

SYLLABUS GEOG113

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Course Title: Cultural and Human Geography (8 Weeks)

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description

Addresses techniques of geographic interpretation and cultural and political diversity, as well as their relationship to physical environment. Covers the availability of water, food, and other natural resources; language; religion; industry; spatial relationships of cities and settlements; population; ethnic characteristics; migration; folk and popular cultures; and the effects of globalization.

This class is fully online. However, proctored exams are required and must be taken at a testing center or with an approved proctor.

Prerequisite

None

Textbook Information

Required Textbook

The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography, Rubenstein, 11th edition.

Other Required Materials

Many assignments require viewing videos. If you do not have access to a fast connection you can complete the assignment using computers at any [campus computer lab](#) or at a public library.

Course Objectives

Upon the successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Classify the distribution of cultural regions and political identities in the world.
2. Analyze the influences that shape and change individual cultures.
3. Identify the importance of the physical environment in the growth of individual cultures.

4. Evaluate the needs of expanding populations versus environmental concerns.
5. Demonstrate an informed geographic perspective on current issues.
6. Compare globalization with cultural diversity.
7. Discuss methods of geographic interpretation.

Communication and Turnaround Time

Communication Types

Announcements: time-sensitive information, posted by the instructor on the Announcement page.

Messages: used for personal communication with instructor, send a message through Blackboard using the Messages link in the course.

Discussions: questions and answers will be posted in the discussion forums. Regular discussion questions are posted for class interaction.

General Question Forum: If you have a general question regarding the course policies and procedures that have not been answered in the syllabus or course orientation materials, use the discussion board forum General Questions. Your question and the instructor's response will be available there to help others who may have the same question.

Communication Turnaround Time

You can expect all correspondence via discussion board question forum or messaging to be responded to within 24 hours Monday through Friday. The instructor will notify the class if there will be periods of time where responses may be delayed.

Grades and Feedback Turnaround Time

It is important to keep up with your grades in the class.

Use these links to see how to check your grades and feedback:

[How to check My Grades written tutorial](#)

[How to check My Grades video tutorial](#)

[How to check assignment grades written tutorial](#)

[How to check assignment grades video tutorial](#)

Expected Turnaround Times

Discussion Forums are graded within three days after the due date.

Quizzes and Exams with multiple-choice, True/False, matching and other non-essay type questions are auto-graded immediately after you take them.

Written Assignments such as papers, essays, and essay questions are graded within one week after the due date.

Grades

Percentage Grade:

Discussion Posts = 30%

Reaction Papers (5) = 30%

Quizzes and Exams (9 quizzes, 5 exams) = 40%

Letter Grades

- A = 90-100%= 360 – 400 points
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- 59% or less will result in failing the class

Assignment Types and Grading Policy (Including Proctored Exams or No Proctored Exams)

Discussions

You must post at least three substantive messages per unit/discussion forum on three different days to get full credit. Comments should be meaningful, demonstrating in-depth thought and contributing to the overall learning of other individuals in the course.

Chapter Quizzes and Exams

Chapter Quizzes serve to help you make sure you are critically reading and comprehending the assigned text. Typically you will have one Chapter Quiz for every two chapters, and most quizzes have 15 multiple choice questions per chapter.

There are four Unit Exams, a Final Exam, and a Syllabus Quiz. If you do not complete the assessment you will receive a zero. No make-up work is given. Questions are a mixture of multiple choice and true-false. Each assessment covers material from the textbook and assignments. One exam and the final are proctored.

The Final Exam is required to pass the class. If you do not take the final you will receive an F for the course (even if you are passing before the final exam).

Papers

There are five reaction papers completed during the term. They often ask you to watch current event videos and respond to the prompts and/or questions.

For any outside research required for an assignment you must include full citation of the source used and include the author's name, publication date, title of article, title of publication, volume and page numbers, or URL of the publication. In researching materials that may help you in completing the assignments, focus on scientific journals and popular scientific or news magazines (National Geographic, Discover, Scientific American, Time, etc.) or reputable internet sites – Wikipedia is not a valid source: it is a good place to start a cursory investigation but follow the trail of sources cited in Wikipedia to find quality information.

Most of the videos are from *Films On Demand*. All MCC campuses have computer labs where you can view the videos over a high speed connection. They are listed in the Key Information link under Getting Started. Your local library can also provide high speed access for videos.

All assignments are submitted through Blackboard in Word format. Remember that if you use something other than Microsoft Word you have to save your file in .doc or .docx format.

Proctored Exams

MCC Online students use SmarterProctoring to sign up for a time to take a proctored exam. You can sign up to take the exam in one of the MCC testing centers or with another approved proctor. If SmarterProctoring does not offer a pre-approved proctor in your area, you may find another proctor with the approval of the instructor. Instructions on how to use SmarterProctoring are provided within the course itself.

Please note that if you are testing at one of the MCC locations you will be required to sign up for an available time slot at that testing center before arriving at the site. Even if you are a “walk-in” you will need to use SmarterProctoring to sign up before being allowed to take the test.

Course Policies

Non-graded Assignments

There is an assignment in the Introduction Activities that requires you to upload a file through Bb. There is no credit for this assignment.

Extra Credit

There is no extra credit given.

Expectations

It is expected that you will access the course at least three times per week. To be successful you should plan to log in and participate multiple times a week. **Daily access is encouraged.**

This is a three credit hour class so you should plan on spending about 12-18 hours a week on this course with the online requirements (discussions, videos), reading materials, and study time.

Attendance Policy

Since this course is online, your “attendance” in class is based on meeting assignment deadlines. You must submit work for the class to be considered attending the class. Federal Guidelines require you to login, participate, and submit assignments to be considered attending.

MCC regulations state that an instructor may withdraw you from class after a consecutive absence equating to 15% of the total class time, or after total absences equating to 33% of the total class time. If you fail to submit any work for one week of an 8-week course or two weeks of a 16-week course, you may be withdrawn. If you fail to turn in 33% of your work in the course, you may be withdrawn from the course. An instructor **may** choose to enforce a stricter attendance policy.

Simply logging in to Blackboard does not count as attendance.

Late Work

Due dates for assignments, exams, discussions and other work are posted on the course schedule or calendar. Late assignments are not accepted.

Drop Policy

It is your responsibility to withdraw from the course if you decide to stop attending. If you choose to drop the course you must complete a drop form and

submit it to the campus records office. Check myMCCCKC > Student Center for the specific dates, including the last date to drop your course without assessment (or grade posted) for the course

Before withdrawing, please contact an advisor to determine what if any impact this drop will have on your financial aid.

Code of Conduct

You are required to follow the [Metropolitan Community College's Student Code of Conduct](#).

Student Support

If you need technical support for Blackboard, MCC student email, tutoring services, library services, advising or counselling services, please click on the "Student Resources" tab on top of Blackboard after logging in.

Netiquette

Information on appropriate online conduct can be found in [The Core Rules of Netiquette](#). You are expected to follow these rules and any other specific rules your instructor may require for interacting in the class.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

In order to continue your eligibility for financial aid you must make satisfactory academic progress toward your educational plan by maintaining a minimum grade point average and successfully completing a minimum number of courses throughout your enrollment at MCC, and completing your educational plan within a reasonable time. Your progress will be reviewed at the end of each semester. More information is available at [Satisfactory Academic Progress at MCC](#).

ADA

Metropolitan Community College (MCC) is committed to ensuring equal access to all qualified students with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you have a disability which may impact your ability to access or participate in any aspect of your online coursework, please contact the campus Disability Support Services (DSS) Coordinator or your choice. Phone numbers and additional information are listed at mcckc.edu/disability. The DSS Coordinator will work with you to determine what disability documentation/information is needed in order to provide accommodations. Accommodations are determined on an individualized basis and may take some time to put in place, so early notification to DSS is helpful. You can identify

yourself to DSS as a student with a disability and request accommodations anytime during your education. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and may vary based on the nature and requirements of the class.

- [Blackboard Accessibility Information](#)
- [SmarterProctoring Accessibility Information](#)

Academic Integrity

The Metropolitan Community College, as an academic community, expects all administrators, faculty, staff, and students to behave as responsible members of the college community and to be honest and ethical in their academic work. MCC strives to provide students with the knowledge, skills, judgment, and wisdom they need to function in society as educated adults. To falsify or fabricate the results of one's research; to present the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own; or to cheat on an examination corrupts the essential process of higher education and the values of the Academy.

The Metropolitan Community College expects all students to act according to the rules of academic honesty as outlined in the [Student Handbook](#). What this really means is that you are expected to turn in only your own work and that you will complete all quizzes and examinations unassisted. If you should violate this trust, then you will be treated the same as any traditional student that cheats.

Academic Dishonesty includes:

1. Plagiarism - the intentional use of the ideas or words of another as one's own in a paper or other academic assignment.
2. Cheating during examinations, whether by copying from a fellow student or by using information in the form of unauthorized aids brought to the examination.
3. The submission of work for any assignment that has been prepared by another student.
4. Submission of a single paper to fulfill requirements in two courses without prior approval of the instructors in both courses.
5. Using a false name or signing the name of another individual without proper authorization in connection with any course work.

Disciplinary action will be taken for those students suspected of academic dishonesty. At no point in this course is it acceptable for you to submit someone else's work as your own, or use the ideas of someone else as your own. It is also unacceptable for you to share your own work with another student.

Unilateral Instructor Action – If objective evidence exists indicating that you have practiced academic dishonesty, the instructor may assign a grade of "F" on the paper,

examination, or assignment or assign a grade of "F" for the course.

If the instructor feels that a more severe action is appropriate, the complaint may be referred to the division chair and the dean of instruction. The dean has the authority to recommend an action to the president, or the student may request a hearing.

Grievance

Questions or concerns about any aspect of this course should be directed to the instructor so you and the instructor can work together to resolve any problems that may exist. In the unlikely event that the problem cannot be resolved, then the next step is for you to contact the MCC Online Enrollment Manager at 816 604 4487.

Metropolitan Community College is strongly committed to providing workplaces and classrooms that are free of sexual harassment. MCC will not tolerate any behavior, whether verbal or physical, which constitutes sexual harassment. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature are prohibited. To file a complaint, contact the MCC Online Enrollment Manager at 816 604 4487.