

Geography and Regional Planning: CGCE W Intercession 2018 1/2 - 1/16

GARP0210-550 (10029) Cultural Geography Online

Three (3) credit hours. **Common Core: Global Diversity (GDIV)**

INSTRUCTOR: Sean M. Fitzgerald **E-MAIL:** sfitzgerald@westfield.ma.edu

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Online OFFICE HOURS: PLATO Online Office by Appointment. Email anytime.

Best Practice: Voice/Text; 413-626-3713 Text-Call 24/7

Cultural Geography is an interdisciplinary, systematic, and geographic survey of world culture (in about 12-days); enhancing our understanding of the human mosaic that is our global cultural diversity. The three cultural themes include population, social systems, and economies, and we explore the geographic distribution patterns and relationships of and between the three themes. Our objective is to enhance our cultural and geographic literacy, and question our understandings of why culture is where it is; with a focus on characteristics which give unique identity to our diverse cultural landscapes. In application, cultural and geographic intelligence, supported with the latest online information technologies can enhance academic and professional activities and is a prerequisite to participation in the global community.

The Announcements page on PLATO, when active, suggests a model time-management framework for compressed courses that has worked for most students over the years. This is a fast-paced venue which suggests daily attention of several hours. In brief, there are **Three Theme Assignments (which use the same format and the same student selected Research Country as a focus-examples). You would do one Theme Assignment every three days or so.** There is a **Final (Research Country) Cultural and Geographic Profile Report, based upon the content of the Theme assignments; and using the same research country**, which you would draft *while* you do each related Theme Assignment, and finish-up the last two days. You *must* READ and use the textbook chapters. It is *strongly suggested* you browse and use as appropriate the supporting Reviews and Notes, Videos, and Documents and links on PLATO. Nearly every student using this *guided-initiative* approach has successfully completed the intercession and summer shorter course venues. All work in this winter intercession 2018 is due 1/20/18.

Text: Rubenstein, J.M., 2016. Contemporary Human Geography. 3rd ed. Prentice Hall.

- Purchase-Rent cost-effective loose-leaf 3-hole punched format at [WSU BOOKSTORE](#)
- Purchase-Rent cost-effective used at any online vendor.
- eTextbook Available from [myPEARSONstore](#)
- A textbook website access code IS NOT REQUIRED in whatever format you purchase the book, but it **must be the 3rd EDITION.**
- Student Roster will receive an email with textbook purchase details several weeks before course start.

Format: Online course progresses through the three Theme Assignments; using the textbook Chapters (4-Chapters per Theme) and related Theme Item PLATO Chapter folders and supporting materials, and ends with a final report. **All Theme Assignments follow the same format (Steps 1-4; Multiple-Choice, Definition Short Answers, Textbook Short Answers, and Theme Essay).** Chapter video tutorials cover chapter material and occasionally related current-events; view on your own schedule or as needed. A daily **Discussions** Item/Topic/Threads is maintained, encouraging comment, and Live Office-Classroom with Audio and Graphical interface each day-evening and/or as noted in daily Announcements.

- A Standardized Power Point Theme Assignment TEMPLATE is provided for consistent assignment formatting; which can also be modified by students as needed.

For Information on Global Culture from the UN: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/>

Grade Rubric:

400 total points in three Themes and a 6-8 page final report. (not including Maps, Tables, and Graphics)

A = 360+ points

B = 309-359 points

C = 268- 308 points

D = 227-267 points

Plus and Minus Letter Grades are calculated at the end of the semester.

Course Schedule:

Theme-Chapters	Theme Dates	Assignment Due-Dates	Note
Theme 1 Chapters 1-4	T 1/2/17 – F 1/5/17	M 1/8/17	Select Research Country
Theme 2 Chapters 5-8	M 1/8/17 – R 1/11/17	F 1/12/17	Start Draft Final Report
Theme 3 Chapters 9-12	F 1/12/17 – T 1/16/17	T 1/16/17	Draft Final Report
Final Report	W 1/17/17 – F 1/19/17	Sat. 1/20/17	All work DUE Course Closed-Grading
Late Make-Up Period	1/20/17 - 1/23/17	1/23/17	Final Grades Posted