

NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
GEO 210 – PEOPLE AND THE LAND: INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY
(3 CR.)

Course Description

Provides an introduction to themes in human geography and the ways in which human geographers study spatial relationships in the world. Emphasizes geospatial tools and concepts to examine global patterns of human demographics, culture, geopolitics, and economic and environmental interdependence through introduction to a broad range of subject matter. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

This course emphasizes geographic literacy, awareness of and engagement with global issues, and cultural diversity. The course uses a thematic approach and requires students to think critically about and apply geographic concepts to contemporary topics, appreciating the impacts of individual and collective actions.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None.

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

Critical Thinking

- Analyze the interrelationships among societies and culture, politics, economics, and space.
- Identify locales impacted by climate change and describe how climate threats vary across space.

Scientific Literacy and Quantitative Reasoning

- Read and interpret quantitative and qualitative geographic data represented in maps, tables, charts, graphs, landscapes, and images (e.g., satellite, photographs, cartoons)
- Interpret data and construct explanatory hypotheses.
- Explain how maps, images, and landscapes illustrate or relate to geographic principles, processes, and outcomes

Cultural and Social Understanding

- Describe the role of economics in society
- Recognize the ways in which economics influence individuals and/or society
- Describe how individual and societal factors influence policy creation

Civic Engagement

- Evaluate impacts of human activity on the environment.
- Discuss the relevance of one's own actions in a globalized world.

Written Communication

- Conduct analysis through written and/or oral communication.

Human Diversity

- Evaluate diverse human societies in terms of their economic activities and environmental sustainability.
- Demonstrate an appreciation and respect for the diversity of perspectives, world-views, and cultures.

Major Topics to be Included

- Geographic literacy
- Geography concepts
- Demographics: population and migration
- Cultural geographies
- Political geography
- Agriculture and food
- Urban geography
- Economic development
- Human-environment interactions