

GPS 0210-550 Cultural Geography Online CGCE 010719-01219

Geography Planning and Sustainability: Winter 2019 (Formerly GARP)

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

INSTRUCTOR: Sean M. Fitzgerald MS PhD ABD

E-MAIL: sfitzgerald@westfield.ma.edu

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 (around the world in about three-weeks); enhancing our understanding and appreciation 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 one prerequisite to participation in the global community.

See also <https://en.unesco.org/>

The Announcements page on PLATO suggests a model time-management framework for shorter winter courses that has worked for most students over the years. This is a venue which suggests daily attention of 1-3 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 3-4 days or so. There is a Final (Research Country) Cultural and Geographic Profile Report, based upon the content of the Theme assignment definitions and essays; and using the same research country, which you would draft while you do each related Theme Assignment, and finish-up the last few 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 course. All 'Late' work (due-dates are suggested) in this winter session 2019 is due by T 1/22/19.

- Live Blackboard Ultra Virtual Office-Classroom (and case-studies) hours will be during evening hours around 7-8 PM EST. Most all essential course instructional videos are pre-recorded. Students are encouraged to use the Discussions Forum if the live sessions are not compatible with your schedule; Virtual-Live Office is optional as student schedules may vary.

Textbook: Rubenstein, J.M., 2019. Contemporary Human Geography. 4th ed. Prentice Hall.

- Purchase-Rent at WSU BOOKSTORE
- RENTALS See also WSU BOOKSTORE DIGITAL CONTENT
- Rentals and Online Versions are best practice and cost-effective.
- Purchase-Rent text or digital text at Pearson: Rubenstein Contemporary Human Geography 4th Edition
- Purchase-Rent paper or digital cost-effective at a rated online vendor.
- **The textbook must be the 4th EDITION.** Most all course support and assignment materials on PLATO reflect the 4th edition of the textbook. The Textbook and materials on PLATO provide all the information you need to complete course assignments.

Format:

- Online course progresses through the three Theme Assignments; using the textbook Chapters (4-Chapters per Theme) and related Theme Items, PLATO Chapter folders and supporting materials, and ends with a final report.
- The Textbook is the primary Source for Assignments; thorough reading is required.
- 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 weekly Discussion Forum/Thread is maintained, encouraging comment, and a Live Office-Classroom with Audio and Graphical interface is used optionally with schedule as noted in Announcements.
- A Standardized Power Point Theme Assignment TEMPLATE is provided for consistent assignment formatting; which can also be modified by students as needed.

Grade Rubric:

400 total points in three Themes and a 5-7 page final report derived directly from Theme Assignment Step 2 and 4 materials. (Pages 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. Factors include reasonably on-time assignments, Discussion Forum-Thread Comments, exceptionally researched Theme Assignments, and tracked video viewing. Pre-recorded Videos are 15-minutes each.

- All Completed Power Point Templates, or Power Point saved as PDF MUST be attached-submitted on PLATO; NO attachments to instructor WSU Email.

Opening Day Ask Questions	M 1/7	Have your Book
Theme 1 Population Geography Chapter 1	M 1/7	Theme 1 100-Points
Intro to Geography		Select a Research Country
Chapter 2	T 1/8	(From List; use U.S. only as comparison)
Population Geography		
Chapter 3	W 1/9	
Geography of Migration		
Chapter 4	R 1/10	
Geography of Folk & Popular Cultures		
<i>Start your Final Report Now</i>		
Theme 2 Social Geography Chapter 5	F 1/11	Theme 2 100-Points Theme 1 Assignment Suggested DUE
Geography of Language		Use Weekend Productively
Chapter 6	M 1/14	
Geography of Religion		
Chapter 7	M 1/14	
Ancestral and Ethnic Geography		

Chapter 8	T 1/15	
Political Geography		
Theme 3 Economic Geography Chapter 9	T 1/15	Theme 3 100-Points Theme 2 Assignment suggested DUE
Agricultural Geography		
Chapter 10	W 1/16	
Geography of Sustainable Development		
Chapter 11	R 1/17	
Industrial Geography		
Chapter 12	F 1/18	
Geography of Economic Services		Use Weekend Productively
Final Report	1/19 – 1/22	Theme 3 Assignment DUE
<i>See Final Report Guidelines</i>	1/22	Final Report 100-Points DUE