



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Winter 23	Instructor Name:	Austen Thelen, Ph. D.
Course Title & #:	Cultural Geography: GEOG 102	Email:	austen.thelen@imperial.edu
CRN #:	15056	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	Online (Canvas)	Office #:	807 F
Class Dates:	January 3 - February 3	Office Hours:	By Appointment
Class Days:	All Days	Office Phone #:	760-355-6537
Class Times:	Asynchronous (always available)	Emergency Contact:	Elvia M. Camillo Staff Secretary Behavioral & Social Science Department Imperial Valley College 380E. Aten Rd. Imperial, CA 92251 (760) 355- 6144
Units:	3	Class Format:	Lecture

Course Description

An introduction to the regions and cultures of the world. Emphasis on the contemporary demographic, linguistic, religious, and economic characteristics of major regions in the world. May be taken before GEOG 100. (CSU,UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

GEOG 102 has no prerequisites, nor corequisites.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and/or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Analyze and compare cultures in terms of global population patterns. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO5)
2. Analyze current spatial geographic events using the Five Themes of Geography (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
3. Evaluate human migration patterns using push and pull factors as a tool (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the Five Themes of Geography and be able to apply them to class projects.
2. Identify and explain the beginnings of mankind, how they interact with their environment and how and where agricultural activities began and spread.
3. Explain push and pull factors and how they influence the decision to migrate as well as different types and patterns of migration.

4. Identify population growth patterns based on demographic transition models and population pyramids.
5. Discuss world language families including their origins and dispersal and major religious entities around the world including their impact on society.
6. Identify different cultural and ethnic groups including folk and popular patterns, the ethnic landscape, and ethnic diversity.
7. Explain and identify economic levels of geographic development including the distribution and impact of the changing primary, secondary, and tertiary production cycles as seen on the cultural landscape.
8. Demonstrate a knowledge of urban systems and structures, political ordering of space, and how human actions have impacted the natural landscape.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Introduction to Human Geography, by Dorrell, D., and Henderson, P. 1st Edition, 2018
1940771609, 978-1940771601

This is an OER textbook, students can download it in .pdf form, directly from the course Canvas shell.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

In this course, we will utilize several methods of instruction, including lectures, the textbook, and discussions boards, which students will access through Canvas.

Lectures: PowerPoint slides of lecture are available and are required reading for each module. Video lectures are optional and provided for each lecture PowerPoint.

Textbook: All assigned readings from this course come from the required text, see above section.

Learning activities and quizzes in each module are based on assigned readings.

Multi-Media Presentations: Videos and films will appear from time to time throughout the course.

Publicly available video content (“YouTube” videos for example) as additional content in each module.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Midterm Exam: 80 points.

Final Exam: 80 points.

Quizzes: 12 quizzes worth 10 points each – 120 points.

Learning Activities: 2 activities worth 50 points each – 100 points.

Discussion Forums: 12 discussion boards worth 10 points each – 120 points.

Students’ Final Grades are based on 500 total points, figured by the following breakdown:

450-500 points – A.

400- 449 points – B.

350 – 399 points – C.

300 – 349 points – D.

299 points or fewer – F.

Late Work Policy: Any late assignments may be turned in for partial credit (up to 80%) before the end of the semester.



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Course Policies

Communication Policies:

I believe that communication between students and their professor, and also among students, is a critical element of learning success. One of the great advantages of taking an online class is that we can engage in communication at times that are convenient for us. That being said, I want to be very clear about our course communication policies.

Primary form of contact = Email

When contacting me, your first action should be to send me an email. I will respond to your email within 24 hours. If you don't see a response, you need to assume that the email did not go through, and you should send it again. Please observe the following two policies when sending me email:

1. Always send me email from your IVC email account. While Canvas has an email function, which I may use to send class-wide emails, please be aware that there are compatibility issues between Canvas and the IVC system, which can affect email replies and forwards. Private emails may get lost in the IVC spam filter.
2. The Subject Line Needs to Include: Your Name, along with the name of this class. Professors get a lot of emails, and I need to be able to prioritize my students. It is very important to let me know who you are and that you are taking this class, so I know the context of your email.

Other Forms of Contact = Telephone

Telephone: My telephone number is 760.355.6537. Again, feel free to call any time. This is my office phone, so if I am there, I will answer. You can reach me during office hours, but I tend to be in and out all day.

Online Drop Policy:

As you may expect, attendance in an online class is a little bit different than in a live section. However, this class observes all of the IVC attendance policies related to enrollment and financial aid. Please see the following link to the IVC General Catalog if you need to review those policies:

First Day Drops:

Because we do not have a firm meeting schedule in online classes, I consider you having attended the first day of class by accessing the Canvas site by within 3 days of the first day of the term. If you do not access the site, or contact me by this time, then unfortunately you might be dropped from the course.

General Drop Policy:

Other than "First Day Drops," please know that I will NOT drop you from the class. Disenrollment from this course is solely the responsibility of each student. I will assume that you intend to complete the course if you do not drop on your own. As far as last day of attendance is concerned (financial aid implications), I will count



the day you last submitted an assignment as your last day of attendance, should you fail due to lack of completion.

Late Work Policy:

Per the course syllabus, a student’s grade is derived from points earned via the following assessments: Exams, Assignments, Reading Quizzes, and Discussion Posts. While I will do my best to send due-date reminders via email, it is ultimately each student’s responsibility to complete his or her work on time. Please refer to the following policies regarding late work:

Exams: Exams (midterm and final) **MUST** be taken within their respective availability timeframes to receive credit. Please review the syllabus course road map (last page) for these times.

Assignments and Reading Quizzes:

All assignments and reading quizzes may be completed up until the last day of class to be counted for points in the course.

Discussion Forum Posts:

Activity on the course’s discussion forums must be completed by the end of the semester to be considered for credit.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1	Syllabus & Introduction	Acquire course materials, become familiar with Canvas.
	Module 1: Introduction and Basic Concepts	Read Chapters 3 and 4 Module 2 Discussion and Quiz due Jan 6
Week 2	Module 2: Population and Health	Read Chapters 3 and 4 Module 2 Discussion and Quiz due Jan 13
	Module 3: Migration and Movement	Read Chapter 5 Module 3 Discussion and Quiz due Jan 13



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
	Module 4: Folk and Popular Culture	Read Chapter 6 Module 4 Discussion and Quiz due Jan 13
Week 3	Module 5: World Languages	Read Chapter 7 Module 5 Quiz and Discussion, Learning activity 1 due Jan 20
	Module 6: World Religions	Read Chapter 8 Module 6 Discussion and Quiz due Jan 20
	Mid-Term Exam	Mid-Term Exam Due at 11:59 pm Jan 20
Week 4	Module 7: Identity	Read Chapter 9 Module 7 Discussion and Quiz due Jan 27
	Module 8: Political Geography	Read Chapter 10 Module 8 Discussion and Quiz due Jan 27
	Module 9: Food and Agriculture	Read Chapter 11 Module 9 Discussion and Quiz due Jan 27
	Module 10: Economic Geography	Read Chapters 15 and 16 Module 10 Discussion and Quiz; Learning Activity 2 due Jan 27
Week 5	Module 11: Urban Geography	Read Chapters 13 and 14 Module 11 Discussion and Quiz due Feb 3
	Module 12: Development	Read Chapter 18 Module 12 Discussion and Quiz due Feb 3
	Final Exam	Final Exam due 11:59 pm on Feb 3

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****