

# Introduction to Geography

Geography 101-3027

LW 214

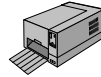
Fall 2008

(3:45 - 6:40 PM)

Leon Yacher

Office Hours: Wednesday: 3:15 PM - 3:45 PM and *by appointment*.

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## PLEASE NOTE

**It is strongly recommended that you take the required Introductory English course before you take register for this class.**

**OBJECTIVES:** A survey of selected topics dealing with the relationship between culture and nature. The major intent of this course is to provide an introduction to the field of geography by exposing the student to geography's sub-fields as well as concepts (for example, the relationships between economic and geographic processes which affects the patterns, structure, and growth of man's economic activities.)



**COURSE OUTCOMES:** At the completion of this course, students should be able to: 1) Understand and communicate the geographic language of spatial relationships and spatial organization; 2) Relate theoretical spatial applications to real life situations; 3) To discern the complexities of earth/human interconnections from a location perspective.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:** Introduction to Geography, by Arthur Getis, Judith Getis, and Jerome D. Fellmann, eleventh edition (McGraw-Hill, 2008).

**RECOMMENDED TEXT:** Hammond World Atlas or Goode's World Atlas (edited

by Howard Veregin, 21<sup>st</sup> edition, Rand McNally, 2005).

**OTHER READINGS:** See the selected references section at the end of each chapter of your required text. Each chapter includes a vast list of internet sources available to you. Make use of it!

**GRADING:** Three exams -- each worth equally.  
Two map quizzes -- both worth one exam.



**MAKE-UP EXAM POLICY:** A penalty of 15 points will be assessed to a missed exam or quiz without a confirmed excuse. Exams or quizzes not made-up will automatically be given a grade of F. Missed final exam equals an F in the course.



**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** You are expected to attend class regularly. Attendance (or lack of) will not affect your grade. However, you are responsible for all the material covered in class, whether you're present or absent.

**ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** If you need course adaptations or accommodations due to a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.



**TERM-REPORTS:** Voluntary. Due on Wednesday 3 December. Topics list available upon request and accessible in my web site. Feel free to discuss your ideas with me ahead of time. Also available are the rules regarding documentation and bibliography. The paper should be between 7 (full pages) and 10 double-spaced typed pages (plus supporting illustrations and bibliography), and written in a formal, expository style. It should have a well-defined focus, address a specific research question stated in a lucid introduction, evaluate designs or make generalizations, and draw conclusions related to the stated research question. Footnotes or endnotes are required. Use only font size of 10 or 12. Any other size will not be accepted. May I suggest that you submit to me the paper at least one week before the absolute deadline for my comments giving you an opportunity to edit your work. Paper equals one exam grade (in addition to the above).

**FINAL EXAM: Wednesday 17 December, 3:45 - 5:45 PM.**

# LECTURE SCHEDULE

TOPIC	READINGS
<b>Week 1/2 - Introduction to geography</b>	Chapter 1
a) The Nature of geography b) Evolution of the discipline c) Key concepts of geography d) The language of geography e) Physical and Cultural attributes f) Dynamism and interrelationships of place g) Themes and organization of the course	
<b>Week 2/3 - Mapping</b>	Chapter 2
a) Earth grid and location of places b) Map projections and properties c) Types of projections d) Scale and symbolization e) Topographic and thematic maps f) Remote sensing and aerial photography g) Geographic information systems	

## QUIZ # 1 -- AFRICA AND THE AMERICAS (24 September)

<b>Week 3/4 - Geography of Landforms</b>	Chapter 3
a) Earth and time b) Movement of earth and theories c) Earth materials d) Tectonic forces e) Gradational forces f) Erosion and deposition g) Landform regions	
<b>Week 4/5 - Weather and Climate</b>	Chapter 4
a) Basic definitions b) Air temperature c) Air pressure and winds d) Ocean currents e) Moisture in the atmosphere f) Climate and regions g) Climatic change	

## EXAM # 1 - 1 October

**Week 6 - Natural Resources**

Chapter 5

- a) Terminology
- b) Energy resources and industrialization
- c) Nonrenewable resources
- d) Renewable resources
- e) Non fuel mineral resources
- f) Land resources
- g) Resource management

**Week 7 - Human Impact on the Environment**

Chapter 12

- a) Ecosystems and geography
- b) Impact on water
- c) Impact on air and climate
- d) Impact of land and soils
- e) Impact of plants and animals
- f) Solid-waste disposal

**Week 8/9 - Population Geography**

Chapter 6

- a) Population growth
- b) Key terms and definitions
- c) The demographic transition
- d) Relocation and immigration
- e) World population distribution
- f) Density, data and projections

**QUIZ # 2 -- ASIA, EUROPE, THE PACIFIC - 29 October**

**Week10/11 - Cultural Geography**

Chapter 7

- a) Components of culture
- b) Interaction of people and environment
- c) Subsystems of culture
- d) Culture change and diversity
- e) Geography of Language
- f) Geography of Religions
- g) Gender and culture
- h) Ethnicity and culture realms

**EXAM # 2 - 5 November**

**Week 11/12 - Economic Geography**

Chapter 10

- a) Classification of economic activity
- b) Primary activities: agriculture
- c) Subsistence and Commercial agriculture

- d) Secondary activities: Manufacturing
- e) Transportation and agglomeration patterns
- f) Tertiary and quaternary economies
- g) World patterns of economic activity

**Week 13/14 - Urban Geography**

Chapter 11

- a) Key definitions
- b) Function of urban areas
- c) Location and economic base of urban settings
- d) Systems of urban settlements
- e) Inside the city
- f) Suburbanization in the United States
- g) World urban patterns

**EXAM # 3 -- FINAL EXAM - 17 December 2008**

