***GGS103-Human Geography***

***SYLLABUS***

**Course Information**

**Course Number:** GGS103 DL1

**Course Title:**  Human Geography

**Term:** Fall 2021

**Class Meetings:** ONLINE

**Location:** Blackboard



**Professor Contact Information**

**Professor:** Piash Debnath, M.S.

**Email:** pdebnat2@gmu.edu

**Office Hours:** By Appointment/Zoom

**Course Description:**

Overview of major ideas and approaches to studying spatial aspects of human social and behavioral systems. Surveys distribution and movement of human populations, characteristics and distribution of cultural mosaics, patterns of economic interdependence, and study of forces of cooperation and conflict among people from global perspective.

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Required Textbooks (Available Free Online)**

Title: Introduction to Human Geography: A Disciplinary Approach

Author: Steve Graves

<https://sites.google.com/site/gravesgeography/>

Title: Introduction to Human Geography.

Open Geography Education

Author: Adam Dastrup

<https://humangeography.pressbooks.com/front-matter/introduction/>

**Grading Policy:**

Mid-Term Exam (1) 20 points 20%

Final Exam (1) 20 points 20%

HW Exercises (3) 5 points each 15%

Discussion Board (3) 6 points each 18%

Final Project (1) 27 points 27%

Total Possible Points: 100 100%

**Grading Scale:**

1. 90 – 100%
2. 80 – 89%
3. 70 – 79%
4. 60 – 69%

**F-** 59 – 0%

**Course & Instructor Policies**

**Exams:** There will be a Midterm and Final exam consisting of multiple choice and/or short answers. Both are worth 20% of the total grade and will be open notes online on Blackboard

**HW Assignments:** There will be 3 HW assignments worth 5 points each. They will be due by 11:59pm Sundays. Submit as a word file.

**Late Assignments:** Late Assignments are strictly NOT accepted unless there is **prior** approval. Please see announcements and class schedule for detailed due dates.

**Discussion Board:** The Discussion Board will take place on Blackboard in essay format. Each Discussion will be worth 6 points with a total of 3 discussions for the semester due on Blackboard by 11:59pm Sunday. 4 points will be towards the Discussion essay, 1 page minimum, double spaced. 2 points will be for directly replying to at least 2 peer’s essays. The replies need to be at least 4 sentences and directly quote or cite something from the peers’ essay. You can copy and paste directly to the discussion board or attach a word file.

**Final Project:** The Final Project will be worth 27 points total. The project will be an individual voiceover PowerPoint presentation or video presentation. The topic will be given to the student as well as further detailed instructions on Blackboard. 2 points will be dedicated towards Final Project Step 1 and Step 2 which will be assigned early in the weekly modules

**Classroom Netiquette:**

It is expected that the online environmental is respectful and proper. Interactions with classmates online should be in appropriate manners. When emailing the professor there must be a greeting (e.g. Good afternoon Professor), a Subject for the email (e.g. Exercise 2 help), and a signature at the end (e.g. Best, Jane Doe).

**Class Cancellations:**

Not Applicable. Class fully online.

**Technology Requirements:**

Make sure you have **strong** internet access throughout the semester. Tests/Quizzes where connection is lost may result in a 0 as they will automatically submit. Microsoft word/powerpoint access, Google Earth, and a reliable computer is needed. Submit assignments in word or pdf unless otherwise specified. Please do not submit .pages or other format files. You have unlimited submissions on any assignment up to the due date.

**Important Dates:**

Last day to drop with a tuition refund Sept 7th

Last day to withdraw without grade penalty Sept 27th

End of Exam period Dec 15th

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Make sure to complete your own work. When doing citations please use APA. Please refer to the school’s plagiarism codes.

**American with Disabilities Act**

If you think or know that you need an accommodation based on a disability, you are encouraged to

contact a counselor for Disability Services in the Counseling Center to discuss possible

accommodations. All information is kept confidential and may increase your chances of success in

the academic setting. More information may be found at Mason disability website.

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| DateEvery Week starts *Monday morning 6am to Sunday 11:59pm* | Topics | Readings  | Assignments Due :All Weekly Assignments due Sunday 11:59pm |
| Week 1August 23rd-29 | Syllabus Week | Syllabus Get Familiar with Blackboard | Orientation Quiz & Introductions  |
| Week 2August 30-Sept 5th  | Geography Intro | Graves Chapter 1 | Exercise 1 |
| Week 3September 5th- 12 | Population | Dastrop Chapter 2.1  | None |
| Week 4September 13th- 19th  | Agriculture | Graves Chapter 3 | Discussion 1 |
| Week 5September 20th- 26th | Ethnicity | Graves Chapter 9 | None |
| Week 6September 27th-Oct 3rd  | Religion | Graves Chapter 6 | None |
| Week 7October 4th- 10th  | Language | Dastrop Chapter 3.3 | Exercise 2 |
| Week 8October 11th- 17th | Study Week/Library Session | None | Final Project Step 1 |
| Week 9October 18th- 24th  | Midterm Week*Available 10/11-10/17* | Chapter 6  | None |
| Week 10October 25th-31st | Migration | Chapter 7 | Discussion 2 |
| Week 11November 1st- 7th  | Geopolitics | Chapter 8 | Exercise 3 |
| Week 12November 8th- 14th  | Urban Geography | Chapter 9 | Final Project Step 2 |
| Week 13November 15th- 21st  | Sustainable Development | Chapter 10 | Discussion 3 |
| Week 14November 22nd -28th  | Thanksgiving Break | None | None |
| Week 15November 29th- Dec 5th  | FINAL PROJECTS | None | **Final Project** |
| Week 16December 6th- 12th  | Final Exam*Available 12/06-12/12* | Read Notes/ previous chapters before Final | **Final Due 11:59pm Sunday 12/12** |

\*Dates and assignments are subject to change. Please check Blackboard for up to date readings and assignments