

GEOG 111-WS1: Introduction to Geography Winter Session 2023

December 19, 2022 – January 8, 2023

Instructor: Ms. Susannah Oettle

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Office Hours: By appointment in person or over Zoom

Asynchronous Online

Office: Alumni Hall 1317

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Credits: 3 hours

Course Description & Goals: This course explores Earth's physical and human processes, the interaction between these processes, and the spatial distribution of these processes on the Earth's surface. One goal of this course is to improve your geographic literacy by learning the language geographers use to describe physical and human processes. You will also learn some of the locations on Earth where these processes occur. You will develop skills for acquiring, organizing, and analyzing geographic information that you can use in your daily life to better understand the world in which you live. This course fulfills Global Cultures Experience, Laboratory Experience, and Social Sciences Breadth general education requirements.

Required Course Textbook: *Introduction to Contemporary Geography* Rubenstein, Renwick, & Dahlman 2013

Blackboard: This is a fully online, asynchronous course. You must be able to access Blackboard on a regular basis to be successful in this course! All of your assignments, exams, and course materials except for the textbook are accessed through Blackboard. You will also use Blackboard to access announcements and check your grades. If you need assistance using Blackboard, go to Blackboard Student Support at <http://www.siue.edu/its/bb/> or contact ITS at <https://www.siue.edu/its/contact.shtml>.

Disclosure of grades: In accordance with the Family Education Privacy Act, I cannot disclose grades in a manner that would compromise confidentiality. I cannot disclose grades via telephone, email, or through public posting. You will be able to check your grades on Blackboard. If you wish to discuss your grades, please contact me for a Zoom or in-person appointment.

ADA Statement: SIUE offers resources to support students with disabilities. The ACCESS office offers to coordinate support services for students with permanent or temporary disabilities. To receive these services, students must register with the ACCESS office located in Room 1203 in the Student Success Center. For more information, visit the ACCESS website at <https://www.siue.edu/access/>.

I am here to help you learn and have a successful educational experience at SIUE. I will make every effort to work with all students, including those registered with the ACCESS office, to make this class as accessible as possible. Please speak to me about necessary accommodations at the beginning of the semester. If you have questions, comments, or concerns at any point during the semester, please contact me to make an appointment.

Academic Honesty: The University and I place a high priority on academic honesty. Cheating on any exam, quiz, or assignment will not be tolerated in this course and will result in an automatic zero on the assignment. A second cheating incident will result in an F in the class and being reported to the provost's office for academic dishonesty. Cheating is an act of academic misconduct for which students are subject to sanctions. For more information on SIUE's policy on cheating, see the appropriate sections of the *SIUE Student Code of Conduct* at <http://www.siue.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>.

The University recognizes plagiarism, the act of representing the work of another as one's own, as a serious academic offense. It may consist of copying, paraphrasing, or otherwise using the written or oral work of another without acknowledging the source.

All quotes, paraphrased sections, images (except for photos you take), etc. used in an assignment or lab must be cited. Anything that isn't common knowledge or your own thoughts/ideas must be cited. If you do not cite a source, you will receive a 0. Additionally, copying or letting a classmate copy your work counts as cheating and will result in a 0 for everyone involved. Don't cheat!

If you have questions about how to cite a source or anything else that relates to academic honesty don't hesitate to ask!

Covid/Health & Safety: Circumstances have been changing rapidly during the pandemic, which results in physical, emotional, and mental health challenges and stress for students and instructors. Let's all be kind to each other and responsible about our own health and protecting others' health the best we can. Please reach out to me if you are experiencing difficulties related to Covid or other issues that impact your class performance. Additionally, it is possible class activities, grading timelines, etc. may be impacted if the instructor becomes ill. I will post an announcement to Blackboard as quickly as possible if class timelines will be impacted due to instructor illness. Your grades will not be penalized for issues that arise due to instructor illness.

Reading Assignments: You must complete the reading assignments to be successful in this class. Reading assignments will be posted on the Blackboard course website under the Announcements tab and in each week's folder.

Recordings of Class Content: Instructor recordings of course materials are meant to facilitate student learning. As such, students are reminded that replicating and sharing course content outside of class without written permission of the instructor is not permitted and may be considered a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct <https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c1.shtml>.

Diversity & Inclusion: SIUE and your instructor are committed to respecting everyone's dignity. Hate speech, sexism, ableism, xenophobia, racism, heterosexism, and other forms of social pathologies will not be tolerated. Violations will be enforced in line with the Student Code of Conduct.

Graded Assignments (500 points possible):

Blackboard Assignments (20 assignments @ 10 pts each = 200 pts): You are responsible for completing a variety of types of assignments. These tasks may include supplemental readings, discussion board posts, labs, videos, online quizzes, map exercises, and other activities. Please see the schedule below for a list of assignments and due dates. Assignments must be turned in by 11:59 p.m. on the day they are due. Late work will not be accepted without permission of the instructor and must be requested before the due date except for major emergencies. Documentation must be provided.

Exams (3 exams @ 100 pts each = 300 pts): The exams will consist of multiple choice, matching, true/false, and possibly short answer questions. You will have access to a review sheet prior to each exam. The second and third exams are not comprehensive. Exams must be turned in by 11:59 p.m. on the day they are due. Late work will not be accepted without permission of the instructor and must be requested before the due date except for major emergencies. Documentation must be provided.

Grading Scale:

A	90-100%	(450 - 500 points)
B	80-89%	(400 - 449 points)
C	70-79%	(350 - 399 points)
D	60-69%	(300 - 349 points)
F	59% or less	(0 - 299 points)

Withdrawal: Be sure you know SIUE's withdrawal policies and deadlines. For more information, visit <https://www.siue.edu/registrar/services/registration/registration-details.shtml>.

Grades of Incomplete: Grades of Incomplete are only given for major family or medical emergencies, and documentation is required. Be sure you understand SIUE's policy on incompletes before contacting me to request a grade of Incomplete. <http://www.siue.edu/registrar/class/grading.shtml#incomplete>

Classroom Tips & Etiquette: Let's make this virtual classroom the most productive and positive learning environment possible. You can contribute to meeting this goal in the following ways:

- Be respectful of others in the classroom. We come to the classroom with a wide range of life experiences. We can best learn from one another in a safe, supportive environment. Even if you do not agree with someone, please respect their right to have their own values and beliefs.
- Put thought into your work! Rushed assignments, discussion board posts, etc. result in low quality work, which is reflected in grades.
- Stay on topic and don't ramble. Saying the same information in different ways just to reach a required word count does not result in good work and will be graded accordingly.
- Avoid using slang, jargon, acronyms that aren't defined, etc. If I can't understand what you're trying to say, I won't give you all the points for an assignment. Also, classmates should be able to understand you on discussion board posts.
- Please contact me if your learning experience in this classroom is being hindered in any way.

Subject to Change Notice: All materials, schedules, assignments, deadlines, etc. are subject to change as conditions warrant. It is your responsibility to watch for class announcements on Blackboard and review the course site regularly. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns!

(The class schedule begins on the next page.)

Date	Chapter & Pages to Read	Items Due & Due Dates
December 19	Introduction to the class 1: Thinking Geographically 4-28	<i>BB Assignment 1 & 2</i>
December 20	2: Weather, Climate, and Climate Change 34-60	<i>BB Assignment 3</i>
December 21	3: Landforms 66-90	<i>BB Assignment 4</i>
December 22	4: Biosphere 94-114	<i>BB Assignment 5 & 6</i>
December 23	5: Population 118-138	<i>BB Assignment 7</i>
December 24		<i>Exam 1</i>
December 25		
December 26	6: Migration 142-162	<i>BB Assignment 8</i>
December 27	7: Languages and Religions 166-192	<i>BB Assignment 9 & 10</i>
December 28	8: Political Geography 196-218	<i>BB Assignment 11</i>
December 29	9: Development 222-242	<i>BB Assignment 12</i>
December 30	10: Food and Agriculture 246-270	<i>BB Assignment 13 & 14</i>
December 31		
January 1		
January 2		<i>Exam 2</i>

January 3	11: Industry 274-292	<i>BB Assignment 15</i>
January 4	12: Services and Settlements 296-316	<i>BB Assignment 16 & 17</i>
January 5	13: Urban Patterns 320-340	<i>BB Assignment 18 & 19</i>
January 6	14: Resources 344-366	<i>BB Assignment 20</i>
January 7		
January 8		<i>Exam 3</i>

COVID-19 Pandemic Policies Related to Classroom Instruction (Fall 2022)

Health and Safety

The measures outlined below are required and any student who does not comply may be in violation of the *COVID-19 People-Focused Health and Safety Policy*, as well as the University's *Student Code of Conduct*.

The full text of the *COVID-19 People-Focused Health and Safety Policy* can be found here:
<https://www.siu.edu/policies/Covid.shtml>

Classrooms, Labs, Studios, and Other Academic Spaces

Under current University policy, SIUE will only require masking in campus healthcare settings.
<https://www.siu.edu/about/announcements/coronavirus/safety-guidelines-support/index.shtml>

Individual faculty of record may determine that masking will be required in their classrooms and are asked to communicate accordingly with students. Face masks may be required in other campus sites following guidance from governing regulatory agencies.

- Students who forget to wear a face covering when masking is required will be reminded of their obligation to comply with SIUE's *COVID-19 People-Focused Health and Safety Policy* and temporarily asked to leave the class until they are able to conform to the policy. Students who forget or lose their face coverings when masking is required may be able to obtain replacements from a friend, a faculty member, or a nearby departmental office. Face coverings are also available for purchase in the Cougar Store (MUC).
- Students who refuse to wear a face covering when masking is required will be asked to leave the classroom and referred to the Dean of Students for non-compliance with community health and safety protocols. Repeated non-compliance may result in disciplinary actions, including the student being

administratively dropped from an on-ground/face-to-face course or courses without refund if no alternative course format is available.

- If a student has a documented health condition which makes wearing a face covering medically intolerable, that student should contact ACCESS to explore options with the understanding that ACCESS will not grant accommodations which excuse the need for a face covering while on campus or in the classroom. ACCESS will work with qualifying individuals to find reasonable alternatives, whenever such solutions are available. Please call or contact the ACCESS Office via email to schedule an online appointment to discuss potential alternatives. ACCESS office (Student Success Center, Room 1203, 618-650-3726, and myaccess@siue.edu).

General Health Measures

Students and employees are expected to review the [siue.edu/coronavirus](https://www.siue.edu/coronavirus) website (<https://www.siue.edu/about/announcements/coronavirus/>) to better understand prevention strategies and safety expectations.

- Students and employees are expected to maintain healthy hygiene practices.
- Students and employees are expected to follow COVID-related guidelines and directions.
- Students and employees are expected to conduct a daily health self-assessment and isolate themselves if COVID-related symptoms are present. COVID-related symptoms include:
 - o Fever (100.4 degrees or above) or chills
 - o Cough
 - o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - o Fatigue
 - o Muscle or body aches
 - o Headache
 - o New loss of taste or smell
 - o Sore throat
 - o Congestion or runny nose
 - o Nausea or vomiting
 - o Diarrhea

Academic Integrity

Students are reminded that the expectations and academic standards outlined in the Student Academic Code (3C2) apply to all courses, field experiences and educational experiences at the University, regardless of modality or location. The full text of the policy can be found here: <https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>.

Potential for Changes in Course Schedule or Modality

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, there remains a possibility that planned classroom activities will need to be adjusted. Depending on circumstances and following state-issued recommendations, potential changes include alterations to distancing requirements, course modality (e.g., transition from face-to-face to online, hybrid, or hy-flex, mask wearing, in-course activities, etc). These changes would be implemented to ensure the successful completion of the course while preserving health and safety. In these cases, students may be provided with an addendum to the class syllabus that will supersede the original version. If the course schedule or modifications significantly alter expectations, a new syllabus will be issued.

