

INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN GEOGRAPHY 142
University of Oregon Summer 2016 - Online Course

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Office hours: By appointment on Wednesdays from 9:00-11:00am, online or in room 202
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GTF: TBA

Email: TBA

Office hours: TBA



COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a course about critically exploring interconnections between people and places in the contemporary globalized world. We will investigate how economic, political and cultural systems interact both with individual human behavior and with various places around the earth. With its entirely online format and students participating from multiple locations, this session of Introduction Human Geography will explore what it means to inhabit a globalized world through both course content and course format.

This class introduces students to the discipline of human geography and is a gateway to the Geography major/minor at the University of

Oregon. It also fulfills general education requirements for the social sciences and multicultural requirements for the International Cultures category.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to facilitate development of students' knowledge and skills for engaging critically in geographical inquiry. By the end of the term, students who invest their time and effort fully in meeting course expectations and requirements should be able to:

- Understand geographical perspectives and explain key concepts, themes, and approaches in human geography,
- Synthesize and apply theories of human geography and engage in applications related to specific subfields of geography,
- Recognize and interpret the emergence and influence of economic globalization at different scales and in different sites,
- Use their own voices to contribute meaningful ideas to public discourse about geographical issues.

COURSE TEXTS

Knox, Paul L. and Sallie A. Marston. 2012. *Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context, 6th Edition*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. (Note: the 5th edition of this book is also acceptable).

Additional required reading and video assignments will be posted to Canvas.

Students may purchase the print, the e-book version of the textbook or you can rent the textbook through Amazon prime. Renting the book costs less than the e-book version, If you decide to buy the e-book, you have the option of paying for only the chapters we will use for the class. Purchase of the 6th edition gives you access to the book's website, which has additional content, videos, readings, etc. Because of these high costs, students may also choose to purchase the 5th edition of this book. While it can be found online for a lower price than the 6th edition, the disadvantage of buying the 5th edition is that you may have trouble reselling it. A few copies of Knox & Marston will be on reserve at the UO Knight Library; course reserves are available for checkout in increments of two hours.

ABOUT ONLINE LEARNING AND THE TEACHING PHILOSOPHY OF THE COURSE

We intend to capitalize on the unique opportunity the online format offers us to investigate and share perspectives on geographical issues while each of us is in a different place. While traditional lectures and textbook readings provide grounding for the course, much of the learning experience will come from students' application of course concepts through multiple applied assignments and their interaction with each other's work. Students are in this sense responsible for helping each other explore geographical concepts by sharing their perspectives from different communities and by engaging thoughtfully with each other. Assignments will include required feedback on other students' work. Details will be provided with each assignment handout.

Important Note: Students should be prepared to put in at least as much time for this course as for the same course offered in an in-person format. Regular participation and interaction with other students, the GTF and the instructor are required. As this is an entirely online course, **it is imperative that each student has reliable access to a computer and to the internet.**

COURSE ACCESS AND COMMUNICATION

With the exception of the required textbook, all course materials, lectures, assignments, and communications can be accessed via Canvas.

If you have trouble accessing or using Canvas, technical help is available through the UO Canvas FAQs for students. Please make use of these resources prior to contacting the GTFs or instructor for assistance: <https://blogs.uoregon.edu/canvas/support/>

You can find in-person Canvas assistance on the Main Floor of the Knight Library on the UO campus.

Exams

This course has two exams: the mid-term and final exams. Each exam will consist of some combination of true/ false, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice and essay questions. The first exam will draw from the first four weeks of the course materials and the second exam will draw from weeks five through eight of course materials.

These exams will proctored by the University of Oregon according to a pre-established schedule in campus. **If you are outside Oregon in any other state within the U.S or even in a different country, you still can take the exams online as far as you find and institution to proctor the exam.** If this is your case, please pay attention to the email that will be sent by the U.O Distance Education Program, their staff will send instructions for you to find an appropriate institution to proctor your exams. If you have questions contact me or Chad Little, the Online Education Manager at clittle@cas.uoregon.edu

