

Geography 100:

INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY:

Syllabus: Winter Quarter 2009

Welcome to Geography 100. This is a five-credit course that fulfills a Social Science distribution requirement for the Associate in Arts and Sciences (AAS) Degree at Bellevue Community College. This course satisfies General Education Requirements in the following areas:

Cultural Traditions

Historical & Intellectual Perspectives **3**

Cultural Diversity **2**

Science and Environment

Science and the Natural World **2**

There are no prerequisites for this class.

Course Description:

The course will cover a series of major themes of geographic enquiry. The dynamic nature of the physical environment will provide a foundation on which the human/cultural landscape has evolved.

Specific areas of investigation will focus on an explanation of the parameters of geography: the role of maps and mapmakers: an awareness of some of the major forces of physical processes and resulting topography: a review of the dynamics of the atmosphere and subsequent climate types: the impact of population growth: and case studies that take an in depth look into a series of issues in economic, political, urban, and cultural geography.

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Required Texts:

Introduction to Geography *Getis, Getis, and Fellmann*, McGraw-Hill – 11th edition

World Place Locations *Roselle and Walker*, Thomson

The Comparative World Atlas Hammonds

Map Packet Rand McNally

Course Objectives:

to consider the basic themes of geography and how they are applied

to explore the relationships between physical and cultural landscapes

to provide a foundation in geographic enquiry that will act as a catalyst for future study and to develop a sense of place by fostering a sense of connectivity with both the physical and cultural world.

Format:

The coursework is divided into five **Course Modules** and a **World Place Locations Component**.

Course Modules:

The modules are designed to follow the general format of chapter content in your textbook. The textbook, however, is best viewed as a support tool for your studies as there are additional resources – class notes and recommended reading assignments – that will need to be carefully studied to provide a foundation for this class.

All modules begin with **Class Notes**. These notes will aid you to better understand the topics covered in the particular module. The information in the **Class Notes** focuses on material that is generally not thoroughly covered in the textbook. **You should begin each module by reading the introductory Class Notes.**

The next step is to read through the directions that identify which chapters of the textbook you need to read to enable you to answer the **Textbook Reading Assignment Section**. This information will direct you to the reading in your textbook to allow you to better answer questions on the module exams.

Every module has a **Recommended Reading Assignment Section**. This is your next step. Read through these articles and answer all the related questions. You will be tested on this material in the Module Exams and in the Final.

The last step in each module is the Module Exam. Having carefully read through and completed the **Class Notes, Textbook Reading, and Recommended Reading Assignments** – and completed the related questions – you will then be prepared to take the respective Module Exam. To successfully complete the exams, it is imperative that you complete all of the questions in the exercises. **All** of the module exam questions and essays are **directly** based on the readings and exercises. All exams are open book/note. Be aware that Modules 1-4 are time limited, that is you will have a limited time to answer the module questions. You can only make **ONE** attempt and are allocated 60 minutes to complete each of the four module exams. For the Essay Final -

which is divided into two sections - you are allowed 60 minutes for each section (120 minutes total) to complete each section (Final Exam Part A and Final Exam Part B).

The Modules are sequenced in the following order.

Module 1: The Nature of Geography and Maps and Mapmakers

Module 2: Landscapes and Landscape Processes

Module 3: Weather and Climate Types

Module 4: Human Geography Part One: Population and Cultural Geography

Module 5: Human Geography Part Two: Political Geography

Each of the first four Modules has an open book/open note, **multiple-choice** online Module Exam. The fifth and last module will be material that you study for an online essay Final. The Final is divided into two parts (Part A and Part B). It is comprised of a series of essays and is open book/open note. Please read the Instructions for the Final Exam before attempting.

Place Location Component

You will also be required to study place locations for the eight major world realms (listed below). There are Ten online location map quizzes (Unit 2: Europe and Russia and Unit 9: North America are both divided into two quizzes each, a cultural quiz and a physical quiz) Preparation for the quizzes is done by completing the respective units in the **World Place Locations** workbook, utilization of the **blank outline maps**, and referencing the **Atlas** (see required texts above).

To ensure success, read the Instructions to the Student for suggestions, hints, and guidelines in the **World Place Locations** workbook. The blank maps are used to practice identifying the locations listed at the end of each Unit in the workbook. The Place Location quizzes are multiple-choice format. Carefully, follow the online instructions when taking the quizzes.

The Eight Realms and respective Units in the World Place Locations workbook:

1. **Europe and Russia – Unit 2 (divided into two quizzes- physical and cultural)**
2. **East Asia – Unit 3**
3. **South and Central Asia – Unit 4**
4. **Southeast Asia and Australasia – Unit 5**
5. **North Africa and the Middle East – Unit 6**
6. **Southern Africa – Unit 7**
7. **South and Central America and the Caribbean – Unit 8**
8. **North America – Unit 9 (divided into two quizzes - physical and cultural)**

Unit 1 Major Features of the Planet is not assessed. However, it is advised that you plot the locations on your World practice map to allow you to become more familiar with the format of the workbook.

As an optional/extra credit part of the the Place Location Assessment section you may - if you wish - complete the exercises/quizzes found at the end of each Unit in the World Place Locations Workbook. The exercises begin with Unit 2: Europe and Russia on pages 18 and 19. (Unit 1 does not have an exercise/quiz) Answers to the exercises can be found in the workbook itself, in the atlas, and in various online sites. These exercises must be completed and either 'dropped off' in the Social Science Division Office by Tuesday 17th March or mailed in to the office in enough time to be received in the office by that date (see address above). The blank maps are for you to use as practice maps in preparation for completing the online quizzes. They do not need to be sent in as part of the exercise package. You will receive an additional mark for each of the quizzes submitted (25 questions in each quiz) - you can submit as many as you like to a total of 8 completed quizzes - this would add a total of 8 marks (8%) to your final score of 100 marks for the class.

Course Grading:

Four Module Exams (multiple choice format) each **15%** **4x15% = 60%**

Module Five Essay Final has a value of: **15%**

Online Location Quiz Section has a value = **25%** (**Note: plus an additional extra credit option for each of the 'end of the chapter location quizzes submitted' to a total of 8% for all 8 quizzes**).

Total 100%

No make-ups.

Grading Scale:

A	4.0	90% and above
A-	3.7	85-89%
B+	3.3	80-84%
B	3.0	75-79%
B-	2.7	70-74%
C+	2.3	65-69%
C	2.0	60-64%
C-	1.7	55-59%
D+	1.3	50-54%
D	1.0	45-49%
F	0.0	44% and less

Participation:

The student is responsible for:

1. the technical aspects of your computer/email/printer etc.

Please refer to the BCC Distance Education website for the Vista Tutorial and for minimum hardware requirements.

The Distance Education Office telephone number is listed above.

2. reading the specified materials.
3. taking part in email discussions. Contacting me/fellow students can be helpful.

4. keeping comprehensive notes/diagrams/maps relevant to course topics.
5. Timely completions of place location and module exams.

You should not leave exams to the last minute in case you have a technical problem this is a very important consideration.

6. reviewing the Bellevue Community College academic calendar

posted at <http://distance-ed.bcc.ctc.edu> for all details regarding registration and withdrawal policy and procedures and distribution of final grades.
7. reading the Social Science Divisions policy statement.
8. if special needs are necessary contacting Disability Resource Center (DRC)

at (425) 564-2498

Below are the '**General Guidelines for the Social Science Division**', of which Geography is a program: please note there have to be slight modifications for online sections. For instance, unacceptable behavior would apply to posting rude or personal attacks in discussion messages or using information from the personal biographies posted to harass fellow students. The instructor reserves the right to remove messages posted, downgrade the assessment of the exercise, and/or refer the student(s) to the appropriate authorities.

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION Revised Winter 2009

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue Community College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue Community College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BCC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BCC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue Community College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*