

GEO 105 World Geography
Spring 2003
Time: Tuesday/Thursday 2:30-3:50
Place: HL214
Powerpoints at:
<http://home.earthlink.net/~rslocum/>

Dr. Rachel Slocum
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Purpose of the course

Geography 105 is designed to:

- Introduce some of the key concepts in the discipline of geography;
- Show how these concepts can be used to understand aspects of several ‘world regions’—North America, Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa and the Middle East South Asia and South East Asia;
- Promote your knowledge of the location of the world’s nations;
- Improve your writing skills;
- Develop your capacity to think critically.

Themes in the course

Relationships among the regions
Historical relationships among regions
Socio-environmental relations
Capital, class, gender relations
Justice—economic, social, political

Course structure and rules

- Lectures will contain material not in the text.
- Discussion will cover concepts from the text and the lecture.
- Exams will include text and lecture material
- No extra credit will be given ever
- Attendance at lecture is required

Required Text

Marston, Sallie A., Paul L. Knox and Diana M. Liverman. 2002. *World regions in global context: peoples, places and environments*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. (Atlas included). If you want to return your textbook to be re-sold used, you can keep the atlas.

- Text is on reserve at Bird
- Reading the chapter prior to the lectures will help you put the lecture material in a context.
- Note taking is strongly encouraged. Taking notes helps you remember both the details and the big picture. Students who do not take notes and who do not study from their notes typically do poorly on exams. Equally, non-note takers are generally unable to remember points that they can make in discussion and will therefore receive a lower participation grade.
- Know the key terms and be able to answer the questions at the end of each chapter.

Grading

Your final letter grade in Geography 105 is based on the following:

1. Three in-class examinations. Each exam will have a mixture of map questions, multiple choice/true-false/matching questions, short answer/fill-in-the-blank questions and a short essay question. Each exam will be worth 20% of the course grade for a total of 60%. The exams will include material from the text, and lectures.
2. One written assignment (5-10 pages) worth 20% of the course grade. Write about something relevant to World Geography. Topics must be approved.
3. Your participation grade (20%) is based on your attendance and participation. An A requires perfect attendance and relevant contributions. Relevant contributions are those that comment on the reading or lecture material.

95-100% A
90-94% A-
86-89% B+
83-85% B
80-82% B-
76-79% C+
73-75% C
70-72% C-
60-69% D
0-59% F

Make-Up Exam Policy: Given the size of this class, the following rules will apply:

If you are going to miss the regular in-class examination, to be eligible to take a make-up exam you must email me **BEFORE** the in-class exam to tell me that you will not be there and why. **No email, no make-up.** No exceptions. Make-up exams will be comparable but not identical to in-class exams. They may also be slightly harder than the in-class exam.

Academic honesty

Academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism and cheating, will not be tolerated. Cases of academic dishonesty will be handled according to University guidelines.

Learning disability

Please inform me if you have a learning disability. Please provide documentation and discuss your needs with me well before an exam.

Preliminary Syllabus (subject to change)

Introduction to Concepts: Chapters 1 and 2, Chapter 3

JAN 14 Introduction

JAN 16 Chapter 1 Space and place,

JAN 21 Chapter 2 Colonialism and uneven development

JAN 23 Chapter 2 Human environment relations

JAN 28 Chapter 3 Identity and difference

(In Chapter 3, focus only on these concepts: place, identity, borders, migration, economic integration and imperialism)

Sub-Saharan Africa: Chapter 6

JAN 30 Reading the forest backwards: farmers, pastoralists, the World Bank and land use in the Sahel

FEB 4 How gender matters—land conflicts in Mali and Senegal

FEB 6 Parks and people

Middle East and North Africa Chapter 5

FEB 11 Consequences of the 1991 war against Iraq

FEB 13 **EXAM I** Covering Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6

South Asia: Chapter 11

FEB 18 India: Bread and Democracy

South East Asia: Chapter 12

FEB 20 Burma and human rights

FEB 25 Capital and culture: Malaysia

FEB 27 Capital and culture: Indonesia and the Meratus Dayaks

MAR 4 Cannibal tours (video)

North America: Chapter 7

MAR 6 Immigration, Filipina nannies and neocolonialism

MAR 9-16 Spring Break

MAR 18 Environmental justice and quality of life preservation

MAR 20 Power: The James Bay Cree vs. Hydro Quebec

MAR 25 **EXAM II** Covering chapters 11, 12, 7

Latin America: Chapter 8

MAR 27 Geopolitics: US military involvement in the civil wars of El Salvador, Nicaragua

APR 1 Discussion of National Geographic article and video Cashing in on culture

APR 3 Drugs, FARC, aid to the (para)military: the US and Colombia

APR 8 Zapatistas

APR 10 Video of Subcommandante Marcos

APR 15 Free Trade Agreement of the Americas

APR 17 Video on Water privatization in Bolivia

Paper due

Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific: Chapter 12

APR 22 Aboriginal land claim struggles

APR 24 **EXAM III** Covering Chapter 8 and 12 and 13

APR 29 conclusions, papers and exams returned