

Introduction to Human Geography
Geo 107, CRN , 4 credits
Spring Term, April 4 – June 13, 2006
3:00 - 4:50 p.m. T/TH, SC 305
PCC Cascade
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Course Overview: Geography means “a picture of the world” or “to measure the world.” Geography has always intertwined Earth and humanity, showing that each has profound impacts on the other. In this class, the third of a three-part series, we will be studying questions related to global development - - what is it, how do we measure it, why are there such disparities between levels of development, and most importantly, what can be done to close the gaps worldwide. We will also be looking at the challenges and opportunities of “globalization.” In addition, we will be supplementing the traditional approaches to development geography with the most recent global assessments of how we are doing on this planet.

Goals: There are three goals for this class.

1. To learn the logic of the discipline of geography as it describes human and natural processes and inter-relations
2. To become articulate in using the vocabulary of geography and in discussing the central themes of the study of geography
3. To prepare ourselves to be active, educated, participating citizens in the modern world

Materials (Required): Sachs, Jeffrey D. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005. (On reserve)

There are a number of resources on our class website, or linked from our class website. These are also required materials. Print them off and bring them to class on the days indicated. You will need a pdf reader to access these materials. You will not be violating any copyright laws by downloading and printing out this material.

Save these materials in a notebook, along with your written work, as a basis for your term project.

Core Content: There are ten weeks of class. There are four units in this course:

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| Week One: | Introduction to Course |
| Unit One: | Development: Definition, Measurement, Methods |
| Unit Two: | World Food and Hunger |
| Unit Three: | The Politics of Development |
| Unit Four: | Meeting the Millennium |

Requirements: There are two requirements for this class: (1) keep up on the reading and reading notes, (2) do a country project. The grade is based on a total of 300 points:

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| Reading Notes | 150 (15 pts. x 10 assignments) |
| Country project | 150 |

Grading: 270 – 300 = A; 240 – 269 = B; 210 – 239 = C; 180 – 209 = D

Reading Notes: (15 points each, 150 points): There are ten reading notes assignments, designed to:

- (a) explore the programs, institutions and issues raised in Sachs' book,
- (b) familiarize you with resources you will need for your country project,
and
- (c) support and supplement the materials presented in the text.

Late assignments will lose three (3) points for each class session they are late.

Country Project: More information about this requirement will be presented on a separate handout.

Bonus Points: There are a total of 15 bonus points available. If you attend all classes - - arriving on time and staying for the full amount - - you will earn all fifteen points available. If you miss a class, you can potentially earn fifteen bonus points with a three-page paper on a field trip you have taken, such as going to a lecture, doing an interview, even going to a movie with a friend. Talk to me about bonus points in advance of doing the work.

Conduct of the Class: Each class begins at 3:00 p.m. and ends at 4:50 p.m. Class will begin on time and continue for the entire length. There will be one break.

Best standards of classroom behavior apply.

1. Be courteous to your classmates and your instructor.
2. Turn off your cell phones and pagers.
3. Enter and leave the classroom without disturbing your classmates. If you unavoidably come late or have to leave early, sit near the door.
4. During lectures or presentations, please refrain from talking. Hold your comments or questions to the end of a lecture or presentation.
5. Listen to your classmates attentively and respond to what they have to say respectfully.
6. If you need to consult with your instructor, do it before or after class, but not during class.
7. If you have an emergency, please feel free to leave the classroom. Emergency means something physical. Meeting a friend, making a call, buying a soda or visiting the bookstore are not emergencies, they are personal business. Make arrangements to do this kind of task before or after class.
8. Best classroom behavior does not include listening to music, wandering around, *(getting up to throw something in the wastebasket, for example), text messaging, studying for another class, or any other form of not paying attention or participating.

Caveats (or, a word to the wise):

Keep up with the class. This is not a class you can ignore until two weeks before the final exam. There is no final exam. In exchange, I expect you to keep abreast of the class during the term.

Make class attendance your priority. If something comes up, just say no.

Students with special needs can be accommodated. Students who have disabilities are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (SSB 150, 503-978-5271; TTY 503-246-4072) for assistance in requesting classroom accommodations.

Do your best writing: Run it by a writing tutor if you need assistance.

Do your own work. Students are expected to hand in their own work, and to properly reference any information resources they cite in their work. Materials cannot be copied or downloaded from the Internet and handed in as homework. If I suspect that you are handing in work that is not your own, I will consult with you privately, but the outcome is that **there is no credit given for work that you did**

not do yourself.

Scheduling surprises: Every effort will be made to keep to the class schedule, but in case of unforeseen circumstances, the class calendar may have to be adjusted to some extent. In that case, a revised calendar will be presented to the class as soon as possible, and it is the students' responsibility to know what they are supposed to do according to the revised calendar.

Come to me with any questions, suggestions, or problems. Do not wait until the end of the term to let me know that you are having a problem. You will find that I am approachable, and that I respond well to reasonable adult behavior.

Drops and withdrawal policy:

If after you have attended some sessions you decide to withdraw, you must go to the registration department of PCC and make it official. Otherwise, you run the risk of getting an F in the class. If you have health or family problems during the term that make it difficult or impossible to finish the class, notify me immediately. If you have completed 75% of the course requirements and are in good standing (i.e., you are not failing), we can arrange for you to get an Incomplete. That will require signing a contract after we have determined how and when you will make up the remaining class requirements.

Contacting Me

The best way to contact me is through email. **It helps me if you put the words "Geography 107" in your subject line.** I check my email in the mornings when I arrive on campus, but I sometimes forget to check it over the weekends.

You can also telephone me at the campus number. Again, I check my phone messages in the mornings when I arrive on campus, but I sometimes forget to check them over the weekend. **It helps me if you leave a contact method in your message** (except long distance), and it also helps me if you tell me what day and time you called.