Course Description

This course introduces you to the discipline of human geography. It covers basic themes and concepts in geography, and it teaches you to look at the world from a geographical perspective. We will examine a wide range of topics in the areas of culture, politics, and the economy.

This class is broadly organized around the theme of globalization as it relates to the core principles of human geography. Most broadly defined, we can think of globalization as a set of processes that have increased connections, influence, and interdependencies across geographic space. We can see elements of globalization in nearly every aspect of our daily lives, from our social media feeds, to the foods we consume and the goods we purchase. Yet, in spite of the highly connected nature of our globalized interactions, the world remains remarkably divided in many ways. At the same time that a growing number of people are part of an emerging global consumer culture, a vast and increasing portion of the world lives in deep poverty. Extremes of wealth and poverty across the globe underlie conditions of health and well-being, mobility, educational opportunity, land ownership, and access to employment.

Our focus for this semester will be to think critically about the complex and dynamic relationships between peoples and the world in which they live, particularly as these relationships are shaped and reworked by the processes we associate with globalization. Major topics will include: the spatial organization of human activities; ways in which social processes and structures can be understood through a geographic lens; and geographic perspectives on human environment interactions and economic relationships.

Learning Objectives

In this class, we will strive to develop critical thinking skills and an appreciation for human geography in order to:

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1 This course is adopted from Geography 105: Introduction to Human Geography, developed by Dr. Anne Bonds at UWM Geography. I appreciate her efforts and kind sharing.
• Be ready to discuss given topics with written expression and an online course format.
• Become familiar with the basic concepts and subfields within the field of human geography.
• Demonstrate how the dynamic of globalization has generated new and often contradictory relationships between people and places.
• Develop a geographical lens for analyzing inequality and global issues and problems.
• Hone abilities of critical reading and examination about course concepts, as well as review and remember them.

Course Requirements & Evaluation

Course Format
This is a fully online course. We will never meet face to face. Is online learning for everyone? No! Many students operate with the misconception that an online course will be less work or will be less rigorous. This is not the case. An online course has the same level or rigor as a face-to-face course and can, in fact, be more challenging in some aspects. Online courses are student-centered and require a great deal of self-discipline, organization and scheduling. Rather than showing up for weekly lectures, you must remember to go online and download and complete the readings and lecture, to communicate and actively participate in online discussions on a timely basis, to effectively complete required assignments and submit them online, and to email the professor or other students if you are lost or confused.

I highly encourage students to schedule regular times to go online multiple times a week as if you were attending a face-to-face course. For example, you may schedule yourself to go online Mondays, Wednesdays, and Sundays from 9 am to 10:30 am to review agendas, download readings, read lectures, post discussion comments, and interact with your classmates in discussion. Further, you need to schedule time off-line to complete readings, develop your discussion responses, complete field assignments, and study for exams. You will not succeed in the class if you only visit the course D2L page once a week.

Required Textbook
We will use the following required textbook for this class:
It is available at UWM Virtual Bookstore or on-line at various bookstores (e.g., Amazon). Please be aware of the multiple editions of this book in circulation. All course content will be oriented around the 7th edition.

All other required readings and video clips for the class will be available online through the course’s D2L site.

The readings for this class are critical to the course. My lectures will assume a familiarity with the readings and will not review what you’ve been assigned to read. Instead, the lectures will supplement the assigned readings. PLEASE NOTE: material that is covered in the readings but
not necessarily in the lecture will appear on exams. For this reason, I strongly encourage you to ask questions about concepts in the readings that are unclear in your weekly discussion posts.

Required Technology
You must have access to a computer connected with Internet, no matter where it is your home, a library, etc. You are responsible for checking your D2L and UWM e-mail account periodically, at least 3 times a week, to make sure that there are no announcements (I will sometimes post clarifications or updates of assignments), assignments, or grades you are missing as well as to keep yourself informed of declared emergencies (such as D2L issues). In particular, please check them before you submit your work. It is your responsibility to forward your UWM e-mail address to another account that you frequently use if you do not use the UWM e-mail. If you are not able to do these things, you should consider dropping this course, enrolling in an alternative class, or taking this course when it is offered face-to-face.

Please do not e-mail me with technical problems about the course D2L site. If you have questions or difficulties with it, contact help@uwm.edu or call the UWM Help Desk at (414) 229-4040 or the UWM Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning desk at (414) 229-4319. The Help Desk can assist you with technical issues with the class.

As this is a computer-based course, a computer issue will not be an acceptable excuse for any course-related work not turned in on time. Please check your device regularly as well as take all necessary measures to back up your work such as e-mailing it to yourself, saving extra copies on other devices, etc. Also, not having access to technology to complete the course requirements is not a valid excuse.

Assignments & Evaluation
Your final grade will be determined by the following (there might be additional ad-hoc or bonus assignments). Instructions for assignments and specific rubric for evaluation will be posted on D2L when the assignments are given. Please read these instructions very carefully. They will clearly explain my expectations and grading policies.

Out of 300 points, your grade will be determined based on the following assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be ready to discuss given topics with written expression and an online course format.</td>
<td>Introduction Scavenger Hunt</td>
<td>5 points 5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Become familiar with the basic concepts and subfields within the field of human geography.</td>
<td>Quizzes (5 times * 10 points)</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate how the dynamic of globalization has generated new and often contradictory relationships between people and places.</td>
<td>Discussion Posts (5 posts * 10 points) Response Posts (5 posts * 5 points)</td>
<td>50 points 25 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop a geographical lens for analyzing inequality and global issues and problems.</td>
<td>Media Analysis (3 times * 25 points)</td>
<td>75 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hone abilities of critical reading and examination about course concepts, as well as review and remember them.</td>
<td>Midterm Exam Final Exam</td>
<td>40 points 50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>300</td>
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</table>
• **Introduction** (5 points):
Each of us will post an introduction to the website during the first week of class. See more details about the introduction on the D2L site under the Introductions discussion forum.

• **Scavenger Hunt** (5 points):
Both the syllabus and D2L site contain valuable information that can easily be missed. This assignment will consist of some short questions designed to make sure that you are familiar with key course policies, assignments, and are able to locate important materials on the D2L site.

• **Quizzes** (5 times * 10 points = 50 points):
You will be required to complete timed on-line quizzes 5 times during the semester. The quizzes will focus on the assigned reading material and lecture material. Quizzes are to be completed on D2L and are “open book”. Because of the timed nature, however, you’ll need to be very familiar with the material as there will not be sufficient time to look up every answer in the book or lectures. Make sure you have a secure connection when you begin your quizzes!! I will make quizzes available each Friday by noon. You can complete the quizzes anytime between Friday at noon and Sunday at 11:59pm. Please try to keep other distractions to minimum while taking the quizzes and exams. I highly recommend turning off your other devices.

• **Discussion Posts** (5 posts * 10 points = 50 points):
You are required to post a discussion 5 TIMES during the semester. You cannot post a discussion post the same week you post a response post – see below. Each week, I will pose questions (by 5 pm Tuesday) based on the week’s topic, lecture, and readings. After completing the readings and the lecture, on the weeks that you’ve decided to post, respond to those discussion questions, share your thoughts on the readings and weekly topics, and/or pose any questions that you’d like to discuss in further detail by Wednesday at 11:59pm. Discussion posts should be at least 250 WORDS long. Make sure that you consult the Discussion Guidelines & Rubric to make sure that you include all the details necessary to receive a good grade. Each post is worth 10 points.

The deadlines for your discussion posts, as well as other assignments, will be strictly enforced. Discussion Posting Assignments that are posted or turned in after the deadlines will not be accepted. To avoid any last-minute problems, such as a malfunctioning computer, start your work early enough so that dilemmas don’t prevent you from turning in your work in a timely manner. Again, late work is not accepted without documentation.

• **Response Posts** (5 posts * 5 points = 25 points):
You are not only expected to contribute your thoughts via 5 discussion posts, you are also expected to respond to your classmates’ discussion posts 5 TIMES during the semester. Please do not plan to respond the same week that you share a discussion post. On the week’s that you respond, read the discussion thread, consider the issues raised by your fellow classmates, and post a response that replies to the questions or themes raised by other in a constructive and substantive manner by Friday at 11:59pm. In other words, a response post
that says: “I agree/disagree with Student x” will not be sufficient. Response posts must be at least 125 WORDS long. Once again, it is critical that you read the Weekly Response Guidelines & Rubric to ensure that you receive maximum points. Each response post is worth 5 points. Again, please be aware that any late work regarding discussion posts in not accepted.

- **Media Analysis** (3 times * 25 points = 75 points):
The media analysis assignments are designed to encourage you to critically engage with a media source and to connect it to major themes from lectures, readings, and class discussions. In this assignment, you will be asked to analyze an article or to view a film and write a short reaction that responds and analyzes it using course material.

I would discourage you from turning in your work late, even though it’s better to hand in it rather than nothing at all. Late works will be downgraded one letter grade for each school day late, unless permission is granted otherwise before the day the assignment is due (e.g., an A to an A- one day late, an A- to B+ the second day late, and so on).

- **Exams** (Midterm Exam = 40 points, Final Exam = 50 points):
Two exams will be held at a mid-point of the semester and at the completion of the course. Exams will focus on the lecture material and assigned readings and films. Make sure you have a secure connection when you begin your examination.

Remember to consult assignment guidelines for detailed information about requirements, expectations, and grading.

**Sample Weekly Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Checklist/Agenda posted by 11 am</td>
<td>Begin readings</td>
<td>Complete lecture &amp; readings</td>
<td>Discussion Posts due by 11:59 pm</td>
<td>Part 2 of lecture posted by 5 pm</td>
<td>Quizzes open at noon</td>
<td>Quizzes due by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Begin readings</td>
<td>Complete Discussion Posts</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read class discussion posts</td>
<td>Complete Response Posts</td>
<td>Download and begin/complete readings for the next week.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Complete Quizzes</td>
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</tbody>
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With the exceptions of the first week of class, the weeks of your exams, and spring break our weekly schedule will proceed as follows (please note in your syllabus and on the D2L site when assignments are due).

**Evaluation Standards (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-56</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
See the following site for further details on UWM policy on grades and grading: [http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S29.htm](http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S29.htm).

**Course Policies**

**Communication**
Because this is an online course, if you have a question or are uncertain about course material and course content, it is essential that you first closely review the course syllabus and course D2L site for the answer. While a familiarity with your course syllabus and D2L site is important for all classes, it is even more essential for an online course because our primary form of communication will be in writing. All course procedures, policies, and expectations will be available on the course D2L site, so please be certain to read ALL DOCUMENTS closely. If you are still uncertain, then please contact a classmate or me. If a question can be ascertained by reading the syllabus, I will respond accordingly. Please note: I require at least 24 hours to respond to emails. If you email me over the weekend, do not expect a response until Monday morning.

**Complete Readings and Participate in Discussions**
Online discussions are a key part of this class (notice that a significant portion of class points are allotted to discussion and response posts). Be active in your own learning. All lectures and discussions will presume a familiarity of the readings. READ CRITICALLY. Make sure that you not only understand the content of the assigned readings, but also consider the validity and significance of the argument and analysis presented.

**Complete Work Thoughtfully and On Time**
Except in the case of a verifiable medical or family emergency precluding timely submission, LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please do contact me in the event of a life or health emergency. I will not be able to help you with your course requirements unless you inform me of your circumstances.

**Actively and Respectfully Contribute**
We all have a responsibility to ensure that an open and welcoming atmosphere is maintained. If we all agreed on everything, our university classes would be rather boring. Instead, difference of perspective means that we can share and learn from each other. However, you must make informed arguments – based on research and fact, rather than opinion - and respectfully engage with one another. Students are expected to behave in accordance with UWM respectful campus standards ([http://uwm.edu/studenthandbook/student-handbook/uwm-respectful-campus-standards/](http://uwm.edu/studenthandbook/student-handbook/uwm-respectful-campus-standards/)) and as outlined in the Student Handbook ([http://uwm.edu/studenthandbook/student-handbook/](http://uwm.edu/studenthandbook/student-handbook/)).

**Estimated Time for Course Components**
The workload for an online course is just as heavy as you are required for a conventional class, even though you will not attend class in a physical classroom. As a rough estimate, you can
expect to spend 8-10 hours per week on this class. The following is how you can expect to spend your time on a typical week:

- 3 hours: to read course readings and material
- 1 - 2 hours: to read weekly lectures
- 1.5 - 2 hours: to write discussion posts and/or to participate in discussions
- 1 hour: to view, research, or write down for Media Analysis Assignments
- 1 hour: to review course material for taking quizzes and exams

Estimated time for course components is as in the following:

- To read course readings and material: 45
- To read weekly lectures: 30
- To write discussion posts and/or to participate in discussions: 24
- To view, research, or write down for Media Analysis Assignments: 22.5
- To review course material for taking quizzes and exams: 22.5

= Total for semester (@3 credits * 48 hrs/credit hour): 144

**University Policies & Other Concerns**

For the UWM’s official policies on disabilities, religious observances, active military duty, incompletes, discretionary conduct, academic misconduct, complain procedures, and grade appeal procedures, please visit the following website: [http://uwm.edu/secu/wp-content/uploads/sites/122/2016/12/Syllabus-Links.pdf](http://uwm.edu/secu/wp-content/uploads/sites/122/2016/12/Syllabus-Links.pdf). I adhere to all of these policies.

**Academic Integrity**

Standards of academic conduct will be strictly adhered to. To sue other ideas, words, phrases, sentences, or entire works without citation, quotation marks, or attribution is plagiarism. Misrepresentation of the courses that are used in your course works may also involve it. You are responsible for reading and following UWM guidelines on academic misconduct, including cheating and plagiarism: [http://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic-misconduct/](http://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic-misconduct/). If I suspect academic misconduct, I am required to follow the procedures described on this webpage.

**Special Accommodations & Emergency Preparedness**

Accommodations in the course can be offered with documentation of a health problem and/or learning or other disability through the UWM Accessibility Resource Center. Please discuss any special requirements with me, during the first week of class. For your documented religious holiday schedule for the semester, you must talk with me by the first week. If you miss work for the purpose of religious observance, you should talk with me to make up any work that you miss.

**QUESTIONS?**

If you have questions or concerns about the class, please get in touch with me (lims@uwm.edu)!
## Course Schedule

**With advance notice, this schedule is subject to change. Please keep up with D2L announcements.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Homework DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | Introduction to course | - Course Syllabus  
- K&M Chap 1: Geography Matters  
- Lecture 1.1 | - Introduction (due 1/23 by 11:59 pm)  
- Scavenger Hunt (due 1/25 by 11:59 pm) |
| 2    | Geography and Globalization | - K&M Chap 2: The Changing Global Context  
- Lecture 2.1  
- Lecture 2.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post  
- Quiz #1 (due 2/3 by 11:59 pm) |
| 3    | Cultural Geographies and the Cultural Landscape | - K&M Chap 5: Cultural Geographies  
- K&M Chap 6: Language, Communication, and Belief  
- Lecture 3.1  
- Lecture 3.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post |
| 4    | Economic Geographies | - K&M Chap 7: Interpreting Places and Landscapes  
- K&M Chap 8: Geographies of Economic Development  
- Lecture 4.1  
- Lecture 4.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post  
- Quiz #2 (due 2/17 by 11:59 pm) |
#GlobalPOV Project. (2014). "Can We Shop to End Poverty?"  
- Lecture 5.1  
- Lecture 5.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post  
- Media Analysis #1 (due 2/20 by 11:59 pm) |
| 6    | International Food Regimes | - K&M Chap 9: Food and Agriculture  
- Lecture 6.1  
- Lecture 6.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post |
| 7    | MIDTERM EXAM | | - Midterm Exam (due 3/7 by 11:59 pm) |
| 8    | Re-examining Population Debates | - K&M Chap 3: Geographies of population and migration  
- Diamond, J. (2008)  
- Lecture 9.1  
- Lecture 9.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post  
- Media Analysis #2 (due 3/11 by 11:59 pm) |
| 9    | Spring recess – no classes | | |
| 10   | Migration/Immigration | - K&M Chap 3, pp. 86-95  
- Harvey, F. (2017)  
- Forbes. (2012)  
- Lecture 10.1  
- Lecture 10.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post  
- Quiz #3 (due 3/31 by 11:59 pm) |
| 11   | Urbanization & City Spaces | - K&M Chap 11: Urbanization  
- Lecture 11.1  
- Lecture 11.2 | **NO DISCUSSION/RESPONSE POSTS THIS WEEK** |
| 12   | Global Cities | - K&M Chap 12: City Spaces: Urban Structure  
- Lecture 12.1  
- Lecture 12.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post  
- Quiz #4 (due 4/14 by 11:59 pm) |
| 13   | Political Geographies | - K&M Chap 10: Political Geographies  
- Lecture 13.1  
- Lecture 13.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post  
- Media Analysis #3 (due 4/15 by 11:59 pm) |
| 14   | Nature and Society | - K&M: Chapter 4: People and Nature  
- Lecture 14.1  
- Lecture 14.2 | - Discussion Post OR Response Post  
- Quiz #5 (due 4/28 by 11:59 pm) |
| 15   | Course wrap up & Review | - No new readings – Catch up of readings before Final Exam  
- Lecture 15.1 | **NO DISCUSSION/RESPONSE POSTS THIS WEEK** |

**FINALS WEEK**  
|  | FINAL EXAM | | - Final Exam (due 5/9 by 11:59 pm) |