Introduction to Human Geography: Fall 2015

Class Time: MWF 11:10 to 12:00 PM
Classroom: Liberal Arts 11

Instructor: Tom Sullivan
Office: 307B Stone Hall
Office Hours: 2:30 to 5PM on Wednesdays; NOON to 1PM on Fridays; or by appointment
Email: thomas.sullivan@mso.umt.edu

Teaching Assistant: Corbin Brooks
Office:
Office Hours: TBD
Email:


course schedule and reading assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>31 August - 4 Sept</td>
<td>Introduction : What is Human Geography?</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>7 – 11 September</td>
<td>Culture Hearths to Colonization</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>no class on monday, september 7!</td>
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<td>Assignment 1 – Due on Friday, September 16</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>14 – 18 September</td>
<td>Demographics/Migration and Diaspora</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Assignment 2 – Due on Friday, September 25</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>21 – 25 September</td>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Assignment 3 – Due on Friday, October 2</td>
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part two – nature/culture

5 28 Sept – 2 October  What is Nature? Chapter 4
Assignment 4 – Due on Friday, October 9

6  5 – 9 October  Culture and Political Ecology Chapter 4
Assignment 5 – Due on Friday, October 16

7  12 – 16 October  Cultural Geographies Chapter 5
Assignment 6 – Due on Friday, October 23

8  19 – 23 October  Landscape Chapter 6

MIDTERM EXAMINATION - Monday, October 26

part three – economy and politics

9  26 – 30 October  Economic Development Chapter 7

10  2 – 6 November  Food/Agriculture Chapter 8
Assignment 7 – Due on Friday, November 13

11  9 – 13 November  Politics and Space Chapter 9
NO CLASS ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Assignment 8 – Due on Friday, November 20

12  16 – 20 November  Urbanization I Chapter 10

part four – urban geographies

13  23 – 27 November  Urbanization II Chapter 10
NO CLASS ON WED and FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 27
Assignment 9 – Due on Friday, December 4

14  30 Nov – 4 Dec  City Spaces Chapter 11
Assignment 10 – Due on Friday, December 11

15  7 – 11 December  The Future Chapter 12

16  14 – 18 December  FINALS WEEK

MIDTERM EXAMINATION - TBD
course description

Human geography is a branch of the discipline that first looks at human beings and our relationship with “nature,” or the environment, and second, investigates “the peoples and places that make up our world, with the differences and similarities between them, with the ways they are connected to or disconnected from each other, and with the processes through which the world is structured into identifiable peoples, spaces and places at all” (Cloke et al. 2005). Therefore, our purpose in this course is to introduce ourselves to basic concepts that focus on the intricate relationship we have with both the physical planet and with one another. The required text is to be used as a guide with the purpose of providing a general framework of human geographic topics. In addition, I will enhance each of these topics through contemporary case studies using a combination of lectures, guest speakers and films to convey these important messages.


policies and procedures

The following policies allow me to teach without distractions, and, it will provide each student with a pleasant atmosphere for learning:

1. Please refrain from talking in class unless engaging in questions with the instructor or actively participating in group discussion. If you are disturbing the lecture, I may ask that you exit the classroom.
2. No cell phones on in class! Please make sure your cell phone is off before lecture begins.
3. Be on time! I expect everyone to be on time for class in order to not disturb the lecture. If for some reason you are late, I ask that you be extremely quiet and not disturb anyone as you enter and sit down
4. You will not leave the class early. If you have a special reason for leaving early please contact me before class begins and sit close to the door in order to exit quietly.
5. No reading of any material during class is allowed. Please pay attention to each lecture.

grading

writing assignments (100 points)

This course is offered as “traditional letter grade ‘T’ only.”

There will be approximately 10 writing assignments administered arbitrarily (weekly) throughout the semester. These are short exercises covering topics that we discuss in class and that are part of your readings. Their purpose is to ensure that each student understands the concepts being discussed, practice and improve writing skills, completes the required reading assignment and attends each
lecture. THESE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT IN DETERMINING YOUR FINAL GRADES! These assignments constitute 1/3 of your total grade.

I will not accept late papers!!!

Attendance is not mandatory. Extra credit points MAY be given on random days throughout the semester for attendance at the discretion of the instructor.

examinations (200 points)

Each examination, including the final, is subjective. This means that the exam will encompass only the material I cover in lectures between exams. In general, each examination will be a combination of multiple choice, matching questions, and true/false. **There is a midterm and final examination.**

The rules for the examinations are as follows:

1. You will take each exam as scheduled. Make-up exams are not allowed—except as listed in the Make-up exam policy below.
2. Material for the exam will be from the required textbook readings and all lecture material. Attendance for each lecture is recommended in order that you take notes for each exam. I will not provide my lecture notes if you miss class. You must find notes from someone else in the course.
3. **Make-up Exam Policy:**
   - All Students must take the final exam as scheduled. Conflicts must be settled with the Dean. This is a University Policy and there are no exceptions.
   - All Students must take each exam as scheduled. If an exam is missed, the student will receive a zero (0) on the exam.
   - These are the only exceptions that will warrant a make-up exam:
     --University events – such as sporting or music events.
     --Military obligations.
     --Religious holidays.
     --Serious family emergency.
     --Medical emergencies or serious illness.
     --Court-imposed legal obligations such as subpoenas or jury duty.
     --Serious weather conditions.
     --Special curricular requirements such as judging trips or field trips.
   - Any student requiring an exception under this policy must do so **prior** to the scheduled exam—unless in the case of an actual emergency (sudden hospitalization). A student must provide official documentation of the reason for absence **in advance**.
   - If a make-up exam is approved. It must be completed within one week of the original exam and scheduled with the Teaching Assistant.
final grade compilation (300 total points)

There is a total of 300 points available for the course. The writing assignments = 100 points and each of the examinations at 100 points each = 2 x 100 = 200 points. All assignments and examinations, as well as the final grade, are based on the following scale:

A = 90 – 100%
B = 80 – 89.99%
C = 70 – 79.99%
D = 60 – 69.99%
F = 59.99% and below

Please note that in order to be fair to all students, I will not round up a grade. For example, if you receive a 79.99%, you will receive a ‘C’ in the course.

additional information:

1. Please consult the Class Schedule for relevant dates.

2. For assistance with writing, please consult the on-line resources of the UM Writing Center in the Mansfield Library.

3. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php. Cheating and plagiarism are not tolerated and will be dealt with as outlined in the Code.

4. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

due to the dynamic nature of scheduling and un-foreseen events, the instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as needed and if necessary.