

Geography 302: Geography of Maryland

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Office Location: Gunter 234

Office Hours: ~~Office Hours:~~ 8:00-8:50 a.m. MW, 2:00-2:50 pm M, 1.00-1.50 pm TR or by appointment.

Lecture Hours: TR 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

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Course Description

A geographic analysis of the state. Prerequisites: Geography 103 or 104.

Institutional Learning Goals

1. Liberal knowledge and skills of inquiry, critical thinking and synthesis: Students will be required to use different methods in gathering and evaluating important issues on Maryland.
2. Core Skills: Assignments on current event will provide students the opportunity to comprehend and interpret written and oral information on Maryland.
3. Acquisition and application of specialized knowledge: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the economic, historical, and cultural factors affecting changes in Maryland.
4. Values and Social Responsibilities: Students will demonstrate an awareness and appreciation of environmental problems in Maryland. Specifically, students will demonstrate an understanding of Chesapeake Bay environmental problems.
5. Appreciation of cultural identities: Students will demonstrate respect and tolerance for cultural differences in Maryland.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the class students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate their understanding of the historical evolution of Maryland.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the physical and cultural landscape of Maryland.
3. Analyze the environmental problems of the Chesapeake Bay.
4. Identify regional economic and social problems in Maryland.
5. Write a descent term paper on one county in Maryland.
6. Demonstrate their awareness of the problems confronting Maryland.

Required Text

DiLisio, James 2014. Maryland Geography: An Introduction. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

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 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.

Canvas

To facilitate effective communication between the instructor and students the course is available on Canvas site. You are required to visit the site frequently to check on announcements and deadlines. Course outline and assignments are posted on the site. Your grades are available on grade book.

Policy

Students are expected to attend classes regularly and participate actively during class discussions. Attendance will be recorded for administrative use. Students are responsible for informing the instructor of their presence if they arrive after attendance has been taken.

All assignments must be submitted promptly on the due day. Late submission of assignments carries a penalty of 20% per day for a maximum of 5 days. Assignments will not be accepted after the 5th day without a reasonable cause. A reasonable cause is defined as serious illness (doctor's report required) or tragedy within the family (a note from family member required). It is expected that all written work will conform to high standards of grammar and style. **Bad grammar and style will be penalized in the grading of written work.** The Writing Center in Pullen Hall will be willing to review your work before you submit it to the instructor.

Cell phones and pagers

Cell phones and pagers should be turned off when you come to class. Answering cell phones or checking text messages in class is disrespectful to me and your fellow students. Exception is given to a certified EMT or fire responder. Please inform me ahead of time if you need to have your beeper active all the time because of your profession or special circumstances. There is **a zero** tolerance in using a cell phone in class. Your cell phone will be confiscated for two days if you are caught using cell phone in class. You will be sent out of class on a second offense.

Grading

All tests will consist of multiple choice, short questions and answers and essays. Prior approval is required for missing an examination. No make-up examination will be granted if you fail to seek prior approval.

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

Chapter Review (February 6 th)	= 50 points
History Quiz (February 20 th)	= 100 points
Four current events on Maryland (2/13, 3/5, 4/23, 5/7)	= 50 points
County Project (May 2 nd)	= 100 points
Mid-term (March 12 th)	= 100 points
Final Examination (Wednesday 5/20 8:00-10.30 a.m.)	= 100 points

Your final grade will be determined based on the total points accumulated over 500 points. The scale is as follows:

A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F < 60%

Important Dates

Chapter Review	February 6
History Quiz	February 20
Mid-term	March 12
County Project	May 2nd
Final Examination	May 20: 8:00-10.30 am
Current Events on Maryland	2/13, 3/5, 4/23, 5/7
Association of American Geographers Meeting	April 6-10
Spring Break	March 13-20

Chapter Review

You are required to read Chapter 5 – Development and Sprawl of The Chesapeake Future Report. A PDF version of the report is available on Canvas. However, hard copies will be provided in class. You need to write and explain in details your response to the questions.

County Project

All students are required to participate in a county project. The project deals with physical, economic, and socio-cultural issues of each county.

As part of the project, students are strongly encouraged to use maps, graphs, figures and visual aids in support of issues they will raise. County analysis should include all aspects of the physical, social, and economic characteristics of the county. It is important to compare your county with the rest of Maryland. Details of the project will be given out in class and posted on Canvas.

Current Events on Maryland:

To encourage class participation and interaction between students and instructor, students are required to participate in four current event assignments. You are required to report on a current event that was reported by a news media within the past two weeks on Maryland. Non-participation in this assignment will lead to loss of points. The assignment will be graded so you need to check your spellings. The following issues should be addressed. You are required to follow the format suggested below. **You will lose 5 points if you did not attend class to present your current event orally.**

1. Title of the current event
2. When and where did the event occur?
3. Which news media reported the event?
4. Give a detailed summary of the event (2 to 3 paragraphs).
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 this event in the future.

Course outline and weekly schedule (Tentative and subject to change)

1. Maryland's Past in Today's Landscape: Pre-European American Indian Occupance, Colonization - 17th century, agrarian development - 18th century, early urban industrial period - 19th century, mid-industrial - late 19th to early 20th century (Chapter 1)
2. The Mosaic of Maryland: The Regional Setting: Maryland's relative location: Megalopolis, Manufacturing Belt, Appalachian, Physiologic Regions: The coastal plain, the Piedmont, The Appalachian Highlands (Chapter 2)
3. The Physical Environment: Territorial coverage, Climate (temperature and precipitation), Climatic zones (highland, valley, central hills, metropolitan, oceanic), Soils, Water Resources and Vegetation (Chapter 3)
4. Environmental Challenges

The Chesapeake Bay: origins, dimensions and characteristics of the bay, the degradation of the bay, Year 2020 Panel Chesapeake Bay Executive Council Report (Chapter 4)

5. Sustaining a Farming Heritage: regional geographic pattern, crops, truck farming, field crops, tobacco, livestock, poultry, dairying, and other livestock (Chapter 5).
6. The Watermen Domain: crapping, fishing, oysters
7. The Minerals Industries: historic mining, contemporary mining
8. The shifting geography of manufacturing: Maryland manufacturing
9. The People of Maryland: population, population density, population growth, population age, growing diversity, Maryland's minority population, ancestry and foreign born residents, healthcare, income, contrasting poverty, income inequalities, education
10. Moving around Maryland: The Port of Baltimore, exports and imports, major marine terminals, air transportation, highway and rail transportation, communications.
11. Governing Maryland: Municipal government, changing political regions, The Eastern Shore, the Urban Corridor, Maryland Political Landscape -
12. Urban Geography: Interurban relationships, Maryland Settlement Hierarchy, Urban Patterns and Planned Towns: Greenbelt and Columbia, The Washington-Baltimore Metropolis, Washington D.C., Urban Sprawl