GEOGRAPHY 210
PEOPLES, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS

BULLETIN INFORMATION
GEOG 210 - Peoples, Places, and Environments (3 credit hours)
Course Description
Basic principles of human geography.

SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW
There are two goals of this class: To introduce students to geographic concepts and the major subfields of human geography; and to engage students in using geographic approaches to examine economic, cultural, environmental, political, urban, and demographic issues around the world. A core theme of the class is globalization; we will study the relationships between local places and global processes, with the goal of gaining a deeper understanding of the interrelated geographic nature of the world in which we live. In the process, we will also examine the development of geography as a part of the modern world system, so that we might later consider the ways in which parts of geography are still implicated in the things they aim to study and explain, such as neocolonialism and uneven development. This course, then, is not only about the geographic perspective on issues such as the world economy, global politics, local cultural transformations within a global context, and global environmental change, but also a critical examination of geography itself.

ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of Geography 210 students will be able to:
1. Identify the areas of inquiry addressed by the different human geographic subfields.
2. Discuss the history of human geography, and the directions current research is taking.
3. Use geographic concepts to explain the economic, environmental, political and social ways in which local phenomena are linked to other places around the world, through global processes.
4. Explain the ways in which different groups of people around the world encounter globalization, and how distinct local cultural, social, and political processes create diverse responses to global issues.
5. Demonstrate how geographic approaches address some of the major challenges facing the world today, by using spatial concepts and methods to solve real-world problems.

SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS
2. Required supplemental readings: A selection of interdisciplinary short readings will be posted on Blackboard. These will include essays or excerpts, newspaper articles on current events related to globalization, recent research articles in geography, short videos and websites that deal with current cultural or social real-world issues. Students will also be assigned to watch a documentary on reserve at Thomas Cooper Library.

3. Online Resources: Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard to supplement our textbook. Other course materials, such as study guides and this syllabus will also be on the Blackboard site.

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAMS

1. Assignments: This course has three non-cumulative tests. The third test will occur during our final exam slot. These tests are multiple choice, and will require students to demonstrate understanding of the concepts, methods, examples, and information covered in the readings and lectures. Students will also be required to analyze new examples using concepts and methods they have learned in class. I will provide specific information about the material to be covered in each test (readings and lectures) in advance. Be advised: although the tests are multiple-choice in format, they are challenging, and much of the material on the tests is presented in lecture, and is not from the readings. There are no other assessments in the class apart from these three exams, and no extra credit is available.

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS

Week 1  
Course Introduction

Week 2  
Geography Matters: Ch. 1  
Mumbai project article, Hindustan Times

Week 3  
Changing Global Context: Ch. 2

Week 4  
Geographies of Population  
Research article on medieval Muslim geographers: Ch. 3

Week 5  
Short video link: girls’ education in Nepal  
Exam #1

Week 6  
Nature and Society: Ch. 4  
Afghanistan’s Locavores, NY Times

Week 7  
Cultural Geographies: Ch. 5

Week 8  
Pajamas in Shanghai, NYTimes
Week 9  Places and Landscapes: Ch. 6
         Exam #2

Week 10  Economic Development: Ch. 7
         Film: Life and Debt in Jamaica, on reserve

Week 11  Politics of Territory and Space: Ch. 9

Week 12  Research article on U‘wa resistance in Colombia
         Urbanization: Ch. 10

Week 13  Website links on Middle East, gentrification

Week 14  City Spaces: Urban Structure Ch. 11

**Final exam according to university exam schedule**