

# GEOG 1400

# HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (IG)

## Course Description

The course introduces students to systematically studying patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about geographers' methods and tools in their research and applications.

- OER Textbook: [Introduction to Human Geography](#)
- No Prerequisites
- Semester: Fall

## Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Apply the technology used to measure and analyze natural processes, such as satellite imagery, aerial photography, geographic information systems (GIS), global positioning systems (GPS), and other forms of scientific data.
- Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places around the world.
- Interpret the relationships among patterns and processes at different scales of analysis.
- Describe some of the problems of economic development and cultural change.
- Examine the implications of population growth, changing fertility rates, and international migration.
- Explain the technological innovation on transportation, communication, industrialization, and other aspects of human life.
- Analyze the struggles over political power and control of territory.
- Examine conflicts over the demands of ethnic minorities, the role of women in society, and the inequalities between developed and developing economies.
- Compare how and why location matters to agricultural land use, industrial development, and urban problems.
- Analyze the role of climate change and environmental abuses in shaping the human landscapes of Earth.

## Communication Plan

I will respond to your emails within 48 hours and offer feedback on major assignments within one week of the due date. The best way to contact me is via the Canvas inbox, as I will prioritize this email over other modes of communication.

Additionally, I will participate in the discussion forums with you to share my perspective within the discipline and offer some nuances of interpretation that may not be present in your textbook.

Lastly, we'll hold small group Q&A sessions to learn from our peers (and faculty) on some of the more difficult units within the course.

## Keys for Success

This syllabus represents an "agreement" between you and the instructor. It is designed to ensure course integrity and fairness and provides students with a clear understanding of course expectations. The instructor and students are expected to use the syllabus and schedule as a guide for the semester. Any deviation from the syllabus or schedule will be discussed and agreed upon by the instructor and students.

The course will take the entire Fall semester. Each week, you will have several assignments. These will include reading and answering quizzes on the readings, earning several ESRI Virtual Campus Certificates, learning map interpretation skills, creating or critiquing maps, participating in online discussions, and doing some professional career development.

It is designed to teach the information and skills required by discipline and to develop vital workplace skills, strategies, and lifelong learning skills. Education is more than acquiring facts; it uses information meaningfully to enrich one's life.

While each course's subject is essential and valuable, we become genuinely educated by connecting such varied information with the different methods of organizing human experience practiced by different disciplines. Therefore, combined with other courses, this course will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community, and the world and challenge previously held assumptions about the world and its inhabitants.

## Course Procedure

Active participation in activities is expected. You will be expected to interact with others during class and participate in group discussions. Most of the assignments you complete for the course will be submitted online using Canvas LMS. There are also Canvas apps available.

All the mapping assignments will be done electronically using Esri's ArcGIS platform or Google Earth. The classroom has a computer lab if you want to use it, or students are encouraged to bring their laptops. All students will gain access to ArcGIS to download on a personal computer.

It is HIGHLY recommended you set up Canvas so it can send you messages to your email, cell phone, Facebook, or Twitter accounts. When your instructor sends out announcements, messages, and information on Canvas, you will be notified in the media you designate

# Assignment Description

## Mapping Assignments

Each assignment is designed to analyze physical and cultural environments' spatial and temporal patterns. Some of the activities will use the new Google Earth, while others will require you to use a web-based geographic information system called ArcGIS Online. The assignments need to be timed and in quiz form so that you can easily submit your answers.

## Module Quizzes

Each module will also have a quiz focusing on the learning objectives listed in that module. The open-book quizzes consist of ten randomly selected questions from an assessment database, and each quiz is worth ten points.

## Discussions

Throughout the course, multiple discussions will be held on various current events related to geospatial technology. The discussion forums will be based on the material provided by the instructor.

For each discussion, you must respond to a few prompts based on the journal or video provided in the activity. After your primary post, you will need to respond to two peers in the class. Please make sure your posts and replies are authentic and respectful to others.

## Exams

A total of three exams will be given for the course. The exams will consist of fifty randomly selected questions. You will have seventy-five minutes to complete the exam and be allowed to take the exam twice. The higher of the two scores will count for your score. Those exams will be completed within Canvas.

# Grading Scale

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>SCORE RANGE</b>
<b>A</b>	100-94 percent
<b>A-</b>	93-90 percent
<b>B+</b>	89-87 percent
<b>B</b>	86-84 percent
<b>B-</b>	83-80 percent
<b>C+</b>	79-77 percent
<b>C</b>	76-74 percent
<b>C-</b>	73-70 percent
<b>D+</b>	69-67 percent
<b>D</b>	66-64 percent
<b>D-</b>	63-60 percent
<b>E</b>	Less than 60 percent

# Incomplete Grade Policy

If circumstances make you unable to complete the course in the regular time frame, you may work with the instructor to take an incomplete. Students must pass and have completed 75% of the coursework to be granted an incomplete. Students are responsible for planning for successful course completion.

## Assignment Schedule

### Module 1 | Introduction to Human Geography

- 1.1 Assignment | Distance and Scale
- 1.2 Assignment | Topography
- 1.2 Quiz | Module 1

### Module 2 | Population Geography

- 2.1 Assignment | World Population
- 2.2 Assignment | Population Dynamics
- 2.3 Assignment | USA Demographics
- 2.4 Assignment | The Human Journey
- 2.5 Assignment | Migration on the Move
- 2.6 Quiz | Module 2

### Module 3 | Cultural Geography

- 3.1 Assignment | Language and Religion
- 3.2 Assignment | Sacred Place, Sacred Space
- 3.3 Quiz | Module 3
- 3.4 Exam | Exam 1

### Module 4 | Geopolitical Geography

- 4.1 Assignment | Borders, Boundaries, and Barriers
- 4.2 Assignment | Governments Around the World
- 4.3 Assignment | What is Gerrymandering
- 4.4 Quiz | Module 4

### Module 5 | Sustainable Development

- 5.1 Assignment | Comparing Country Development
- 5.2 Assignment | Understanding Globalization
- 5.3 Assignment | Human Development Index
- 5.4 Assignment | Resource Consumption and Wealth
- 5.5 Quiz | Module 5

### Module 6 | Agricultural Geography

- 6.1 Assignment | Food, Water, and Agriculture
- 6.2 Assignment | Agriculture and Water
- 6.3 Assignment |

- 6.4 Quiz | Module 6
- 6.5 Exam | Exam 2

### Module 7 | Urban and Rural Geography

- 7.1 Assignment | Urban Landscapes
- 7.2 Assignment | Megacities
- 7.3 Quiz | Module 7

### Module 8 | Environmental Geography

- 8.1 Assignment | Climate Change
- 8.2 Assignment | Slowing Malaria
- 8.3 Assignment | Tropical Deforestation
- 8.4 Assignment | Dead Zones
- 8.5 Assignment | El Nino and La Nina
- 8.6 Assignment | Marine Debris
- 8.7 Assignment | Altered Biomes
- 8.8 Quiz | Module 8

### Module 9 | Natural Disasters

- 9.1 Assignment | Cracked Plates
- 9.2 Assignment | The Earth Moves Under Our Feet
- 9.3 Assignment | Plate Type Effects on Volcanoes
- 9.4 Assignment | Tropical Storms
- 9.5 Quiz | Module 9
- 9.6 Exam | Exam 3

## Transfer/Certification/Licensure/Employment Information

This course is required for those interested in the Earth and Environmental Science AS degree. The AS degree directly transfers to most four-year higher education institutions within Utah.

The Earth and Environmental Science Department also offers the following programs of study: GIS and Drones AAS, a GIS Certificate of Proficiency, and a Drones Certificate of Proficiency.

## Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus, which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, grading policies, Title IX, and other important acknowledgments. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

You can access the document by clicking on the following link: [Institutional Syllabus](#)

## Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab: [Institutional Syllabus](#)

We encourage you to use these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

## Advising and Counseling Support Services

Our institution is committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advice and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab: [Institutional Syllabus](#)

Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to help you achieve your goals and overcome any obstacles you may face.

## Student Academic Calendar

As students, you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar: [SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)