

Geography Autumn 2009

Course Descriptions



GEOG 123 (5)

Intro to Globalization

Instructor: Professor Matt Sparke

TTh 10:30 am-12:20 pm plus quiz sections

(Note: counts towards Geography major, CHID major, Latin American Studies major, and as a requirement for the International Studies major.)

Where does your food come from? Who makes your clothes? What does your bank do with your money? Who are you connected to through your work? Why was the 'Battle in Seattle' about more than just Seattle? How are people networking and moving around the world in new ways? How do these networks and movements change politics locally and globally? Why does increasing global interconnectedness also seem to lead to greater division and greater inequality? Why is national security said to depend on the defense of free trade and private property? How are we all connected together, and who are "we"? This course aims to help you start answering these sorts of questions by examining globalization in all its diverse forms of worldwide interconnection. Such interconnections include economic ties, political ties, cultural ties, environmental ties and media ties. These ties can be analyzed independently, but they also need to be understood in terms of how they operate in conjunction with one another to produce the overall effect that has been given the single label globalization. When it is talked about in this singular way, globalization often seems overpowering and unstoppable. However, by learning about each set of ties in turn you will be able to see globalization as something less monolithic, something that is being contested and reworked, something that ties the world together in a range of both constraining and empowering ways, something that is constantly changing and something that therefore can also be changed.

GEOG 207 (5)

Economic Geography "W" Course

Bill Beyers

MWF 8:30-9:20 am, plus Th quiz section

What's where; how does it affect our lives and why? Think about this in terms of economic activities, and you've got the purpose of Geography 207. This course is an introduction to and overview of economic geography: patterns, trends, and theories of the geographic arrangement and interaction of economic resources, activities, and institutions. We'll cover principles used to understand location and interaction at the intra-urban, interregional, and international scales. Given this broad sweep of material, the course is relevant to students pursuing studies in geography, economics, planning, business, and regional studies. The course format entails lecture and lecture notes, assigned reading, three empirical case studies, weekly review/discussion section, two 50-minute tests and a final examination.

Your writing of the case results makes this into a Writing course. No prerequisites -- we'll introduce economic and geographic principles as we need them.

GEOG 230 (5)

Global Inequality Instructor: Vicky Lawson

MTWTh 9:30-10:20 am, plus Th and F quiz

This course explores geographies of inequality around the globe. We will discuss the connections between inequality and international development efforts with a focus on Latin America, Africa and Asia. Our focus will be on the causes and geographic patterns of social inequality worldwide. The course begins by reexamining some of the defining themes in debates over development: 'overpopulation', migration/immigration, and the production of inequality and poverty. We discuss the historical legacies of colonialism in Africa, Latin America and Asia, linking these to current debates about 'development' – such as state intervention versus free markets. We will examine global to local forces that shape inequality and will discuss working in the global economy and grassroots networks of political action.

GEOG 245 (5)**U.S. Population****Instructor: Suzanne Withers****MWF 2:30-3:20, plus Th quiz sections**

The course provides students with an understanding of the geographic variation of the diversity of America's population. This course advances a demographic perspective towards understanding social change. Students will gain an understanding of the connections between population processes (temporal and spatial) and societal dynamics and diversity. The course examines such topics as the history of U.S. immigration policy, understanding racial differences in mortality, the concept of 'race' and its treatment in the U.S. census over time, political redistricting and affirmative gerrymandering, measures of segregation and variations in the internal migration of populations. Students will come away from the class with: (1) a practical understanding of population processes (fertility, mortality, and migration); (2) knowledge of the geographic variation in population structure and characteristics; (3) knowledge of the sources of data for demographic research; (4) experience using geographic information systems for geodemographic analysis; and (5) an appreciation for the demographic underpinnings of contemporary social issues. As such, this course provides an introduction to the field of population geography.

GEOG 315 (5)**Explanation and Understanding in Geography****Instructor: Michael Brown****MWF 12:30-1:20 pm, plus TTh quiz sections**

The objectives of this course are fourfold:

- 1.) to design your own geographic research effectively,
- 2.) to evaluate critically the research designs of others,
- 3.) to develop your appreciation of how knowledge is acquired, and
- 4.) to prepare you for your future courses in geographic data analysis (425 and 426 for example).

By the end of this course, you will come to appreciate the diversity of methods in geography, the appropriateness of different methods for different research questions, and the standards by which each method should be evaluated.

GEOG 344 (5)**Migration and the Global Economy****Instructor: Maureen Hickey****MW 12:30-2:20 pm**

In this course we will analyze the relationship between human mobility in the late 20th century and changes in the global economy. The course will familiarize students with research on international migration from a diversity of approaches and methods. Topics include the rise of transnational migration patterns, gendered migration, networks of ethnicity and patterns of assimilation and citizenship.
Offered jointly with SIS 344

GEOG 349 (5) "W" Course**Geography of International Trade****Instructor: JW Harrington****TTh 9:30-11:20 am**

"Trade policy," "foreign direct investment," "globalization," "comparative advantage" -- these concepts, their implementation, and the opportunities and concerns they raise are all fundamentally geographic. They refer to the fact that the resource base, institutional arrangements, and economic histories of places differ, and that these places are separated by distance and regulatory barriers. This course provides systematic bases for thinking about, implementing, and critiquing the processes of international economic interaction. We'll cover neoclassical trade theory, the formulation of trade policy, and some of the logistics of international trade and capital flows. Students will have the opportunity to focus their empirical investigations on trade policy and patterns of Canada, China, or Mexico.

GEOG 360 (5)**Principles of GIS Mapping****Instructor: Sarah Elwood****MWF 8:30-9:20 am, Labs MW or TTh**

Origins, development, and methods of cartography. Principles of data representation and map design for thematic mapping and spatial analysis. Introduction to principles of geographic information systems (GIS).

Offered jointly with Geography 560.

GEOG 370 (5)
Problems Resource Management
Instructor: Craig ZumBrunnen
TTh 9:30-11:20 am

This goal of this course is to help students become more effective participants in environmental decision making as citizens and professionals. Students can expect to learn about: 1) basic economic concepts as applied to natural resource management; 2) a survey history of American resource use controversies and practices; 3) a critical review of the methods/tools of benefit-cost analysis including risk analysis; 4) major ecosystem concepts and processes; 5) natural and human processes associated with water, air usage and pollution; 6) natural (e.g., thermodynamic) and human-economic processes and problems bearing on local, national and global energy use; 7) the strengths and shortcomings of various strategies and policies for environmental and resource protection; and 8) some appreciation for the complexities involved in the controversies surrounding the concept(s) of "sustainable development." The primary methods of instruction which will be employed include: 1) lecture and class discussions, 2) 3CM and other group experiential learning processes, 3) small group activities and issue debates, 4) introduction to benefit-cost & cost-effective analyses, and 5) possibly some videos and short field trips. It should be **strongly emphasized** that the purpose and perspective of this course is as much to develop critical thinking and questioning skills as it is to convey a specific body of information. Accordingly, expect this class to generate more questions than answers. You should take this course if you are interested in an environmental career, or simply want to be a more informed citizen.

GEOG 375
Geopolitics
Instructor: Annie Bartos
TTh 2:30-4:20

Offered jointly with SIS 375A
Geopolitics is the practice of envisioning and representing global space in a way that reflects - though they are not always overtly stated - particular strategic interests. Most geopolitical treatises focus on some supposedly innate, objective difference between people and places - based on religion, race, resource endowment, and so on - that presents a security threat. This

course draws mostly from critical geopolitics literature that deconstructs these spatial representations, revealing their cartographic erasures and the material violences they produce. The first half of the course will provide a historical overview of some of the dominant geopolitical imaginations of the last 200 years including colonial representations of 'the Orient', Nazi propaganda maps, and the bipolar world of the Cold War discourse. In the second half of the course, we will focus on the current US-led 'war on terror'. We will explore how 'terror' has been mapped onto particular spaces and relate this to the complexity and diversity of everyday events and lives on the ground. We will also explore the ties and tensions between contemporary geopolitics and neoliberal globalization.

Key questions will include:

- (i) How are space and power intertwined?
- (ii) To what extent is the 'war on terror' a new kind of global conflict?
- (iii) How does geopolitics relate to economic globalization?
- (iv) How are geopolitical events framed differently through popular culture around the world?

Learning Strategies: Twice weekly seminars will include lectures, discussions, worksheets and films.

Recommended Preparation for the Course: GEOG/SIS 123, GEOG 276, or SIS 201.

General Nature of Assignments: You will be assessed based on a midterm exam, a 3, 500 word research paper, a film review, and your overall contribution to classes.

GEOG 433
Resource Use Russia
Instructor: Craig ZumBrunnen
MW 2:30-4:20 pm

Geographic and historical background of the natural resource base of Russia and the Newly Independent States. Geographic and historical perspectives on Soviet natural resource use and management in theory and practice. Implications of the breakup of the USSR for natural resource use and management.

GEOG 462 (5)**Coastal GIS****Instructor: Tim Nyerges****MWF 10:30-11:20 am, Labs MW or T Th**

Methods of analysis provided by geographic information systems (GIS). Operations on geospatial data, including map overlay, buffers, neighborhood operations and transformations, and other spatial and attribute data procedures. Exposure to raster and vector software, but particular emphasis on raster operations. Data sets associated with coastal areas are used in lab assignments, emphasizing land and water interfaces as the substantive theme.

Previously offered as Geog 460 (Geog Analysis). Students who have taken Geog 460 will not be allowed to enroll in Geog 462. Non-Geography majors seeking an Add Code should email Tim Nyerges (Nyerges@u) for permission to register, indicating previous GIS experience.

GEOG 476 (5)**Women and The City****Instructor: Kim England****TTh 11:30 -1:20***Offered jointly with WST 476*

Explores the reciprocal relations between subjectivities, gender relations, the layout of cities, and the activities of urban residents. Focus on North America and some European examples. The central theme is that the layout of cities and the activities of the people in cities are gendered (and classed, raced, etc). The class provides a critical appreciation of: (1) the breath and depth of feminist urban geography, and why the field emerged and why it should be studied; (2) some of the major topics addressed by feminist urban geographers; and (3) the types of research strategies employed in the study of feminist urban geographies.

GEOG 478 (5)**Intraurban Spatial Patterns****Instructor: Ron Smith****TTh 2:30-4:20**

Geographic patterns and processes within metropolitan areas. Economic land-use patterns (commercial and industrial location), social land-use patterns (segregation, housing, and neighborhood change), urban political geography, analysis of urban infrastructure, and assessment of contemporary and future trends

in urban development. Recommended: GEOG 277.

Geog 505 (5)**Research Seminar: China****Instructor: Kam Wing Chan****M 3:30-6:20 pm**

Introduces graduate students to several major spatial topics, many of which are critical to present-day China's development. These topics include population and land relationship, the spatial structures of economic activities and governments, rural-urban relations and transition, central-local relations, the *hukou* system, population mobility at different spatial scales, and urban centers. Emphasis will be on helping students develop theoretical, plus research and data skills. The scholarly literature for this course draws from the disciplines of geography, and other social science disciplines. Each student is expected to complete weekly readings, participate in presentations and discussions, and prepare a research paper (or a detailed research proposal) in relation to his or her interest areas at the end of the course.

GEOG 512 (5)**History of Geographic Thought****Instructor: Katharyne Mitchell****M 2:30-5:20 pm**

Historical development of modern geography. Emphasis on various philosophical and methodological debates in geography and the contexts from which they emerged. Investigates geography's foundational concepts and institutions; how they have responded to -- and influenced -- the world around them.

GEOG 560 (5)**Principles of GIS Mapping****Instructor: Sarah Elwood****MWF 8:30-9:20 am, Labs MW and TTh***Offered jointly with Geog 360*

GEOG 572 (5)

Queer Geographies

Instructor: Michael Brown

W 2:30-5:20 pm

The course this year will examine broadly the intersections between sexuality, queer theory and geography through a series of key texts and research monographs. We will focus on work within geography, but also on broader debates on the body, heteronormativity, and homophobia, as well as social history. Non-geographers welcome.

GEOG 578 (5)

Theorizing Cities

Instructor: Mark Ellis

Th 2:30-5:20 pm

Please email instructor for course description at ellism@u.washington.edu

GEOG 580 (5)

Medical Geography

Instructor: Jonathan Mayer

W 2:30-5:20 pm

Offered jointly with HSERV 586A

The purpose of this course is to learn the major theories, methods, and debates of this highly interdisciplinary field. Based upon readings, lectures, and class discussions, students can expect to have a broad acquaintance with the field. This can serve either as a basis for research in medical geography, or as an introduction to a medical social science in light of other traditions of geography, social science, and public health. Medical geography is inherently a field of geography, a health-related field of social science, and a subdiscipline of public health.