

SYLLABUS SUMMER 2017
GEOGRAPHY OF KENTUCKY: GEOG 352
Online: 3 Credit Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Margaret. M. Gripshover, Associate Professor
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REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

- **Rennick, Robert M., *Kentucky Place Names*. (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press) 1988.**
- **Simon, F. Kevin, ed., *The WPA Guide to Kentucky* (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press) 1939. (Reprinted 1996)**
- **Note about your textbooks:** You can find inexpensive used copies of both textbooks online and at various other textbook outlets. Both books are very interesting and I think you will enjoy them long after this course has concluded.
- **Any edition of the textbooks will work for this class.**

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT:

- **You must have a reliable internet connection to access the course materials.**
- **Lack of an internet connection is not a valid excuse for failure to complete your work or exams. Always have a back-up plan in place. No make-up assignments or tests will be granted if your internet connection is not working. No exceptions.**
- **You must understand how to use Blackboard and other internet resources.**

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS (not required but may be helpful)

- DeLorme, *Kentucky Atlas and Gazetteer* (Yarmouth: Delorme) 2008. (May not be at the WKU Store)
- **Kentucky State Highway Map** (You can pick one up for free at various locations!)
- **Note:** Additional readings and videos from various sources will also be assigned during the semester and will be available through the Blackboard page.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course focuses on the human and natural resources in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We will examine Kentucky's cultural and physical landscapes, demographics, environmental issues, urban and rural geography, as well as economic and historical geography. We will also explore Kentucky within its regional, national and international contexts. You will be challenged to view Kentucky in new and innovative ways and to think critically about current geographical issues in the Commonwealth. *Even if you have lived in Kentucky all of your life, you are certain to acquire new geographic understanding of the state.* You will also be required to work on individual research projects. *This course fulfills a requirement for the major in Cultural Geography and a requirement for the major in Elementary Education.*

HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED: Your final grade will reflect your performance on three exams and three assignments. Exams typically consist of questions drawn from the online lecture material, videos, readings, assignments, and online discussions. There are 400 possible points that can be earned in the course.

- **There are three exams worth 100 points each for a total of 300 points.** The exams format typically includes place location questions (see **Place Location Study list link on Blackboard—a different one for each exam**), short answer, and essay questions.
- **There are three assignments, and, when added together, are worth 100 points, equal to one exam.** The assignments are individual projects.

The following is the point scale used to calculate your final grade in the class.

400-360 = A

359-320 = B

319-280 = C

279-240 = D

239- 0 = F

****** IMPORTANT: READ AND ABIDE BY THE EXAM POLICY!******

EXAM POLICY:

- **All exams are timed and closed book.**
- **All three exams will be accessed via Blackboard and emailed to Dr. G. The same goes for the three assignments. The assignments are accessed via Blackboard and emailed to Dr. G. Be aware of due dates! Enter them in your calendar today!**
- **Each student will be permitted 120 minutes to complete each exam.**
- **Exams will be available online (via Blackboard) ONLY between the hours of 10:00am Central and 8:00pm Central. You will have a two-hour window within that time period to complete the exam. Once you open the exam, you will be on the clock. I will be able to view you starting time.**
- **You will download a copy of the exam (as a Word file), enter your answers, save the document, and then email it back to Dr. G. before the 120 minute time period has expired.**
- **Exams that are returned to Dr. G. via email after 120 minutes, will not be graded and will receive a “zero.”**
- **No make-up exams will be granted because you missed the time for the test or could not get internet access to either open or return your exam.**
- **Make-up exams will be granted at the discretion of the instructor.**
- **No make-up exams will be administered without a WKU-approved excuse and with least 48-prior notice, no exceptions.**
- **Lack of internet access is not a valid excuse for failure to complete the exam.**

FINAL EXAM: There is no make-up for the final exam.

- **No accommodations will be made for rescheduling the final or submitting late work after the final exam has concluded. No exceptions.**

FYI: An “A” requires *extra effort* and to earn one is a great honor. Doing the bare minimum will not result in an “A”---not even a “B”! Students who earn “A’s” are attentive to detail, always keep up with deadlines, score the highest on exams, participate in online discussions, and put extra effort into their assignments. **Do not underestimate the amount of time you will need to devote to an online course.** There is no traditional textbook for this class so you really have to focus on the Blackboard “lectures” and resources. Also, since this is an online class, **you need to be honest with yourself—if you know you have conflicting obligations, lack self-discipline, or do not thrive in an online learning environment, this may not be the class for you.**

NOTE: Just because you are on the borderline between two letter grades does not mean you will be automatically moved up to the next grade level. The points you earn will determine your grade. ***Do not expect to receive a grade higher than what you have earned.*** Do not ask for a grade higher than the grade you have earned, your wish will not be granted.

CLASS DECORUM:

- Although this is an online class, manners and respect for others still matters! Please be respectful of others during online conversations.
- It is understood that all students have read the WKU student “Code of Conduct” and will abide by these rules: <http://www.wku.edu/judicialaffairs/student-code-of-conduct.php>.
- Plagiarism and cheating are serious violations and students should familiarize themselves with these issues. <http://www.wku.edu/csa/policies/plagiarism.php>. For further information, take a look at this explanation of plagiarism from the Department of English: <http://people.wku.edu/jan.garrett/dptengpl.htm>.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY POLICY:

The Department of Geography and Geology strictly adheres to University policies, procedures, and deadlines regarding student schedule changes. It is the sole responsibility of the student to meet all deadlines in regard to adding, dropping, or changing the status of a course. Only in exceptional cases will the deadline be waived. The Student Schedule Exceptional Appeal Form shall be used to initiate all waivers. This form requires a written description of the extenuating circumstances involved and the attachment of appropriate documentation. Poor academic performance, general malaise, and undocumented general stress factors are not considered as legitimate circumstances.

EXTRA CREDIT: There are **NO extra credit options** available for individual students to improve their grades. No exceptions.

LATE WORK: Late work will be penalized but it is better to submit something late than not at all.

DISABILITY STATEMENT: Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center (SARC). The Center’s telephone number is (270)745-5004; TTY is 745-3030. **DO NOT** request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the SARC.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: It may seem odd to have an attendance policy for an online class but this is a policy that is **self-enforced**. You should discipline yourself to devote to an average of three hours per weekday to this course. There is a large amount of material to absorb so try to spread out your learning experience so you do not become overwhelmed.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN GEOG 352: If you strive for an above average grade in this course there are several things you can do to enhance your chances of achieving your goal.

- First, **discipline yourself** to keep up with the online lessons, assignments, and tests.
- **Use the calendar function** on your smartphone or computer and enter all the deadlines listed in the syllabus to help stay on track. Falling behind will be detrimental to your grade.
- **Do not be a “binge learner”! Don’t try to view all the lectures in each units in one sitting. Pace yourself!** There is a lot of material to absorb. **Take notes on the PowerPoint slides just like you would take notes in a traditional lecture.**
- Since most of the course content is not found in a traditional textbook, it would be difficult to do well if you don’t take engage in and take notes on the online lectures. **Some students think it might be easier to take an online course rather than a course offered in a traditional classroom setting but that is usually not the case.** *You may have to work even harder to succeed at online coursework!* You have to discipline yourself to “come to class” on your own time, and often when there are distractions or things that seem like they would be more fun to do than GEOG 352!
- **Don’t fall into the habit of being a passive learner**, someone who just looks at the computer screen and thinks they have absorbed the material. **Take notes when you are looking at the online lectures and materials** if you want to succeed in this course.
- **Listen or read Kentucky-related news on a daily basis.** Some reliable online sources for Kentucky news include: www.kentucky.com, www.courier-journal.com, and <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/usstate/uskentuc.htm>.. Other media sources such as network or cable news, newspapers and journals are also good alternative to stay informed.
- **Finally, when in doubt, ask Dr. G.** Do not be shy about asking for help, clarification about assignments, or other guidance during the semester. Dr. G. will do her best to respond to your questions in a timely fashion, Mondays through Fridays, between 8:00am and 4:30pm, CDT.

NOTE: **This syllabus functions rather much like a contract.** By remaining enrolled in this class it is understood that it is your responsibility to read, understand, and adhere to the policies herein. **The professor will inform you as to any policy or scheduling changes and it is your responsibility to make these adjustments.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

*Refer to this schedule of upcoming online lectures, assignments due dates, and examinations. Activities are subject to change at the professor's discretion.

It is your responsibility to make these schedule changes.

COURSE DATES: JUNE 5-JUNE 30, 2017

JUNE 5-13: UNIT I (Topics: Physiographic Regions, Boundaries, Rivers, and Population)

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| 5 | MONDAY | <p>PPT LECTURE: Welcome to GEOG 352 (Review of Course Objectives; Assignments; Exam Protocols, etc.); Introduction to Kentucky Geography</p> <p>READ: "The Commonwealth of Kentucky": Kentucky Atlas and Gazetteer (Blackboard Web Links) or http://www.uky.edu/KentuckyAtlas/kentucky.html</p> <p>READ: WPA Guide, pp. xvii-27</p> <p>DOWNLOAD: Assignment I and begin working on the assignment which is due on Monday, June 12, 2017.</p> <p>DOWNLOAD: The place location list for the first exam. (See the "Place Location" link on the Blackboard page)</p> |
| 6 | TUESDAY | <p>PPT LECTURE: Kentucky Boundaries</p> <p>READ: BG's Million Year Old Sewer System (Follow link on Blackboard "Course Documents")</p> <p>READ: WPA, pp. 28-49; 72-76; 56-59</p> |
| 7 | WEDNESDAY | <p>PPT LECTURE: Physiographic Regions</p> |
| 8 | THURSDAY | <p>PPT LECTURE: Physiographic Regions</p> |
| 9 | FRIDAY | <p>PPT LECTURE: Kentucky: Many Rivers Run Through It</p> |
| 12 | MONDAY | <p>PPT LECTURE: Pop Goes the Kentucky Population</p> <p>PPT LECTURE: Kentucky Cities</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT I DUE: Must be submitted to Dr. G. no later than 5:00pm CDT. Late submissions (no excuses!) will be heavily penalized.</p> <p>READ: Rennick, pp. ix-xxiv</p> |
| 13 | TUESDAY | <p>EXAM I</p> |

JUNE 14-22 UNIT II (Topics: Agriculture, Manufacturing, Innovation)

- 14 WEDNESDAY **PPT LECTURE:** Home Grown: Kentucky Agriculture
READ: WPA, pp. 50-55
DOWNLOAD: Assignment II and begin working on the assignment which is due on Wednesday, June 21, 2017.
DOWNLOAD: The place location list for the second exam. (See the "Place Location" link on the Blackboard page)
- 15 THURSDAY **PPT LECTURE:** Kentucky Proud: New Ideas in Farming
READ: "Born to Run: Kentucky Derby Winners' Foaling Locations, 1875-2013," by Dr. Gripshover, *FOCUS on Geography* Volume 57, Issue 2, pp. 54-83. (To access this article, go to Blackboard and select "Course Documents" and look for the link.)
- 16 FRIDAY **PPT LECTURE:** Horsing Around in Kentucky
- 19 MONDAY **PPT LECTURE:** Made in Kentucky: Manufacturing
- 20 TUESDAY **PPT LECTURE:** On the Bourbon Trail: Beverages of KY
- 21 WEDNESDAY **PPT LECTURE:** Patently Good Ideas: KY Inventions
ASSIGNMENT II DUE: Must be submitted to Dr. G. no later than 5:00pm CDT. Late submissions (no excuses!) will be heavily penalized.
- 22 THURSDAY **EXAM II**

JUNE 23-30: UNIT III (Topics: Kentucky Culture, Tourism)

- 23 FRIDAY **PPT LECTURE:** Exploring Kentucky Culture
READ: (Follow link on BB "Course Content" button)
Algeo, Katie, "Mammoth Cave and the Making of Place, *Southeastern Geographer*, Volume 44, Number 1, May 2004, pp. 27-47.
DOWNLOAD: Assignment III and begin working on the assignment which is due on Thursday, June 29, 2017.
DOWNLOAD: The place location list for the third exam. (See the "Place Location" link on the Blackboard page)

******* NOTE: BLACKBOARD MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES ON JUNE 24-25, 2017. THE WEBSITE WILL BE UNDERGOING UPGRADES. PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY SO YOU DO NOT GET BEHIND IN YOUR WORK! *******

26	MONDAY	PPT LECTURE: What's in a Name? Kentucky Toponyms
27	TUESDAY	PPT LECTURE: Landscapes of Tourism in Kentucky
28	WEDNESDAY	PPT LECTURE: WPA Kentucky Tours
29	THURSDAY	STUDY DAY and ASSIGNMENT III DUE : Must be submitted to Dr. G. no later than 5:00pm CDT. Late submissions (no excuses—technology or otherwise!) will be heavily penalized.
30	FRIDAY	EXAM III (You made it to the end of the semester!)