

The University of Winnipeg
Department of Geography
GEOG 1102(3) - 001, Spring 2021 (May 03- June 14)
Introductory Human Geography: People, Culture, and Environment
Course Outline and Syllabus

Instructor: Mohammad A. Alam

Office: 4CM32A

Email: mo.alam@uwinnipeg.ca *

Office hours: by appointment

Lecture: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Lecture Location: Online Synchronous

**Please note when corresponding with the instructor, use your University of Winnipeg email account system: name@webmail.uwinnipeg.ca*

Course description:

Culture plays an important role in determining the human attitudes, activities and their relationship to the environment. The ways we behave, socially and geographically, are determined by systems of belief and cultural understandings. This introductory course offers a geographic perspective on social and cultural phenomena. This course is designed to stimulate critical thinking on geographical issues such as the significance of culture and cultural difference (including language, ethnicity, race, gender, and religion); cities as forms of cultural settlements, and the rise of urban societies; the meanings of cultural landscapes; the importance of geographical perspectives in global politics; and the relationship between the environment and health. Emphasis will be placed on current developments in the tension areas of the world.

Course Objective

- provide a strong foundation in a number of the core concepts of human geography related to people, culture, and environment;
- develop student knowledge of the evolution of the field in relation to other social sciences;
- provide opportunities for students to experience human geography concepts research first hand;
- provide the opportunity for students to actively engage in concepts and develop critical thinking in relation to the subject matter;
- and, assist in the development of academic skills such as reading comprehension, referencing, academic writing.

Required Textbook:

This textbook is required for the course and is available in the university bookstore:

Title: *Human Geography, 10th edition*

Authors: M. Mercier, and W. Norton

Edition: 2019

Publisher: Oxford University Press

Website: <https://www.oupcanada.com/catalog/9780199032938.html>

NEXUS:

Documents related to this course (e.g. course syllabus, project guidelines, lecture slides, supplemental readings) will be made available to students through the NEXUS system. You must be registered in the course to have access to these materials. To login in to NEXUS, go to:

<https://nexus.uwinnipeg.ca/>

If you encounter difficulties with Nexus contact the help desk at 204-786-9149 or

help.desk@uwinnipeg.ca

Course Organization:

This course is structured to foster engagement and discussion in class. Regular attendance at lectures is required and reading preparation before class will enhance students’ understanding of the geographical concepts applied to the themes of the society and culture. Occasionally short videos, daily news items and other popular materials will be used to illustrate the concepts presented in the course. The following schedule relates to lecture topics/themes and assigned chapters and articles; readings could change to accommodate emerging issues that we may want to discuss in class. Please be aware that due to unforeseen time restrictions, some material included on the course schedule may not be covered. Any changes will be announced in class.

Topics/Themes

- 1) What is Human Geography
- 2) Geographies of Culture and Landscapes
- 3) The Geographies of Identity and difference
- 4) Political Geography
- 5) Geographies of Globalization
- 6) Humans and the Environment

Readings

- Chapter 1
- Chapter 4
- Chapter 5
- Chapter 6
- Chapter 11
- Chapter 12

Student Evaluation

Quiz 1	5%	May 10, 2021
Term Test 1	25%	May 17, 2021
Quiz 2	5%	May 26, 2021
Term Test 2	25%	June 07, 2021
Final Examination	40%	June 15, 2021

***Students are responsible for confirming the date and the location of the final exam with instructor.**

The requirements for evaluation in this course are structured for students to immerse in the textbook and lecture material while simultaneously developing a stronger understanding of the goals of the assignments, test and exams.

*** Completing assigned readings and being prepared to participate during class time will enhance learning in this course.

Description of Evaluation Criteria

1. Quizzes (10% of final grade)

There will be two quizzes during the term to support knowledge development of the course material and greater preparation for the mid-term and final exams. These quizzes will be only 25 minutes in length and may include multiple choice, true/false questions and short answer questions. All material covered in the classroom and assigned from the textbook will be the basis of these mini-tests. All quizzes will be available online (Nexus learning tool).

2. Mid-term tests (50% of final grade)

The two 90 minute mid-term tests will be comprised of multiple-choice and true/false questions, in addition to short answer questions requiring written responses of 1-2 paragraphs. Mid-term 1 will be based on Themes 1 and 2, and the materials covered in Themes 3 and 4 will be the basis for mid-term 2. However, this may change depending on what is covered in class. The midterm tests will be online, and conducted through UW's Nexus site. The instructor will let students know how to locate tests and exam on Nexus in the class. *The student should not use his or her textbook, course notes, or receive help any other outside source during the tests.* This instructor will inform the students of any changes.

3. Final Exam (40% of final grade)

The three-hour exam will cover all course material and will include multiple-choice and true/false questions, as well as short answer and essay questions. The final exam will be online and students should be able to locate it on Nexus learning tool. *The student should not use his or her textbook, course notes, or receive help any other outside source during the exam.*

*Please confirm exam time by <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/exam-schedules/index.html>

Students are responsible for checking this site.

Note: Since all quizzes, tests, and final exam will be available online, students would require to have computers (desktop/laptop)/tablet/phone etc.

Term Tests and Final Exam Procedures

Students are required to show their University of Winnipeg student identification at all tests and exams. They will also be required to sign an attendance sheet when writing the final examination. Use of dictionaries, programmable calculators, cell phones, laptop computers, tablets and personal listening devices (MP3 players, iPods etc.) is not permitted during tests or exams.

Test/Exam Absence:

In the case of absence from a test or the final examination related to medical, religious holiday celebrations or compassionate reasons, students will be permitted to write a make-up test/exam. Documentation may be requested. Absences due to severe weather will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please contact Mohammad Alam as soon as possible if any of these circumstances arise.

Format

All quizzes, tests, and final exam will be conducted electronically (online). Instructor or TA will send an email confirmation that assignment was received. Feedback on assignments and grades will be returned electronically.

All written assignments submitted for course credit should reflect close attention to good style and format. Paragraphs must be double-spaced. Student name and number should be centered on a separate title page at the front of each assignment.

A clear and concise written style is required. Grammar, spelling and punctuation will be graded. It is strongly recommended that students spell-check (and grammar-check if in doubt) all work before it is submitted. Another option is to have another person proof-read the work and check that it 'makes sense'.

All assignment submissions are final: once the assignment is handed in, the Instructor will not accept revisions or re-submissions unless specifically requested.

Strict adherence to the stated/announced assignment deadlines is required. Unexplained late submissions will be penalized by 2% of the total assignment mark for each day late. Only in exceptional (i.e., medical and compassionate) circumstances will an extension be granted, and students must speak to the instructor and provide a medical note to the instructor and to the General Office for the student's file. If the work is not submitted within 7 calendar days of the new date, no credit for the assignment would be given. An incomplete grade will not be assigned except for medical reasons or for compassionate grounds at the discretion of the Course Instructor. Work must be handed in on due dates regardless of the state of completion in order to be considered for Incomplete Status. An Incomplete Grade form must be submitted with the grade register or the incomplete will not be recorded.

Students can find answers to frequently ask questions related to remote learning here:

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19/remote-learning-faq.html>

Final Exam Deferrals: A legitimate exam conflict is defined as two (2) exams scheduled at the same time. You need to identify early any conflicts that may exist. Conflicts should attempt to be resolved by the student and the instructor(s), if a resolution cannot be reached students must submit the appropriate formal appeal (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/exam-schedules/index.html>). It is the student's responsibility to initiate the resolution of any conflicts. *Personal conflicts such as travel plans and work schedules do not warrant a change in examination times. The date, time and location of the final exam are contained in this syllabus.*

Grading

Senate approved grades for courses include A+, A, A-, B+, B, C+, D, and F. The University does not have a standardized numerical grade conversion scale for each letter grade. The following numeric grading system **provides guidelines** only for the separation of letter grades in this course. These boundaries may be adjusted at the requested of the Geography Department Review Committee or University Senate. Final letter grades are based on accumulated numeric grades during the course. For this course, grade equivalents are as follows:

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A+	90-100%	C+	65-69.9%
A	84-89.9%	C	56-64.9%
A-	80-83.9%	D	50-55.9%
B+	75-79.9%	F	< 50%
B	70-74.9%		

Voluntary Withdrawal

You must formally withdraw from a course. If you simply stop going to classes, you may receive an “F” on your transcript and loss of tuition credit. The final date to withdraw from the course without academic penalty is **Wednesday, June 02, 2021**. Please refer to the Undergraduate Academic Calendar for Voluntary withdrawal procedures. Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not result in a fee refund.

Important Dates: Spring 2021

Date	Significance
Monday, May 03	First Class Lecture
Monday, May 10	Quiz 1
Monday, May 17	Mid-Term 1
Monday, May 24	Victoria day. No classes. Make-up class is on June 14.
Wednesday, May 26	Quiz 2
Wednesday, June 02	Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty
Monday, June 07	Mid-Term 2
Monday, June 14	Lectures end for the 2021 Spring Term
Tuesday, June 15	Final Exam

*Students are responsible to check all exam information prior to the exam on the course outline.

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Course organization and reading schedule *Slight adjustments may be made. In this event you will be notified in advance. Please note that due to time constraints some topics may not be covered.

Date	Topic	Reading
Week 1	*Course initiation and resources • Introductory concepts • A Introduction to human geography • Geographies of culture and landscape	Course syllabus; Mental maps for student course objectives; Chapter 1 Chapter 4
Week 2	• Geographies of culture and landscape • Geographies of identity and difference • Test 1 preview • Quiz 1 (Chapter 1)	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
Week 3	• Term Test 1 • Geographies of identity and difference • Political Geography	Chapter 1 and 4 Chapter 5 Chapter 6
Week 4	• Political Geography • Quiz 2	Chapter 6 Chapter 5
Week 5	• Geographies of Globalization • Test 2 preview	Chapter 11
Week 6	• Term Test 2 • Humans and the Environment	Chapter 5 and 6 Chapter 12
Week 7	• Course recap and Question period • Final Exam	All chapters

General Course Information

- When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, I will make every effort to inform students via UWinnipeg email (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as designated in this outline) .
- Students have the responsibility to regularly check their UWinnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the University and/or their course instructors.
- Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not necessarily result in a fee refund.
- The first day of class is on Monday, May 03, 2021 and the final class is on Monday, June 14 , 2021. The final Exam is on Tuesday June 15, 2021.

[See <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/dates.pdf> for all dates]

Students can find answers to frequently asked questions related to remote learning here:

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19/remote-learning-faq.html>

Zoom Lectures, quizzes, tests and exam:

Students require to have Zoom installed in their computers, smart phones or tablets to be able to attend course lectures. Students will need:

- a computer with access to high speed internet
- speakers/earphones to be able to hear the instructor
- microphone and/or webcam to be able to participate with audio and/or video if required

Students should visit the Zoom Help Centre (<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>) for a list of computer requirements including operating systems, devices, and browsers.

Students are required to attend zoom classes on time. While it is not necessary to keep video on during lectures, however, students are required to do so during tests and exams. Students unable to keep their video on, they must communicate with the instructor at least a week prior to having tests and exam. Students are reminded of their rights in relation to the collecting of personal data by the University (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/admissions-privacy-notice.html>), especially when Zoom will be used for remote teaching (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-privacy-notice.html>) and testing/proctoring (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-test-and-exam-proctoring.html>).

If you choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of your religion, you must notify me at least two weeks in advance. I will then provide opportunity for students to make up work or examinations without penalty.

Respectful Learning Environment:

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner on campus and in the learning environment irrespective of platform being used. Behaviour, communication, or acts that are inconsistent with a number of UW policies (e.g. *Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy* <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/respect-policy.html>, *Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy* <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/acceptable-use-of-information-technology-policy.pdf>) could be considered “non-academic” misconduct. More detailed information can be found here:

Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>.

Regulations, Policies, and Academic Integrity. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the “Regulations and Policies” found in the University *Academic Calendar* at: <https://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>. Particular attention should be given to subsections 8 (“Student Discipline”), 9 (“Senate Appeals”), and 10 (“Grade Appeals”). Please emphasize the importance of maintaining academic integrity, and to the potential consequences of engaging in plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct. Even “unintentional” plagiarism, as described in the UW Library video tutorial “Avoiding Plagiarism” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvFdxRU9a8g>) is a form of academic misconduct. Similarly, uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or trader sites (filesharing sites that are known

providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) is a form of misconduct, as it involves “aiding and abetting” plagiarism. More detailed information can be found here:

Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>.

Research Ethics:

Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including a family member, must obtain research ethics approval before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities done in class as a learning exercise. For submission requirements and deadlines, see <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html>

Academic Conduct

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This section covers classroom regulation, grading, transcripts, challenge for credit, academic standing, student discipline (academic and non-academic misconduct), appeals including grade appeals, University Policies and Codes, graduation.

Please note the following summary of important information regarding Academic Misconduct:

Forms of Academic Misconduct:

- Plagiarism: includes presenting other people’s published or unpublished work in part or as a whole as your own. This includes material from lab manuals, essays, journal articles, books, etc. Plagiarism also refers to submitting the same work in more than one course without both instructors’ permission and to the situation where two or more students submit identical (or nearly identical) work for evaluation when the work was to be completed individually.
- Cheating: includes copying another person’s answer on a test, communicating with another person during a test or exam, consulting unauthorized sources (including written and electronic sources), obtaining a copy (of all or part) of a test/exam/assignment before it is officially available, purchasing tests, essays or other assignments and submitting the work as your own.
- Improper Academic/Research practices include: fabricating or falsifying results, using other people’s research findings without permission, misrepresenting research results or methods, referring to non-existent sources or investigators, contravening the University’s Policy and Procedures On Research Integrity.

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- Obstructing academic activities of another person; for example interfering with another person's access to pertinent resources or information to gain academic advantage.
- Impersonation: both impersonation of another individual or allowing someone to impersonate you.
- Falsification or Modification of an Academic Record: including tests, transcripts, letters of permission, etc.
- Aiding and Abetting Academic Misconduct.

Penalties for Academic Misconduct:

Can include, but are not limited to:

- Written warning
- Lower or failing grade on an assignment or test
- Lower or failing grade in a course
- Denial of admission or readmission to the University
- Forfeiture of University awards or financial assistance
- Suspension from the University for a specified period of time
- Withholding or rescinding a UW degree, certificate or diploma
- Expulsion from the University

Procedures:

All allegations of academic misconduct must be reported initiating a process which involves several steps. These include procedures involving the instructor of the course in which the misconduct is alleged to have occurred, the Departmental Review Committee, and the Senate Academic Misconduct Committee. See the detailed description of the procedures, which also outline the appeals process regarding Academic Misconduct.

Students facing a charge of academic or non-academic misconduct may choose to contact the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) where a student advocate will be available to answer any questions about the process, help with building a case, and ensuring students have access to support. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit our website at www.theuwsa.ca/academic-advocacy or call 204-786-9780.

Forms of Academic Misconduct: see online

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>

Copyright and Intellectual Property

Course materials are the property of the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides—irrespective of format. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor/presenter before, for example, photographing, recording, or taking screenshots of slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board. Students found to be in violation of an instructor's intellectual property rights could face serious consequences pursuant to the *Academic Misconduct* or *Non-Academic Misconduct Policy*.

Accessibility Services

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., access to

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volunteer note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 786-9771 or email accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. Specific information about AS is available on-line at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.