

GEO150 GEOGRAPHY (Physical and Human) (3 credit hours)

Instructor: Norie OSHIMA, PhD

Office hours: TUE & THU 13.00-14.30

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Semesters: Spring2009

Meeting times:

DESCRIPTION: Geography is the study of the earth's surface as the space within which the human population lives. The word 'geo' comes from Greek '*geo*', the earth, and '*graphein*', to write. By 'earth surface' is meant that rather thin shell, only one thousandth of the planet's circumference thick, that forms the habitat or environment within which the human population is able to survive. In this course students will study a number of concepts, theories, and topics that broadly constitute the discipline of geography. This course will provide knowledge of both physical and human geography. The class will go off interactively and sometimes will have discussions, small works, presentations, and so on.

OBJECTIVES: The objectives of this course is to provide students with

- * Knowledge and understanding of geographic concepts, theory, and geographical perspectives in order to understand the world around you and interpret the diverse and complex human factors that shape our society;
- * Knowledge and understanding of the relationship between nature and human being;
- * The ability to collect relevant information on a topic, to process and critically assess information in order to make a research paper, and to introduce the research to other students both orally and in writing;
- * The ability to develop logical way of thinking.

STUDY MATERIALS:

<Textbooks>

- * none

<Reference books, sources of readings and other information>

- * Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons.

ASSESSMENT:

30%: Quizzes based on a previous class (≠ attendance)

- You are expected to attend class, having completed the assigned reading on the syllabus in advance. Each class session will focus on one or more topics and be accompanied by appropriate readings.
- At entire module of the class students are required being active. Participation in discussion, commenting and questioning for other's presentation will be assessed.

10%: A report on an excursion

10%: A research paper

- 5% is for a research paper

Students can choose research theme freely, but the research should be a geographical study. Students can visit the instructor's office by appointment, when one need advice for a research paper.

- 5% is for a presentation in a class

Students have a presentation that will be scheduled in the later stage of the course.

25%: Midterm exam

- A midterm in-class examination (1.25 hours) will be given in the middle of the course.

25%: Final exam

- A final exam of 1.25 hours will be given during the regular examination period.

ACADEMIC PREPARATION: The instructor strongly recommends students to discard an image of geography at junior and high school.

POLICIES: One absence automatically loses 1 point. Tardy more than 5 minutes lose - 0.5 point. If you can't attend with unavoidable reason such as funeral, you should inform secretary.

COURSE FORMAT AND ACTIVITIES: Lecture, presentation, and Discussion

SCHEDULE:

<Week 1>

Theme: Introduction of the Course and Systematic Geography

Readings: None

<Week 2>

Theme: Making, Manipulating and Interpreting Maps

Readings: Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.1-9.

<Week 3>

Theme: Human Impacts on the Earth

Readings: None

<Week 4>

Theme: How to read Landscape

Readings:

<Week 5>

Theme: Concept of a City

Readings: Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.109-116.

<Week 6>

Theme: Urban structure

Readings: Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.275-285.

Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.299-308.

<Week 7>

Theme: Migration and Distribution

Readings: Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.61-66.

Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.85-92.

<Week 8>

Theme: Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Activities

Readings: Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.133-143.

Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.213-220.

<Week 9>

Theme: Hierarchy and Development

Readings: Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.247-251.

Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.175-191.

<Week 10>

Theme: Nations, States, and Nation-States

And Readings: Kuby, M., Harner, J. and Gober, P. (2004): Human Geography in Action. New York: John Wiley and Sons, p.351-418.

<Week 11>

Theme: A Geographical Research: Immigrant Issues in Europe

Readings: None

<Week 12>

Theme: A presentations on arbitrary-chosen subject: 1-2

Readings: None

<Week 13>

Theme: A presentations on arbitrary-chosen subject: 3-4

Readings: None

<Week 14>

Theme: A presentations on arbitrary-chosen subject: 5-6

Readings: None

<Week 15>

Theme: Final Exam

Readings: None