

## Geography104: Introduction to Human Geography

**Office Phone:** 301-687-4724 **Administrative Assistant:** 301-687-4369

**Office Location:** GU 232

**Office Hours:** 8:00-8:50 a.m. MW, 1:00-1:50 pm M, 8.00-8.50 am TR or by appointment.

**Lecture Hours:** MWF: 9-9.50 (001), 10-10.50 (002)

**Email:** [jsaku@frostburg.edu](mailto:jsaku@frostburg.edu)

### Course Description

The distribution of human beings in relation to population dynamics, economic development, and cultural diversity.

GEP Learning Objectives: This course is part of the General Education Program at Frostburg State University. The activities and assignments in this course introduce, emphasize, and/or reinforce the learning objectives of the General Education Program marked/checked below.

<b>Written Communication</b> —We want our students to demonstrate proficiency in their written communication that would satisfy both academic and applied audiences. (Links to GEP Goal 1: Core Skills)	
<b>Oral Communication</b> —We want our students to demonstrate proficiency and professionalism in oral communication. (Links to GEP Goal 1: Core Skills)	
<b>Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning</b> —We want our students to analyze and assess problems through calculation and by employing quantitative tools. (Links to GEP Goal 1: Core Skills)	
<b>Critical Thinking and Reasoning</b> —We want our students to demonstrate skill and knowledge in solving problems using qualitative skills and conceptual rigor. (Links to GEP Goal 2: Liberal knowledge and skills of inquiry, critical thinking, and synthesis)	✓
<b>Values and Social Responsibility</b> —We want our students to demonstrate civic oriented behaviors and apply principles of social responsibility to solve community challenges. (Links to GEP Goal 3: Values and Social Responsibility)	✓
<b>Appreciation of Cultural Identities</b> —We want our students to interpret situations through a lens of diversity and globalization. (Links to GEP Goal 4: Appreciation of Cultural Identities)	✓

## **Required text:**

Rubenstein James M. (2020) **The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography**. 13<sup>th</sup> Edition. Upper Saddle River: Prentice-Hall.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is defined to include any form of cheating and/or plagiarism.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Stealing or altering testing instruments;
- Falsifying the identity of persons for any academic purpose;
- Offering, giving or receiving unauthorized assistance on an examination, quiz or other written or oral material in a course;
- Falsifying information on any type of academic record

Plagiarism is:

- The presentation of written or oral material in a manner which conceals the true source of documentary material; or
- The presentation of materials which uses hypotheses, conclusions, evidence, data, or the like, in a way that the student appears to have done work which s/he did not, in fact, do.

In cases involving academic dishonesty, a failing grade or a grade of zero (0) for an assignment and/or a course may be administered. “Students expelled or suspended for reasons of academic dishonesty... shall not be admissible to any other University of Maryland System institution if expelled, or during any period of suspension” (*Bylaws, Policies & Procedures of the University System of Maryland*, Section III).

## **Disruptive Behavior**

The University will not tolerate disorderly conduct which substantially threatens, harms, or interferes with university personnel or orderly university processes and functions. All students are expected to be reasonable and respectful to fellow students, guest speakers, and me. See *The Pathfinder* at <http://www.frostburg.edu/clife/ses/pathfinder.pdf> for a description of disruptive student behavior and its consequences.

Note: Your instructor has the right to require a student to leave the classroom when his/her behavior disrupts the learning environment of the class. A student found responsible for disruptive behavior in the classroom may be administratively withdrawn from the course.

## **Students with Learning or Physical Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability, please contact the Office of Disability Support Services located in 150 Pullen Hall to set an appointment. We want to be sure you receive appropriate accommodations as soon as possible.

## **Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse**

Please be aware that, according to Maryland law, educators are required to report current and past child abuse and neglect even when the former victim is now an adult and even when the former alleged abuser is deceased. If you disclose current or past abuse/neglect in class, in papers, or to me personally, I am required by law to report it. Please see me if you are interested in more information about this law.

## **Policy**

Students are expected to attend classes regularly and participate actively during class discussions. All students are required to read the textbook before and after class.

Attendance will be recorded for administrative purposes. You are encouraged to come to class regularly. Students are responsible for informing the instructor about their presence when they arrive in class after attendance has been taken.

Assignments should be submitted on the due date. Late assignments carry a penalty of 20% per day for a maximum of 5 days. No assignments will be accepted after the 5th day without a reasonable cause. A reasonable cause is defined as illness or tragedy within the family.

## **Cell phones and pagers**

**Cell phones and pagers should be turned off when you enter the classroom.**

Answering cell phones or checking text messages in class is disrespectful to your classmates and me. Exception is given to a certified EMT or fire responder. Please inform me ahead of time if you need to have your beeper or cell phone active all the time because of your profession or special circumstances. There is only **one** warning for using a cell phone in class. You will be sent out of class on second and subsequent times.

## **Canvas**

Course materials are posted on Canvas. You are required to visit the site frequently to check on announcements and deadlines. You can also check your grades and current average from the grade book.

## **Current event**

To promote class participation and discussion, students are required to participate in assignment on current events. You are required to report on a current event that was reported by a news media within the past two weeks. Non-participation in this assignment will lead to loss of points on class attendance and participation. The assignment will be graded so you need to check your spellings and grammar. You will lose 5 points if you

did not attend class to present your current event orally. You need to address the following issues as they relate to the current event.

1. When did the event occur?
2. Which news media reported the event?
3. Where did it occur?
4. Give a summary of the event.
5. Why do you consider this event important?
6. What are your personal reflections on the event, that is, what impact is this event on you and the society?
7. Suggest possible recommendations in dealing with the event in the future.

### **Class Assignments**

All students will be required to complete three class assignments. The time and dates are posted below.

### **Grading:**

All in-class and final examinations will consist of multiple choice and short questions and answers. Prior approval is required for missing an examination. No make-up examinations will be granted if you fail to seek prior approval. Apart from the dates for the final examinations, all other dates are tentative and subject to change. Students will be notified ahead of changes in dates.

The final grade will consist of the following. **These dates are tentative and subject to change.**

	<b>Points</b>
Class participation through four current events (10 points each)	= 40 points
Two map quizzes (February 8 and April 1)	= 80 points
Assignment 1 (February 22)	= 50 points
Assignment 2 (March 15)	= 50 points
Assignment 3 (April 26)	= 100 points
In class examination 1 (March 1)	= 100 points
In class examination 2 (April 12)	= 100 points
GEP Assessment Assignment (March 29)	= 50 points
Final examination: <b>Section 001: Thursday 5/16, 8:00-10.30 am</b>	
<b>Section 002: Wednesday 5/22, 8:00-103.0 am</b>	= 100 points

The final grade is based on the total points accumulated over a maximum of 570 points.  
The scale and grades are as follows:

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F < 69, **NC grade is not awarded**

You are strongly encouraged to use office hours or set up an appointment to discuss your grades with me during the semester.

**Tentative Dates to Remember: Subject to Change**

### **Map Quizzes**

**Friday, February 8**

**Monday, April 1**

### **Assignments**

**Assignment 1: February 22**

**Assignment 2: March 15**

**Assignment 3: April 26**

### **Tests**

**Test 1: March 1**

**Test 2: April 12**

**Test 3: Section 001(9.00-9.50): Thursday 5/16, 8:00-10.30 am**

**Section 002(10:00-10.50: Wednesday 5/22, 8:00-10.30 am**

**Dates of Current events: 2/15, 3/8, 4/19, 5/13**

**Spring break: March 16-24**

**Association of American Geographers Meeting April 3-5**

**General Course Outline and weekly reading (Tentative and subject to change)**

1: This is Geography (**reading assignment: chapter 1**)

Why is Geography a Science? Why is each point on earth unique? Place: a unique location. Regions: a unique area. Why are different places similar? –Scale: from local to global. Space: distribution of features. Connection between places. Why are some Actions Not Sustainable?

2: Population and Health (**reading assignment: chapter 2**)

Where is the world's population distributed: population concentrations and population density. Why is world population increasing: natural increase, births and deaths, demographic transition? Why do some places face health challenges? epidemiologic transitions, health and gender, health and aging, medical services. Why might population increase in the future? Population and resources, population futures, epidemiologic futures, family futures.

### 3: Migration (**reading assignment: chapter 3**)

World's migrants distribution. Where do people migrate within the country? Why do people migrate? Why do migrants face challenges?

### 4: Folk and Popular Culture (**reading assignment: chapter 4**)

Where are folk and popular leisure activities distributed? Where are folks and popular material culture are distributed? Why is access to folk and popular culture unequal? Why do folk and popular culture face sustainability challenges?

### 5: Languages (**reading assignment: chapter 5**)

Where are the world's languages distributed? Where did English and related languages originate and diffuse? Why do individual languages vary among places? Why do local languages survive?

### 6: Religions (**reading assignment: chapter 6**)

Where are the world's religions distributed? Why do religions have distinctive distributions? Why do religions organize space in distinctive patterns? Why do territorial conflicts arise among religious groups?

### 7: Ethnicities (**reading assignment: chapter 7**)

Where are ethnicities distributed? Why do ethnicities have distinctive distributions? Why do ethnicities clash? Why might ethnicities face conflicts? Why do ethnicities ethnic cleansing and genocide occur?

### 8: Political Geography (**reading assignment: chapter 8**)

Where are states distributed? Why are nation-states difficult to create? Why do boundaries cause problems? Where do states face threats?

### 9: Food and Agriculture (**reading assignment: chapter 10**)

Where did agriculture originate? Why do people consume different foods? Where is agriculture distributed? Why do farmers face sustainability challenges?

### 10: Development (**reading assignment: chapter 9**)

Why does development vary among countries? Where are inequalities in development found? Why do countries face challenges to development? Why are countries making progress in development?

11. Industry and Energy (**reading assignment: chapter 11**)

Where are industries distributed? Why are situation and site factors important? Why do industries face resource challenges? Why are industries changing locations?

12. Services and settlements (**reading assignment: chapter 12**)

Where are services distributed? Where are consumer services distributed? Where are business services distributed? Why do services cluster in settlements?

13: Urban Patterns (**reading assignment: chapter 13**)

Why are downtowns distinctive? Where are people distributed within urban areas? Why do urban areas expand? Why do cities face sustainability challenges?

## Map Quiz

One of the requirements of this course is to test your knowledge of the location of countries, cities and physical sites. The following list will form the basis of the first map quiz. In preparing for the quiz, use maps from the package given to you in class.

1. Algeria
2. Egypt
3. Ghana
4. Uganda
5. Nigeria
6. Liberia
7. Ireland
8. Tasman Sea
9. Mongolia
10. Germany
11. Norway
12. Sweden
13. Poland
14. Angola
15. Chile
16. Peru
17. Colombia
18. Saudi Arabia
19. Kuwait
20. Japan
21. China
22. Australia
23. Venezuela
24. Malaysia
25. Indonesia
26. Seychelles
27. Falkland Island
28. Sri Lanka
29. Amazon River
30. Argentina
31. River Zambezi
32. Tigris River
33. Sinai Peninsula
34. Andes Mountains
35. Takla Makan
37. Lesotho
38. Mediterranean Sea
39. Bay of Bengal
40. Arabian Sea
41. Lake Michigan
42. Lake Erie
43. Coral Sea
44. Red Sea
45. Greenwich Meridian
46. Equator
47. Tropic of Capricorn
48. Volta River, Ghana
49. River Nile
50. River Niger
51. River Congo
52. Thailand
53. Accra
54. Addis Ababa
55. Sumatra
56. Moscow
57. Monaco
58. Toronto
59. English Channel
60. Tokyo
61. Great Salt Lake
62. Arctic Ocean
63. Portugal
64. Pakistan
65. Iraq
66. Bhutan
67. Comoro Island
68. Euphrates River
69. Dead Sea
70. Cape Horn
71. Arabian Desert
73. Syria
74. North Sea
75. Strait of Gibraltar
76. Rio De Janeiro
77. Black Sea
78. Afghanistan
79. Davis Strait (Canada)
80. Beaufort Sea
81. Nelson River, Canada
82. Bangladesh
83. Arctic Circle
84. Yucatan channel
85. Vatican City
86. Guam
87. Victoria Islands, Canada
88. Straits of Florida
89. Caribbean Sea
90. Adriatic Sea
91. Bay of Biscay
92. Gulf of Bothnia
93. Persian Gulf
94. Yangtze River
95. Rio de la Plata
96. Volga River
97. Bering Sea
98. Sea of Okhotsk
99. River Ganges
100. El Paso
101. Baffin Bay
102. Mozambique Channel
103. Cape of Good Hope
104. Jordan River
105. Cyprus
106. Jamaica
107. Gobi Desert