Nashville State Community College
Cultural Geography
GEOG 1030

Instructor:
Times:
Classroom:
Office/Office Hours:
Phone:
Email:

Course Description:
An introduction to the study of the geography of human cultures, including demographics, migration dynamics and settlement patterns, special dimensions of ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity, political, economic and urban structures, and differing approaches to the ecological interface. **Prerequisite(s):** Reading: Level 2 placement, English: Level 2 placement or concurrent enrollment in ENGL 1010 and ENGL 0815.

**Credits: 3**

Course Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Understand the tools for geography; this includes analysis of maps, charts and graphs.
- Analyze and understand major concepts and tools of geographical enquiry including maps, space, place, as well as cultural landscape of special patterns of human activity at local and global scales.
- Evaluate and understand human spatial patterns, the variation in population distribution and change as well as the dynamics of contemporary internal and international migration.
- Evaluate and become more aware of the spatial arrangement of important cultural features such as language, religion, ethnicity, and folk and popular culture
- Deduce the dynamic relationship between human geography patterns and processes and the natural environment.
- Evaluate the special patterns and differentiation in demographic patterns, cultural traits, economic development, urban systems and structure, and political ordering of space.

Required Text:
*Please see bookstore link for textbook information.*
Learning Competencies:
Upon successfully completing this course you should:

1. Understand the basic cultures of Europe, Asia, Pacific, Africa, and America; and understand the problem issues facing these cultural regions.
2. Understand the tools for cultural geography; this includes analysis of maps, charts and graphs.
3. Analyze and understand major concepts and tools of geographical enquiry including maps, space, place, as well as cultural landscape of special patterns of human activity at local and global scales.
4. Evaluate and understand human spatial patterns, the variation in population distribution and change as well as the dynamics of contemporary internal and international migration.
5. Evaluate and become more aware of the spatial arrangement of important cultural features such as language, religion, ethnicity, and folk and popular culture.
6. Deduce the dynamic relationship between human geography patterns and processes and the natural environment.

Course Rationale:
The course will expose students to the human imprint of the natural landscape at different scales and the interconnection between human activity and the environment. The present human impact will require the understanding of the impact on the environment, and the future prospects of the physical and cultural environments we occupy, create and modify.

The course will broaden student’s understanding and view of the world we live in by focusing on the major expressions of cultural unity and diversity among peoples and societies. Focus will be placed on the tension between globalization and localization, as local diversity is gaining importance in an increasingly globalized and competitive world.

The course will seek to create awareness among students about the operations of cultural processes in different regions of the world, and a tolerance and appreciation of cultural diversity.

Course Audience:
This is designed as freshman and sophomore level course for History and Geography majors. However, it is open to all students at any level to meet other requirements.

This new course is aligned with the Tennessee Board of Regents universal path for all colleges’ courses in the TBR System. Geography 1030 can be use as a General Elective for many transfer majors, including but not limited to: Sociology, History, Political Science.

Method of Instruction:
There will be a combination of lectures, guided discussions and participatory learning opportunities.

Students must participate in all learning aspects of the course. In particular, students are expected to communicate in class and by e-mail with other students on any geographical and cultural topic or current theme.

Please keep abreast of current events, use the library and Internet sources for research.
Please learn to read, outline and prepare for discussion prior to class. Your reading assignments (studying) should be completed before class for maximum benefit. **Please keep up with your reading!**

**Grading, Examinations and Papers:**

**Grading Policy:**

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**Grading Scale:**

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**Attendance/Withdrawal Policy:**
Absences in excess of the total number of class hours in one week may result in a drop in a letter grade.

Failure to attend class will result in a final course grade of “FA” or “FN”
- FA – Failure – attendance related (last date of attendance required)
- FN – Failure – never attended class

It is the student’s responsibility to check D2L and MyNSCC email on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students. Students are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L contains specific course information and MyNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

Nashville State Community College has implemented an Early Warning System to notify students via e-mail about academic problems such as poor classroom attendance, poor performance on assignments/tests, poor communication skills, late/missing assignments, and/or lack of classroom participation. **Please note that Early Warning Alerts do not affect a student’s academic standing.**

**Accommodations:**
Nashville State complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Consult with the office of Student Disability Services. If you need any accommodation(s) for this class, notify the instructor by the second class meeting.
Classroom Misconduct and Procedures:
Nashville State Community College has a zero tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the classroom will be subject to disciplinary sanctions. The instructor has primary responsibility for control over classroom behavior and maintenance of academic integrity. He/she can order temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct which violates the general rules and regulations of the College. Disruptive behavior in the classroom may be defined as, but is not limited to, behavior that obstructs or disrupts the learning environment (e.g., offensive language, harassment of students and professors, repeated outbursts from a student which disrupt the flow of instruction or prevents concentration on the subject taught, failure to cooperate in maintaining classroom decorum, etc.), the continued use of any electronic or other noise or light emitting device which disturbs others (e.g., disturbing noises from beepers, cell phones, palm pilots, lap-top computers, games, etc.). Each student should refer to the current Nashville State Student Handbook for guidelines for student conduct.

Academic Dishonesty:
Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. “Plagiarism may result from: (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your works” (A Writer’s Reference, 331). Academic dishonesty may be defined as, but is not limited to, intentionally trying to deceive by claiming credit for the work of another person, using information from a web page or source without citing the reference, fraudulently using someone else’s work on an exam, paper, or assignment, recycling your own work from another course, purchasing papers or materials from another source and presenting them as your own, attempting to obtain exams/materials/assignments in advance of the date of administration by the instructor, impersonating someone else in a testing situation, providing confidential test information to someone else, submitting the same assignment in two different classes without requesting both instructors’ permission, allowing someone else to copy or use your work, using someone else’s work to complete your own, altering documents, transcripts or grades, and forging a faculty/staff member’s signature.

In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty, the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “Zero” for the exercise, paper or examination, or to assign an “F” for the course.

If a student believes that he/she has been erroneously accused of academic dishonesty and if his/her final grade has been lowered as a result, the student may appeal the case through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

NOTE:
This syllabus is a master syllabus. Specific course requirements are subject to revision at the discretion of the individual instructor. A course syllabus will be provided the first day of class.