



## Geography

SSC 133

Southwestern College Professional Studies

### COURSE SYLLABUS

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#### I. Course Catalog Description

This course explores the major themes in geography--human and environment in interaction, patterns of distribution of natural phenomena affecting human use of the earth, and the cultural patterns of occupancy and exploitation of the natural world.

#### II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

Dahlman, C. H., Renwick, W. H., & Bergman, E. (2014). *Introduction to geography: People, places, and environment* (6th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education.

#### III. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each program of study that are in line with the institutional outcomes of critical thinking, ethical reasoning, leadership, communication, and career preparation. Course outcomes support program outcomes and are listed below.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Identify broad themes within geography, the types of questions addressed by geographers, and the tools used to conduct geographic research.
2. Apply the major theories of physical geography to understanding the natural landscape, including plate tectonics, erosional landforms, basic weather processes, the distribution of climates, and the distribution of biota and resources.
3. Explain the distribution of people across the Earth on the basis of population, migration, and resources.
4. Recognize the spatial factors that shape human socio-spatial diversity, distributions of populations, and human impacts on their environments.
5. Discuss the role of political systems in shaping local, regional, and global processes and interactions
6. Identify different forms of economic activity and explain the ways they are shaped by political systems and how they shape geopolitics.
7. Describe the process of urbanization and globalization, the processes by which humans modify the natural environment (particularly climate change and agriculture), and the ramifications of those changes for different populations.
8. Apply concepts of space and place to understand and identify how regions are defined and the ramifications for local and global processes.

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

#### IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies found in the instructor-specific syllabus located in the Blackboard course.

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussion Boards	7	390	39
Tests	6	450	45
Current Event Article & Summary	1	60	6
Current Event Paper	1	100	10
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>1,000</b>	<b>100</b>

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read <i>Dahlman, Renwick &amp; Bergman</i> Ch. 1-2</li> <li>View Chapter 1-2 PowerPoints</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit 1 Introduction</li> <li>Unit 1 Discussion</li> <li>Unit 1 Chapter 1-2 Test</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read <i>Dahlman, Renwick &amp; Bergman</i> Ch. 3-4</li> <li>View Chapter 3-4 PowerPoints</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit 2 Discussion</li> <li>Unit 2 Chapter 3-4 Test</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read <i>Dahlman, Renwick &amp; Bergman</i> Ch. 6-7</li> <li>View Chapter 6-7 PowerPoints</li> <li>Read Why Writing Matters in Geography</li> <li>View Improving your Writing Skills in Geography</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit 3 Discussion</li> <li>Unit 3 Chapter 6-7 Test</li> <li>Current Event Article &amp; Summary</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read <i>Dahlman, Renwick &amp; Bergman</i> Ch. 8-9</li> <li>View Chapter 8-9 PowerPoints</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit 4 Discussion</li> <li>Unit 4 Chapter 8-9 Test</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read <i>Dahlman, Renwick &amp; Bergman</i> Ch. 5 &amp; 10</li> <li>View Chapter 5 &amp; 10 PowerPoints</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit 5 Discussion</li> <li>Unit 5 Chapter 5 &amp; 10 Test</li> <li>Current Event Paper</li> </ul>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read <i>Dahlman, Renwick &amp; Bergman</i> Ch. 11-12</li> <li>View Chapter 11-12 PowerPoints</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit 6 Discussion</li> <li>Unit 6 Chapter 11-12 Test</li> </ul>

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.