PRINCIPLES OF GEOGRAPHY
GEH 101 / GEH 501
FALL 2020 / 3 CREDITS

TIME
Tuesday: 12:00 – 2:40 pm

LOCATION
Lehman College: Zoom Video Conference

INSTRUCTOR
Bryan Welton
mwelton@gradcenter.cuny.edu

OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday, 3:00 – 5:00 pm (by appointment)

TEXT BOOK
*Introduction to Geography: People, Places & Environment*
Carl T. Dahlman and William H. Renwick
Sixth Edition, 2014

Geography is a broad multidisciplinary field, exploring dynamic and changing relationships between society and nature, people and places, space and time. This survey course will introduce students to key concepts and concerns within the discipline, spanning both the physical and social sciences. The varied topics class readings and discussions explore range from climate change and plate tectonics to urbanization and the global economy. Beyond understanding basic concepts, students will practice critical reading and writing skills in order to explain their relationships.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of this course students will:

- Demonstrate their knowledge of foundational concepts and concerns within Geography;
- Interpret maps and charts representing geographic knowledge;
- Explain geological and ecological processes that shape the physical environment;
- Understand climate change and its contributing factors;
- Explain the forces that drive human migration and settlement;
- Understand the political and economic forces shaping human societies and social change.

CUNY Academic Advising suggests that you commit 2-4 hours of study time for every hour of class. Students are encouraged to take notes on the main arguments and ideas, and expected to raise questions concerning the material during class discussion as part of their participation grade.
GRADING

Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>20%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing Assignments</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Scale (%)</th>
<th>GPA Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A +</td>
<td>97.5 – 100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92.5 – 97.4</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A -</td>
<td>90.0 – 92.4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>B +</td>
<td>87.5 – 89.9</td>
<td>3.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82.5 – 87.4</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B -</td>
<td>80.0 – 82.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>C +</td>
<td>77.5 – 79.9</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70.0 – 77.4</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60.0 – 69.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0 – 59.9</td>
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Late Assignments
Students will receive 0 credit for any assignment that is submitted late. If there is a reason why you cannot submit an assignment on time, please notify the instructor well in advance of the deadline. Notification on the due date will not be accepted.

Withdrawal
Students are permitted to officially withdraw from courses without academic penalty between the third and tenth week of the course. Only the student – not the instructor or CUNY staff – may officially withdraw from a course, using their CUNYfirst account. Failure to officially withdraw before the deadline may result in an unofficial withdrawal, equivalent to receiving an “F” course grade and a 0 averaged into your GPA.
Course Readings
Students are required to obtain a material or digital copy of the textbook by Week 2:

*Introduction to Geography: People, Places & Environment*
Carl T. Dahlman and William H. Renwick
Pearson, Edition: 6, 2014

Students will read an average of 30-50 pages per week and are expected to complete all readings before the beginning of class. In order to facilitate greater evenness of participation during class discussion, students should be prepared for the instructor to call on them and ask questions related to the readings. Students are likely to encounter unfamiliar terms and challenging concepts in the readings, and are encouraged to highlight them for discussion in class.

Attendance and Class Participation (20%)
Weekly attendance is mandatory. More than two absences without prior notice will negatively impact your grade. Students are expected to log in to Zoom on time and actively participate in group and class discussions. Students are encouraged to use Zoom’s camera function during class, however, it is not required. Because outside noise can be disruptive, it is very important that students keep their microphone on mute until they are called upon to speak. Failure to meet standards for participation or respect will result in lower participation scores.

This class will consist of lecture and class discussion of assigned readings. Students are expected to learn not only by completing the required readings and taking notes, but also through collective reflection during class discussion. Students are encouraged to ask questions, share thoughts, and express substantive opinions related to the material. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss the material and equipped to take notes during the lecture and class discussion.

Please attend class on time! If you must be absent or expect to arrive late for class and wish to be excused, you must ask the instructor’s permission in advance.

Written Assignments (30%)
Students will be assigned 8 short weekly writing assignments (200-250 words) in response to one of the questions listed at the end of each chapter. These assignments must be submitted to Blackboard by 11:59 am on the day of class in order to earn full credit. These exercises will be used to examine core course concepts and prepare students for the Midterm and Final Exams.

Midterm and Final Exams (25% each)
Students will take two 25-point exams during the midterms and finals. Each exam will account for 25% of the total grade for the course. The Midterm and Final exams will combine multiple choice and short essay questions, covering material from the textbook and class discussions.

Exam dates are listed on the course calendar. Rescheduling exams will not be permitted, except for in cases of medical emergency (documentation is required).
COURSE POLICIES

Email and Blackboard
A working email address and knowledge of Blackboard is required for this course. When contacting the instructor, students should expect a reply within one business day (excluding weekends) of their email. Students should not save any questions concerning their assignments for the last minute. Sending multiple emails will not speed-up response from the instructor.

Zoom
The course is listed as synchronous, with distanced learning taking place over video conference using Zoom. Students are strongly recommended to make sure that their computer operating system and web browser is able to run Zoom without any technical difficulties or service interruptions. Students are encouraged to use Zoom’s camera function during class, however, it is not required. Because outside noise can be disruptive, it is very important that students keep their microphone on mute until they are called upon to speak. For students who are unfamiliar with zoom, please visit the Lehman College Resource Page for helpful information.

Accessibility and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
If you require accommodations, such as additional time, audio/visual aids, or other accommodations for assignments, please contact the instructor as soon as possible so that we can coordinate necessary arrangements for you to succeed in this course.

Lehman College ADA Statement:
“If you are a student with a disability you are not alone. There are almost six hundred students with a wide range of disabilities registered with our office. The Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) welcomes you and is here to assist you to achieve your academic goals. SDS works together with the entire Lehman community to ensure access to all areas of campus life and provides appropriate academic adjustments, programs and services to individual students. To learn more please contact our office at 718 960-8441 or send us an email at disability.services@lehman.cuny.edu

The Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) and the Science Learning Center (SLC):
Lehman College has two tutoring centers on campus. The ACE provides appointment-based and drop-in tutoring in the humanities, social sciences and writing, as well as general writing skills. The SLC provides drop-in tutoring for natural and computer science courses. To obtain more information about the ACE and SLC, please visit their website at http://www.lehman.edu/issp.

Gender Pronoun
All forms of gender expression and identity will be affirmed in the classroom. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is listed on the class roster, please let the instructor know. Feel free to correct the instructor and classmates on your gender pronoun or if you do not use a gender pronoun. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the instructor.
Class Conduct
Students are expected to be respectful of your classmates, your instructor, and the learning environment. Political conflicts, involving differences of perspective and position, shape the subjects of Geography, nature, society, culture, and scientific inquiry. Students will be encouraged to critically examine such differences during class discussion and expected to maintain standards for respect. The instructor will do the same.

Students will be asked to leave the class for the following reasons: excessive cell phone use during class, chronic sleeping in class, persistent talking or whispering while the instructor or other students are speaking, blatant disruptions, and *ad hominem* attacks on other students or the instructor, including attacks based on racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, religious intolerance, and discrimination based on ability, national origin or citizenship status. Such students will be marked as absent for the day and will not be allowed to return until they have spoken with the instructor during office hours.

Academic Integrity
Plagiarism is defined as “the act of presenting another person's ideas, research or writing as your own” (CUNY Academic Integrity Policy). Lehman College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g. plagiarism, cheating on exams, obtaining unfair advantages, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses with potential for severe consequences.

If it is found that you have committed plagiarism in this class or cheated on an exam, you will at minimum fail the course. You may also be subject to other disciplinary measures. Written assignments from a previous or concurrent course cannot be used without prior permission of the instructor. Lehman College is committed to enforcing CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Lehman College Academic Integrity Procedures.

Sexual Misconduct
In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Lehman College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships.

In such cases, students are encouraged to contact Lehman College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dawn Ewing Morgan (dawn.ewing-morgan@lehman.cuny.edu or 718-960-8111) and seek complimentary services through the Wellness Center (wellness.education@lehman.cuny.edu or 718-960-2415; Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 5:30 pm).
UNIT ONE

9/1  Week 1: Introduction to the Course

9/8  Week 2: Introduction to Geography
     Chapter 1: pp 3-45
     Written Assignment 1

9/15 Week 3: Weather, Climate, and Climate Change
      Chapter 2: pp 49-101
      Written Assignment 2

9/22 Week 4: Landforms
       Chapter 3: pp 103-135
       Written Assignment 3

9/29 NO CLASS: Classes Follow Monday Schedule

10/6 Week 5: Biosphere
       Chapter 4: pp 137-165

10/13 Week 6: Earth’s Resources and Environmental Protection
       Chapter 5: pp 167-205
       Written Assignment 4

10/20 Week 7: Midterm Review

10/27 Week 8: MIDTERM EXAM
## UNIT TWO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Week 10: Cultural Geography</td>
<td>Selections from Chapters 7 &amp; 9: TBA</td>
<td>Written Assignment 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/17</td>
<td>Week 11: Cities and Urbanization</td>
<td>Chapter 10: pp 371-407</td>
<td>Written Assignment 7</td>
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<td>11/24</td>
<td>Week 12: A World of States</td>
<td>Chapter 11: pp 409-449</td>
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<td>12/1</td>
<td>Week 13: Economy and Development</td>
<td>Chapter 12: pp 451-497</td>
<td>Written Assignment 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/8</td>
<td>Week 14: Final Exam Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/15</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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