

**Geography 100A & B (5300 & 5302):
Introduction to Geography:
Instructor: George C. Walker.**

**Course Syllabus.
Spring Quarter 2008**

Office Hour: Daily 9.30-10.30
Office: D100D - next to the fountain.
Phone: 425-546-2333
e-mail: gwalker@bcc.ctc.edu

Course Description:

The course will cover a series of major themes of geographic enquiry. The splendor and dynamic nature of the physical environment will be viewed as a foundation upon which the human landscape evolves. Specific areas of enquiry will focus on an explanation of the parameters of geography: the role of maps and mapmakers: an awareness of some of the major components of geomorphology: a review of the dynamics of the atmosphere: the impact of global population growth: and case studies in the urban and cultural mosaic of spatial patterns on the landscape.

Course Objectives:

- to consider the basic themes that make-up the core of geographic enquiry:
- 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:
- to develop a sense of place and foster a sharper sense of the intimacy with the physical and cultural world in which we live.

Required Texts:

Getis, Getis and Fellman: 'Introduction to Geography': McGraw-Hill 11th. Edition.
D. Roselle and G. Walker: 'World Place Locations and Map Packet and the Hammond World Atlas

Grading Standards:

810-900	A
765-809	A-
720-764	B+
675-719	B
630-674	B-
585-629	C+
540-584	C
495-539	C-
450-495	D+
405-449	D
404 <	F

General Policy:

- I hope that you will **enjoy the class** and that you will **be motivated to learn**:
- It is intended to search for a **variety of views** in a balanced way:
- It is hoped that you will organize your notes and use **good study habits**:
- The text books are excellent support materials, but, you must take **comprehensive class notes**:
- You should be spending about **50 hours of homework time minimum on this course**
- **You must take responsibility** for your learning:
- **Attend class regularly** and if you are absent arrange for someone to take notes for you:
- You are expected to be on time for class and **not leave early without permission**:
- Know the times and **dates** for all tests/quizzes/exams: bring a scantron answer sheet:
- Please **do not bring food and / or drinks** to class:
- Pay attention and **do not talk informally** during class discussions/lecture times:
- If you have a problem(s) please **see me** about it as soon as possible after the class:
- If you have a point to make during class please **raise your hand** to attract my attention:
- Please **do not hesitate to ask relevant questions** in class-time:
- You must take the mid-term and final examinations on the scheduled times, **I do not encourage 'make-ups'** other than absence due to a recorded illness. For recorded illness I require an email or telephone notification stating you are unable to attend / or a doctor's note indicating illness. If you do not provide either then your illness is not recorded and thereby not able to secure a make-up opportunity. Under unusual circumstances where I consider it possible for you to take a 'make-up' (other than a recorded illness) the 'make-up' will score a maximum mark of 75% of your recorded score on that test:
- **You can miss any one map quiz without it effecting your score as one quiz is an extra credit opportunity.**
- **Please remember that if you are ill** I will only record your absence if you let me know by **phone/e-mail**:
- **The final** examination must be taken at the scheduled time.
- **Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are required to meet with the Director of Disability Support Services (Room B132)** to establish their eligibility for accommodation. Tel: 564-2498. Please ask me if you need further advice.
- **Student Services also include Reading and Writing and Math Lab opportunities.**

Course Outline:

Week 1

Introduction to the course – essence of geographic enquiry

Maps and map-makers – Chapter 1 and 2 textbook

Ancient maps – Ptolemy to Columbus and Waldseemuller world map

Map design – choropleth and isoline maps and basics of map projections

Week 2

Modern maps – development of remote sensed imagery

Geographic Information Systems – examples of use of this technology

Video presentations - 'Tales from the Map Room – A Tissue of Lies' and 'The true image of the Earth'

Week 3

Geomorphology – Landforms and Landform Processes – Chapter 3

Earth materials – rock types

Plate tectonics and continental drift

Video presentation – 'Restless Rocks'

Week 4

Volcanoes and earthquakes

Glaciation – erosion and deposition

Fluvial processes – streams and river channels

Video presentations – 'Cataclysms of the Ice Ages' and 'Volcanoes of Hawaii'.

Week 5

Weather and climate – an introduction – Chapter 4

Air temperature – global variations

Air pressure and winds – pressure gradient and winds

Ocean currents

Week 6

Moisture in the atmosphere – precipitation

Storms, hurricanes and tornadoes – violent events

Climate change

Video presentations – 'Hurricanes' and 'The science of climatology'

Mid-Term exam. – 50 minute exam - on all the material covered to date.

Week 7

Population geography – introduction – Chapter 6

Basic components of demographic enquiry

The demographic transition

Video presentations – 'Spaceship Earth – Population' and 'Life expectancy – geography as destiny'.

Week 8

World population density and distribution

Migration

Video presentation – 'A death in the desert – the fatal journey of a migrant worker'.

Week 9

Cultural geography – introduction – Chapter 7

Cultural change – globalization – diffusion of ideas and beliefs

Video presentation – 'Globalization – winners and losers'

Week 10

Language – global perspectives - ethnicity

Demise of global reservoir of languages

Religions of the world – overview

Week 11

Ethnic issues – gender and culture

Homogeneity and Diversity – case studies of peace and conflict

Impact of conflict on children

Video presentations – 'Invisible Children'

Final Examination – 50 minute exam - on everything covered after the Mid-Term Exam.

Part One:

- Introduction to principles of geographic enquiry:
- Cartography-maps and map-making from beginnings to GIS:
- Remote sensing of the environment:

Part Two:

- Life on Earth and Earth materials:
- Continental drift and plate tectonics: volcanic landscapes and earthquake activity:
- Weathering processes and landforms including fluvial and glacial environments.

Part Three:

- Weather phenomena including air temperature; atmospheric pressure: moisture in the atmosphere: and wind circulation.

The Mid-Term Exam will cover these three parts of the course.

Part Four:

- Cultural geography and the physical environment:
- Population geography and demography:
- Urbanization and urban landscapes:
- Impact of humankind on the landscape

The Final Exam will cover this last part of the course.

Using your Textbook:

Your textbook is an excellent source of information. However, you would be well advised to take comprehensive notes during class time and use the textbook to supplement this material. You should avoid using your textbook as a basis for revision for tests. Your own notes ought to fulfill this component of your work. I encourage you to read broadly from your textbook covering the directly relevant material and as much 'background' material as you can.

Examination Format:

There will be -

- 1) Mid-Term examination** based on material covered in Parts 1 through 3 = **300 marks**
- 2) Final examination** based on material covered in Part 4 = **300 marks**
- 3) The remaining 300 marks** of the total mark allocation will be devoted to the **Map Quiz exercises.**

Course Calendar

There will be a map quiz every Monday starting April 7th – except when campus is closed (May 26th) and then the quiz will be the following day / Tuesday of that week. There will be 25 questions to answer on place location and a further 5 from questions in the end of chapter quiz and an additional 5 marks for completion and weekly submission of the end of chapter quiz. Submit these at the time of the quiz except # 1 and #9 – in these cases there will be no submission until the following quiz. Study the map quizzes in the following sequence-

- 1 – Europe and Russia - Physical
- 2 - Europe and Russia – Cultural
- 3 - East Asia
- 4 - South and Central Asia
- 5 - Southeast Asia and Australasia
- 6 - North Africa and the Middle East
- 7 - Southern Africa
- 8 - South and Central America
- 9 - North America – Physical
- 10 -North America – Cultural

Mid-Term – Wednesday May 7th

Final examination - 50 minute exam.– in exam week –Friday June 13th at 8.30 for the 8.30 class in D273 and Wednesday June 11th at 11.30 for the 11.30 class in D273

Course Outcomes ratings

Historical and Intellectual Perspective: 3

Cultural Diversity: 2

All the following rated 1 - Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: Quantitative Logic: Reading: Research information Literacy: Reading: Visual: Group Processes: Ethics: The Nature of Science

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION Revised Spring 2008

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.*