

# Geography 330 – Intro to Cultural Geography

Fall 2018 - Owensboro Campus  
M 5:30-8:15 pm, Room 214

Instructor: Brian R. Howard, AICP  
Email: brian.howard581@gmail.com

## **Books:**

Required: Jordan's Fundamentals of the Human Mosaic – A Thematic Introduction to Cultural Geography, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2014

## **Course Description and Objectives:**

An overview of core concepts in cultural geography based on five major themes: region, mobility, globalization, nature-culture, and cultural landscape.

## **Course Requirements:**

Grades for the course will be based on four key areas: Exams, Movie Assignment, Homework, and Class Participation as follows:

Exams: 40%

Movie Assignment: 25%

Video/TV Homework: 25%

Class Participation: 10%

## **Exams:**

Three exams will be given covering course material. Scheduled exams will be administered from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. If you show up late, you will not receive extra time to finish.

## **Movie Assignment:**

You will select a movie from the list below and complete a write-up assessing the cultural geography references/impacts of the film. To help with your selection you may use [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com) to check out details on any movie, such as plot, actors, and filming location. If not already a Netflix subscriber, you may join with a free 30 day trial. Amazon Prime video and other options exist as well.

For the assignment, complete the attached write-up sheet. The write-up must be typed. You may recreate the form or I can email you a Word version of the document. Keep in mind while completing the write-up:

- The write-up must follow the outline provided and must answer each bullet point/subtopic.
- The final product will probably be at least two (2) full pages, single-spaces and 10 point font.
- You are not required to write paragraph, but don't write a single word either. Thoroughly provide an answer for each but you are not writing a full blow essay with this assignment.
- Write your own thoughts, feelings, experiences gained from the movie. Do not copy/paste information from a website. That will earn you a zero (0) on the assignment.
- Each student will give a 10 minute class presentation on their findings.

- Chose one of the movies below....

<b>Title</b>	<b>Setting</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Length</b>
Amelie	Paris, France	2001	2:02
Back to the Future	Hill Valley, CA	1985	1:56
Bend it Like Beckham	England	2002	1:52
The Godfather	New York/Italy	1972	2:55
Hotel Rwanda	Rwanda	2004	2:01
In Bruges	Bruges, Belgium	2008	1:47
Lawrence of Arabia	Arabian Peninsula	1962	3:36
Last Samurai	Japan	2003	2:34
Lost in Translation	Japan	2003	1:44
The Motorcycle Diaries	Chile, Peru, Argentina	2004	2:08
National Lampoon's European Vacation	England, Paris, West Germany, Rome	1985	1:35
Raiders of the Lost Ark	Various	1981	1:55
Roman Holiday	Rome Italy	1953	1:58
Slumdog Millionaire	India	2009	2:00
The Sound of Music	Austria	1965	2:54

### **Video/TV Homework:**

There are four homework assignments. For each assignment, you will watch one episode of a travel show that takes place internationally (preferably a city/region/country that you are not super familiar with), complete a write-up discussing the cultural geography relationship, and give a brief class presentation on your selected show and episode. I suggest shows such as An Idiot Abroad, Anthony Bourdain shows like Parts Unknown or No Reservations, Rick Steves' Europe, etc. I anticipate the write-up to be less than one full page in length.

### **Grades:**

Final grades will be based on the total points earned using the following scale:

90-100 A, 80-89 B, 70-79 C, 60-69 D, 59 or below F

All assignments must be turned in on time to receive full potential credit. Late assignments will receive a 10% penalty per week late.

### **Class Participation/Attendance:**

Class participation is essential. Ten percent of your final grade will be determined by attentiveness, preparation, and participation during class. Please make every effort to attend class and arrive on time. If you have to miss class, make every effort to notify me prior to the beginning of class. All quizzes and exams will be given at the beginning of the scheduled class period and make-up exams will only be given at the discretion of the instructor and ONLY when an absence is excused. An excused absence must be accommodated with documentation in regards to illness or similar circumstances.

There is a bonus for class attendance and participation. If you attend every class, and participate during class, you will earn an increase of four (4) points on your final grade point average. If you miss one class you will earn a two (2) point increase. Two class absences will result in no change in your overall grade; however, each subsequent

absence will result in a two point reduction in your final grade point average per additional absence.

**Academic Integrity:**

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any form. Any type of academically and ethically dishonest work (plagiarism, copying, etc.) will result in an automatic failure of the course and notification of the appropriate academic authority.

**Dropping the Course:**

The Department of Geography & Geology strictly adheres to the course drop policy found in the Undergraduate and Graduate catalogs. It is the sole responsibility of individual students to meet the cited deadlines for dropping a course. In exceptional cases the deadline for schedule changes (dropping a course) may be waived. The successful waiver will require a written description of extenuating circumstances and relevant documentation. Poor academic performance, general malaise, or undocumented general stress factors are NOT considered legitimate extenuating circumstances. Since the granting of such waivers is rare, we urge you to follow the established guidelines.

**Student Disability Services:**

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, Student Success Center, DUC A201. The OFSDS telephone number is (270)745-5004; TTY is 745-3030.

Per university policy, please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

## **Class Schedule: Geography 330 – Intro to Cultural Geography**

August

27 Chpt. 1 – Cultural Geography: An Introduction

September

3 **LABOR DAY**

10 **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE**

Chpt. 2 – Folk and Popular Cultures

17 Chpt. 3 – Population Geography

24 **NO CLASS – APA Policy and Advocacy Conference – Washington DC**

October

1 **EXAM ONE**

Chpt. 4 – The Geography of Language

8 **NO CLASS**

15 **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE**

Chpt. 5 – Geographies of Race and Ethnicity

22 Chpt. 6 – Political Geography

29 Chpt. 7 – The Geography of Religion

November

5 **EXAM TWO**

Chpt. 8 – Agriculture

12 **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE**

Chpt. 9 – Economic Geography: Industries, Services, and Development

19 Chpt. 10 – Urbanization

26 **PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS**

May

3 **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE**

Chpt. 11 – Inside the City

10 **FINAL EXAM**

Name:

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Movie Assignment

1. Movie Title:
2. Your movie rating on a scale of 1 (worst) to 10 (best):
3. Setting (city, region, country):
4. Approximate year or decade the movie takes place (not the year the movie was made):
5. A brief summary of the plot:
6. Cultural References:
  - Food, drink, drugs
  - Clothing, jewelry, cosmetics, hairstyles
  - Dancing, music, art
  - Superstitions, customs, rituals, festivals, celebrations
  - Sports/games
7. Language (What languages are spoken, specific dialect(s)? Provide examples):
8. Religion (Which religion(s)? Provide examples):
9. Buildings/Settlement Patterns (Architecture types, building materials, type of roof, building size, colors, city development patterns, market places, monuments, etc.):
10. Transportation (types, modes of transportation, roads, etc):
11. People (Is migration taking place, population density, family size, age structure):
12. Standard of Living/Economy (provide examples of wealth, poverty, etc):
13. Agriculture (types of farming – crops, livestock, hunting/gathering):
14. Political Geography (government influence, nationalism, civil war, cultural influences on politics, refugees, etc):