer and apply geographic concepts from region to region
6. Evaluate geographic factors in real world scenarios, e.g. case studies
7. Use library resources and electronic media to explore/collect/evaluate geographic information from texts, databases, maps, and remotely sensed images for lab and short written assignments
8. Identify and evaluate sources suitable for use in K12 geographic education

Communicating: Assessed by exams, map quizzes, and map reading assignments.

1. Communicate in written and spatial forms the geographic concepts and information/data that underlay global diversity.
2. Read and interpret maps produced by traditional and electronic methods, including the ability to:
 - a. employ latitude and longitude
 - b. apply the concepts of site and situation
 - c. interpret distance, direction, size, shape, and map symbology
 - d. locate and interpret places, boundaries, and regions
 - e. interpret quantitative data/information in textual and graphic forms
 - f. locate and describe parcels of land using the U.S. Rectangular Survey
 - g. read and interpret thematic maps, topographic quadrangles, and remotely sensed images in both hard copy and electronic forms
 - h. be familiar with the uses of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Global Understanding and Respect: Assessed by exams and written assignments.

1. Attain knowledge of languages, beliefs, customs, and/or political and economic systems of other cultures:
 - a. know and appreciate cultural differences between/among cultures, including ethnic, racial, linguistic, religious, and social characteristics of regions of the world
 - b. understand basic principles of the global economy
 - c. understand basic principles of world political geography
 - d. describe and analyze ways in which cultures are expressed on the landscape
2. Understand the influence of culture on human interactions at the local, national, and global levels
 - a. understand the spatial character of transportation and communications linkages and how they support cultural interaction
 - b. mentally transfer and apply cultural geographic concepts to different spatial scales

LifeLong

Learning: Assessed by written assignments.

1. Discover and utilize geographic materials online, including websites of professional organizations, e.g. National Council for Geographic Education for school teachers.
2. Identify and analyze geographic themes and concepts in both academic and popular media