

Geography 1400-090

Humans in an Uncertain World

3 semester credit hours BF

Instructor:

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Elizabeth Dudley-Murphy was born and raised in Chile, South America. After graduating from high school in Santiago, she came to the U.S. to attend the University of Utah. After graduating with a BA in Anthropology, she worked for a few years and then returned to the University of Utah to complete a Master's Degree and Doctorate in Geography.

Prerequisites: None

General Education Status: Fulfills a core requirement for a major or minor degree in Geography

Social/Behavioral Science Exploration

Coursework: Six lessons, six assignments, six online discussions, and two equally-weighted exams.

Description:

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

People! Politics! Language! Religion! All of these terms are elements of Human Geography. What is Human Geography? It is the study of different cultures of the world and the different elements that make up these cultures. Human geography focuses on "people", where they are, what they are like, how they interact over space, and what kinds of cultural landscapes they erect upon the natural landscapes they occupy. Human societies are not passive. Interaction between the environment and humankind is reciprocal - the environment affects human life and cultures and humans alter and transform the environment.

Human geography helps us to understand the world we occupy and to appreciate the circumstances affecting peoples and countries other than our own. It clarifies the contrasts in societies and cultures in the human landscapes they have created in the different regions of the earth.

Course Objectives: The objective of this course is to leave the student with a basic understanding of geographic concepts and how they can be applied to population's world wide. The course seeks to introduce students to the scope and excitement of human geography while making clear the relevance of its content to their daily lives and roles as citizens of an increasingly interrelated world community.

By the end of the course the student will: 1) have a basic understanding of culture, culture change, and cultural regionalism; 2) have an understanding of concepts and models of spatial interaction; 3) have an appreciation for population structures, patterns and change; 4) have an understanding of settlement patterns and why peoples settled where they did.

System Requirements: This class can be "attended" from anywhere there is an Internet connection. Assignments and papers can be submitted electronically. Students must be able to use an Internet browser, send attached files via e-mail and post comments to a web board.

Materials: Text: Human Geography, 13th Edition, by Mark Bjelland is now available digitally, via McGraw-Hill Connect and can be accessed by clicking the McGraw-Hill Connect icon in the left hand drop down menu. From there you will see a button that says "begin" and that will take you through the process of registering for Connect and then you will be granted access to the book and resources.

Also, here is a video that will walk you through the process:
<http://video.mhhe.com/watch/xUs68jEUwVnAB2K64eWMgc?>

Lessons

The way the class is set up is that there are a number of lessons, assignments and discussions. The Assignments and Discussions can be accessed by clicking Assignments in the left hand column and the Lessons can be accessed by clicking on Modules and then Lessons. The Lessons are intended to be an introduction to a particular section of the text, they outline the chapters that are to be read for each assignment. Each Lesson corresponds to an Assignment - so you read the Lesson first, then the chapters outlined in the Lesson and move onto the Assignment with the same number. The lessons in some cases summarize important concepts in the chapters and at times they will provide information that is not found in the text.

Due Dates – Assignments, Discussions, Exams

All DUE dates for assignments, discussions and Exam dates are shown on the class calendar and on the syllabus, see below. The date where you see Assignments or Discussions are the dates they are DUE. You can begin and submit them any time before that date, but plan to have them in by the due date at 11:59 pm. It is a good idea to put the dates on a calendar, but if not, be sure to check the calendar on this page (see calendar choice in top menu) and the listed due dates below, frequently. If you are taking more than one class in Canvas, you can click on the different classes to see the due dates, or if you see them together, they will be identified by different colors.

Online Discussions:

There will be six Online Discussions to successfully complete the discussion portions, select them by clicking on the Assignments icon and you will see them listed 1 -6. Do not select them from the Discussions icon, as the grade will not be posted to the grade book. This is an asynchronous discussion: you may not be logged in at the same time as other students in the class; however, you will be able to read other comments and add your own thoughts. I will check the on-line discussion and provide additional information, if needed. You may participate in this discussion any time up to the "DUE" date. The discussion topics may or may not follow the chapters in the text. Hopefully they will stimulate some interesting discussion and you can pull from the information you have learned thus far. It would be nice to see some impromptu discussions coming from those that I have set up. Please feel free to respond to your fellow students. Although this is not a traditional "chat room", hopefully, by reading other students comments you will want to respond, not only to the discussion topic, but to the student's responses. I have activated the Chat tool so feel free to use it, though I do not have any assignments that require it.

The discussions will be worth 20% of the grade. The first few discussions are available now, I may make some changes to the latter ones and will let you know via announcements as to availability.

Written Assignments

There are six web-based assignments for this course. The Assignments can be accessed by clicking on the Assignments icon and you will see them listed 1 - 6. They will all become available on Wednesday, but I will likely be changing some of the questions to the latter assignments. All changes will be complete by the end of next week. The written portion of the assignments consists of 1) Short Essays of one to two paragraphs each, and /or 2) online web-based search exercises. Refer to the text and Lessons (click on Modules) to produce an answer that includes detail. It is advisable that you answer the assignment questions as you complete the readings. In most lessons you have more than one chapter included in the reading assignment. It is easier to complete the answers in each chapter as you complete the reading. You are able to save partially completed assignments and return to complete them as you wish. You should not lose any information. Just click the Save button and you can return as many times as you like. I feel that most of the work you put into this class comes from working on the Assignments, so this semester 50% of the grade will be based on this.

Study Guides

The study guides are "Comprehensive Study Guides" and can be accessed through the Modules icon then Study Guides. These study guides will contain everything you need to know for the exams. Do not be dismayed by the amount of reading in the text, there is a lot of material, but you can concentrate on the highlights in the Lessons and the Study Guides for reviewing for the Exams.

Study Suggestions

Read the Lessons first.

Complete the Reading Assignment.

Scan the questions in the Written Assignment.

Re-read the assigned material being careful to learn the correct meaning of important new words.

Close your books and answer the written assignment questions in your own words. Many of the questions can be answered at great length, but you should try to organize your answers so that they are both complete and succinct. Grading is based on quality, not quantity.

Exams: All exams will be online and each exam is worth 100 points. The exams cover material from the lessons that immediately precede it; exams are not comprehensive. Each exam consists of multiple choice, short answer or essay questions, matching, definitions, and possibly a map component, which would require location of specific points on a map. All of the concepts and definitions you need to know for the exams are in the text. The exams will be available for three days, from Thursday morning until Saturday night allowing students with work schedules to be accommodated. You will have 90 minutes for each exam. Due to the exam being online, it will be considered open book, however, if you are not familiar with the information prior to the exam, you will spend too much time looking up answers, so I highly recommend staying on top of the material in the class, i.e., the assignments and discussions. Exams are worth 30% of the final grade

If you have any questions, feel free to use the contact information above and let me know.

Grading will consist of:

Two exams 30%

Six Written Assignments 50%

Six Discussions 20%

You will receive a number and grade on each assignment as follows:

94-100= A 87-90 = B+ 77-80 = C+ 67-70 = D+

90-93 = A- 84-87 = B 74-77 = C 64-67 = D

80-83 = B- 70-74 = C- 60-64 = D- Below 60 = E

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT SYLLABUS STATEMENT

* Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Penalties may include failure of an assignment, the entire course, and/or the filing of formal charges with appropriate university authorities. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one's work, and plagiarism:

* Cheating involves the unauthorized possession or use of information in an academic exercise, including unauthorized communication with another person during an exercise such as an examination.

* Misrepresenting one's work includes, but is not limited to, representing material prepared by another as one's own work or submitting the same work in more than one course without prior permission of all instructors.

* Plagiarism means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in one's own work offered for academic consideration or public presentation.

Safety & Wellness

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677) this number will get you to a dispatch officer at the University of Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS; dps.utah.edu). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

The University of Utah seeks to provide a safe and healthy experience for students, employees, and others who make use of campus facilities. In support of this goal, the University has established confidential resources and support services to assist students who may have been affected by harassment, abusive relationships, or sexual misconduct. A detailed listing of University Resources for campus safety can be found at <https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/campussafety.php>

Your well-being is key to your personal safety. If you are in crisis, call 801-587-3000; help is close.

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<https://map.utah.edu/> Link for map, we are the spots by the library. Go to map features/campus safety/eap emergency assembly, switch it to on, the sites will appear.