GEOGRAPHY 2 (Online)

Introduction to Cultural Geography

Peralta Distance Education Homepage: http://eperalta.org/summer2017/

Instructor: Dr. Gregory Schwartz

Instructor E-mail: [gregoryschwartz390@gmail.com](mailto:gregoryschwartz390@gmail.com)**, or** gschwartz@peralta.edu

**Office Hours: Upon request/call/zoom**

**Required Texts:**

Rubenstein, James M. (2013), The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human

Geography, 11th (or 10th  or 9th) Ed. Pearson, New Jersey. (currently the 9th edition is selling for under $20 on Amazon.)

Schwartz, Gregory J. (2017), *5 Ways to Save the Planet (in your spare time).*

E-Book provided for free atop the MODULES page of Canvas class.

**Course Objective:**

In this class we will study how human culture is expressed and where it is distributed around the globe. Topics such as population, politics, energy, food, waste, economics, religion, gender, and popular vs. traditional culture, among others, will be covered. Particular emphasis will be given to environmental sustainability, as climate change, land cover change, and resource consumption patterns together have generated an environmental crisis on planet earth. The solutions to this crisis are not only scientific, but also deeply cultural in that they involve shifts in traditions, beliefs, and lifeways. Relatedly, a tension will also be presented between the globalization of culture, meaning both the global spread and increasing homogenization of culture, and the push to maintain pockets of traditional and folk cultures around the globe.

**Grading:**

There will be intermittent multiple choice quizzes as well as an essay final. All exams will be based on lectures and readings in the class texts (Rubenstein and Schwartz). The points possible for weekly assignments range from 10 points to 50 points per assignment (unique values are indicated in the instructions for each assignment).

Quizzes 224 points

Assignments 435 points

Final Exam 100 points

Total Possible Points 759 points

Extra Credit !! 25 points

Extra Credit:

Volunteer four hours of service to your favorite environmental organization or charity which helps to improve the environment in some way. Take a photo while you’re there, and ask a supervisor to write a quick, signed note stating how many hours you were present. Then, write a one-page typed summary of your experience and what it meant to you. Email the picture, a photo of the signed note, and the one-page summary to professor Schwartz ([gregoryschwartz390@gmail.com](mailto:gregoryschwartz390@gmail.com)) during the final week of class but before the last day.

Late work and make-ups:

The assigned work in each unit has a due date which is very clearly listed in the unit’s heading as well as on each individual assignment. Work turned in after the due date will have points deducted (proportional to lateness). Multiple choice Quizzes are the exception in that they can be done at any time up until the last day of class and not be late. Any written assignment can technically be turned in until the last day of the class as well, but this translates to significant point loss.

**Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for Geography 2:**  
1. Be able to explain how concepts learned in class are related to daily life and current events

2. Analyze inter-relationships and patterns between individuals, social forces, and environmental

factors

3. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts of cultural geography discussed in lecture and

in the class text. These include climate change, population and migration, agriculture, energy, religion, ethnicity, urbanization, and resource consumption

4. Assess the impact of humans on the natural environment and how this affects resources, the

climate, and development trajectories

**CONTENT SCHEDULE:**

Unit 1 Cultural Geography Overview

Introduce Yourself

Human Geography Terms Quiz

UNIT 2 Covid and Pandemics Assignment

Unit 3 Map Quizzes

Unit 4 Climate Change

Climate Change causes & effects forum

Unit 5 Lifestyles and Sustainability

Food, Culture, and Environmental Impacts

Resource Management Quiz

Unit 6 Ecological Footprint Self-Assessment

Domestic lifestyle Sustainability survey

Unit 7 Population

Demographic Transition Assignment

Demographic Transition Quiz

Unit 8 Energy Production & Sustainability

Comparing Renewables and Fossil Fuels

Unit 9 Energy Quiz

Unit 10 Agriculture & the Food System

Organic Agriculture’s Effect on the United States

Unit 11 Agriculture Quiz

Unit 12 Feedback

Unit 13 Women & Gender

Global Gender Inequality

Unit 14 Folk & Popular Culture

Pop/Folk Forum

Unit 15 Globalization, Good or Bad?

Unit 16 Religion

Religion and Nature

Unit 17 FINAL EXAM