SYLLABUS

Course Description
This course offers a broad overview of the field of Geography. Emphasis is placed on an understanding of the major themes of Geography and how they can serve as a mental construct for evaluating spatial information. In addition, the course will focus on the relationship between the natural processes that have shaped the Earth’s surface and the development of cultural practices around the globe.

Texts
1. Class Packet(s)
   a. Set of 11 X 17” World Regional Maps & Map Quiz Study Guides – The map packet is posted on BbLearn and hardcopies are for sale at Chico Packet Pro http://www.chicopacketpro.com/ Chico Packet Pro is located at Gogi’s Café at 230 Salem Street. Packets are on sale during the first few weeks of the semester.

2. Class Exercises & Readings – Posted on BbLearn

Course Objectives
The objectives of this course are to help students:

1. Develop an understanding of geographical concepts, including:
   a. The Five Themes of Geography (location, place, movement, human-environmental interaction, and regions) and how they are inter-related,
   b. The physical processes that have shaped the Earth’s natural environment such as climate, landforms, the rock cycle, and biogeography, and
   c. How these physical processes influence human cultural and economic development such as the use and exploitation of resources, as well as different religious, linguistic, economic, and political systems, and,
   d. The location of important physical and cultural regions around the globe.

2. Acquire some of the techniques used to illustrate Geographical Concepts, including the mapping of data, creating charts and diagrams, creating population pyramids, and interpreting an atlas.

3. Introduce students to the California K – 5 teaching standards
Student Learning Objectives

This class meets the following learning objectives.

Diversity: Students will demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultural, ethnic, and social groups.

Course Requirements

Students are responsible for all class materials and should be prepared to discuss readings on the assigned dates. Specific requirements include:

1. Two midterm exams and one final exam. Exam questions will be taken from the assigned readings, class exercises, map studies, films and class lectures.
2. Numerous map quizzes, reading quizzes and exercises throughout the semester.
3. One or two teaching practicums which will require time outside of scheduled class.

Students’ Responsibilities

Students are expected to attend all classes. If you miss class or leave early because of other important commitments, you are still responsible for materials presented in lecture.

Eating, reading outside materials, or carrying on conversations not relevant to classroom discussions are prohibited.

Cell phones are prohibited, even on vibrate. Turn it off and live in the moment. ANY cell phone use, noise, vibration during an exam or quiz will result in an ‘F’ being awarded.

Students are expected to respect one another and the diversity of opinion, viewpoint, experience, and interpretation present in a university classroom.

Students should take careful, complete notes; exams will be taken in large part from lecture materials and classroom discussions.

Instructor’s Responsibilities

It is the instructor’s responsibility to be organized, informative, and enthusiastic about the course material. The instructor will be available during office hours to answer questions about course materials, assignments, or exams.

As a guide to the learning process, the instructor will make every effort to accommodate different learning styles by using various methods of instruction – including traditional lecture, class discussion, hands-on activities, field work, and film and video when available.

It is the instructor’s responsibility to ensure that classroom decorum is maintained. Any behavior that disrupts the learning process will be dealt with in a prompt manner and may lead to the student(s) being dropped from the class. The procedure for removal from the classroom is as follows.
1. First offence – a verbal admonishment will be given to the disruptive student.
2. Second offense – temporary removal from class and/or an office visit. Seating assignment will be given at this juncture.
3. Third offense – permanent removal from class. An ‘F’ will be awarded for the class.
**General Course Structure**

Online Map Quizzes will *usually* be available on Fridays and due on Tuesdays
In Class Map Quizzes will *usually* be on Tuesdays
BbLearn Reading Quizzes will *usually* be on Thursdays
Exercises will be due as specified and are subject to change.

**Readings**

A fundamental element of a liberal education is the development of the ability to read critically. Hence, your success in the course largely depends on the amount of time and effort you devote to the assigned readings. To encourage your progress in this matter, test questions will not only be drawn from lecture material. Rather, a certain number of test questions will pertain to information found in the assigned readings.

**Attendance**

It has been my experience both as a student and as an instructor that there is a strong correlation between attendance and performance. Students who rarely miss a class and actively participate in class tend to perform well on tests and quizzes; students who lack the discipline required for regular attendance tend to perform poorly. Daily attendance is strongly encouraged.

**Academic Honesty**

Cases of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of work, and dishonesty will be referred Lisa Root, the director of Student Judicial Affairs. Sanctions for academic dishonesty range from receiving a failing grade in the class to expulsion from the University. Please consider this before engaging in ethically questionable behaviors.

**Title IX: Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting**

As a Chico State instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment for Chico State students. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one communications. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. **However, I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct with the University.**

Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the Counseling and Wellness Center (898-6345) or Safe Place (898-3030). Information about campus reporting obligations and other Title IX related resources are available here: [www.csuchico.edu/title-ix](http://www.csuchico.edu/title-ix)

**Grading Policy**

No makeup work will be permitted, except in the case of a bona-fide and documented illness or emergency. Assignments are due on the dates specified by the instructor.

Note: **No late work will be accepted**

This is a **general** outline of points for the course. The instructor will modify these point totals slightly during the course of the semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exams (2)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (1)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercises (6 @ 5 - 20 points)</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Map Quizzes (14 @ 5 points)</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Map Quizzes (14 @ 10 points)</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes (12 @ 10 points)</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo Flashcard</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Approximate Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>67 0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Grade Scale:** To compute the final letter grade, students need to determine what percentage of points they received relative to the total possible amount of points.

- 100-94% = A
- 93-90% = A-
- 89-87% = B+
- 86-84% = B
- 83-80% = B-
- 79-77% = C+
- 76-74% = C
- 73-70% = C-
- 69-60% = D
- 59% and below earns the student a “F.”

Additionally, an “F” will be awarded in any instance of cheating or plagiarism on any assignment, regardless of the number of points earned in the course.

**Extra Credit**

Extra credit opportunities will be offered at various times during the course of the semester depending upon the availability of guest speakers and classroom volunteering availability. Additionally, many extra credit opportunities are listed in the ‘extra credit opportunities’ section of the course. Extra credit is offered to assist diligent students. Please note that all extra credit points will be forfeited by those students who have missed more than three classes or three regular assignments or a combination of the two. No extra credit will be offered or accepted during the last three weeks of the semester.

**Tentative Assignment Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>EXERCISE OR HOMEWORK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK ONE</td>
<td>The 411</td>
<td>Photo Flashcard</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 23 - 27</td>
<td>The 5 Themes</td>
<td>Exercise – Intro to Goode’s World Atlas</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Chapter 1 – Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK TWO</td>
<td>Maps</td>
<td>Exercise – Location</td>
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<td>Jan 30 – Feb 3</td>
<td>Latitude and Longitude</td>
<td>Chapter 1 – Introduction</td>
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<td>Map Quiz – The United States</td>
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<td>WEEK THREE</td>
<td>Coordinate Systems</td>
<td>Chapter 1 – Maps and Projections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 6 – 10</td>
<td>Projections</td>
<td>Map Quiz – Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GPS, GIS and Remote Sensing</td>
<td>Reading Quiz – Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK FOUR</td>
<td>Lesson Planning</td>
<td>Chapter 7 – Cultural Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 13 – 17</td>
<td></td>
<td>Map Quiz – Middle America</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading Quiz – Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK FIVE</td>
<td>Teaching Geography</td>
<td>Teaching Practicum @ Sierra View</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20 – 24</td>
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<td>Chapter 8 – Languages and Religions</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Map Quiz – South America</td>
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<td>Reading Quiz – Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK SIX</td>
<td>Testing Geography</td>
<td>Chapter 3 – Landforms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 27 – March 3</td>
<td>Plate Tectonics</td>
<td>Map Quiz – Western Europe</td>
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<tr>
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<td>MIDTERM EXAM</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| WEEK SEVEN  
March 6 – 10 | Landforms and Rock Types | Chapter 3 – Landforms  
Map Quiz – Southern Europe  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 3 |
| WEEK EIGHT  
March 13 – 17 | Relaxing Geography | Spring Break! |
| WEEK NINE  
March 20 - 24 | Weather and Climate | Chapter 2 - Weather and Climate  
Read BbLearn Articles on Climate Change  
Map Quiz – Northern and Central Eurasia & C.I.S.  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 2 |
| WEEK TEN  
March 27–31 | Biosphere | MIDTERM EXAM  
Chapter 4 – Biosphere  
Map Quiz – The Middle East  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 4 |
| WEEK ELEVEN  
April 3 - 7 | Resourceful Geography | Teaching Practicum @ Sierra View  
Chapter 5 – Earth’s Natural Resources  
Map Quiz – South Asia  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 5  
Read BbLearn Article: Why $3, $4, $5 Oil is Good for America  
Read BbLearn Article: The Future of Energy  
Online E-Book: Start Reading "Unquenchable" |
| WEEK TWELVE  
April 10 - 14 | Energetic Geography | Chapter 12 – Economy and Development  
Map Quiz – East Asia  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 12 |
| WEEK THIRTEEN  
April 17 – 21 | Polluted Geography | Chapter 9 – Food and Agriculture  
Map Quiz – South East Asia  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 9 |
| WEEK FOURTEEN  
April 24 - 28 | Population Geography | Exercise – Population ‘Miniature Earth’  
Chapter 6 – Population and Migration  
Map Quiz – Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 6 |
| WEEK FIFTEEN  
May 1 - 5 | Population Geography | Exercise – Population Fundamentals  
Chapter 10 – Cities and Urbanization  
Packet Articles: Population, A Lively Introduction  
Map Quiz – Northern Africa  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 10 |
| WEEK SIXTEEN  
May 8 - 12 | Population Geography | Exercise – Population Demographics  
Chapter 11 – A World of States  
Map Quiz – Southern Africa  
Reading Quiz – Chapter 11 |
* The instructor reserves the right to alter this outline as circumstances dictate. A few assignments will be added and/or removed during the course of the semester. Overall point totals for the class are subject to change.