

# NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## COURSE SYLLABUS

**Course Title:** Introduction to Human Geography

**Course #:** GEO\* 102

**Course Description:** Introduction to Human Geography is the study of human activity on the Earth's surface. This interdisciplinary social science examines how humans have influenced the world in which they live. Students will utilize spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. To learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice, students will analyze, discuss, and research the world around them from a geographic perspective. The end result of the course will be for students to become more informed citizens in a globalizing world. (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite/Co-requisite:** ENG\* 063 and ENG\* 073, or ENG\* 093, or satisfactory scores on the placement test

**Goals:** To provide students with a basic understanding of human interaction with each other and with the world in which they live. To provide a geographic (spatial) perspective of the world as it applies to population growth and decline, cultural studies, politics, economics, globalization, rural land use, and urban landscapes. To develop an interdisciplinary background knowledge about the world.

**Outcomes:** Upon the successful completion of this course students should be able to:

- Understand geography as a field of inquiry
- Know key concepts underlying the geographical perspective of space, place, and scale
- Use and think about maps
- Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places
- Geographically analyze the world's population growth and decline
- Interpret population movement
- Determine concepts of culture
- Analyze differences in cultural practices around the world
- Evaluate the impact of the environment on cultural identity
- Explore cultural landscapes
- Examine the evolution of the contemporary political pattern of the world
- Explore the challenges of the inherited political-territorial organization of the world
- Examine the development and diffusion of agriculture
- Plot and link major agricultural production regions
- Examine modern commercial agriculture through the Green Revolution
- Examine key concepts in industrialization and development
- Explore the growth and diffusion of industrialization
- Analyze contemporary patterns of industrialization and development
- Analyze the impacts of industrialization and development
- Trace the origin and evolution of cities
- Analyze the functional character of contemporary cities

## **College Policies**

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty are not tolerated at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. Violators of this policy will be subject to sanctions ranging from failure of the assignment (receiving a zero), failing the course, being removed/expelled from the program and/or the College. Please refer to your “Student Handbook” under “Policy on Student Rights,” the Section entitled “Student Discipline,” or the College catalog for additional information.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):** The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented learning, physical, or psychiatric disabilities. Students should notify Dr. Christine Woodcock, the Counselor for Students with Disabilities. She is located at Green Woods Hall, in the Center for Student Development. Her phone number is 860-738-6318 and her email is [cwoodcock@nwcc.edu](mailto:cwoodcock@nwcc.edu).

**School Cancellations:** If snowy or icy driving conditions cause the postponement or cancellation of classes, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations and posted on the College’s website at [www.nwcc.edu](http://www.nwcc.edu). Students may also call the College directly at **(860) 738-6464** to hear a recorded message concerning any inclement weather closings. Students are urged to exercise their own judgment if road conditions in their localities are hazardous.

**Use of Electronic Devices:** Some course content as presented in Blackboard Learn is not fully supported on mobile devices at this time. While mobile devices provide convenient access to check in and read information about your courses, they should not be used to perform work such as taking tests, quizzes, completing assignments, or submitting substantive discussion posts.

**Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team:** NCCC is committed to creating a community that is safe and supportive of people of all gender and sexual identities. This pertains to the entire campus community, whether on ground or virtual, students, faculty, or staff.

Sexual assault and intimate partner violence is an affront to our national conscience, and one we cannot ignore. It is our hope that no one within our campus community will become a victim of these crimes. However, if it occurs, NCCC has created the SART Team - Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team - to meet the victim’s needs.

SART is a campus and community based team that is fully trained to provide trauma-informed compassionate service and referrals for comprehensive care. The team works in partnership with The Susan B. Anthony Project to extend services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week throughout the year.

### The NCCC team members are:

Ruth Gonzalez, Ph.D.	860-738-6315	Green Woods Hall Room 207
Susan Berg	860-738-6342	Green Woods Hall Room 223
Kathleen Chapman	860-738-6344	Green Woods Hall Room 110
Michael Emanuel	860-738-6389	Founders Hall Annex Room 308
Seth Kershner	860-738-6481	Library
Jane O’Grady	860-738-6393	Founders Hall Annex Room 212
Robin Orloski	860-738-6416	Business Office Room 201
Patricia Bouffard, Ex-Officio	860-738-6319	Founders Hall Room 103
Savannah Schmitt		Student Representative

At NCCC we care about our students, staff and faculty and their well-being. It is our intention to facilitate the resources needed to help achieve both physical and emotional health.



## COURSE OVERVIEW

SPRING 2009

**Course Title:** Introduction to Human Geo: Cultures

**Room:** N/A

**Number & Section:** GEO\* 102 CRN# 1179

**Course Type:** On-line

**Instructor:** Thomas X. Brodnitzki

**Contact:** [tbrodnitzki@nwcc.commnet.edu](mailto:tbrodnitzki@nwcc.commnet.edu)

### Text/Course Materials:

- De Blij, Harm, Murphy, Alexander, Fouberg, Erin. **Human Geography: People, Place, and Culture.** Eighth Edition. John J. Wiley & Sons, Inc. Hoboken, NJ. 2007. ISBN 0-471-67951-8
- Textbook website: [www.wiley.com/college/deblij](http://www.wiley.com/college/deblij)

### Course requirements:

#### 1. Participation: (40%)

- Due the independent nature on an on-line course, students will receive participation credit for completing weekly geography reading assignments. Because there is no lecture, students must complete reading assignments in order to achieve the course outcomes. In an on-line setting it is imperative that students are self-directed learners. In order to assist with this, weekly guided reading questions will be assigned on Mondays and students will have until the following **Sunday at 11pm** to complete the assignment. Students will also be called on to respond to a weekly discussion thread on-line. This prompt will also be assigned on the Monday of each week. Students will be expected to respond to this prompt by the following **Sunday at 11pm** as well. Late assignments and posts will not be accepted.

#### 2. Geography Projects: (30%)

- This course is formatted with the idea that students will be doing geography throughout the semester in addition to reading, thinking and discussing it on-line. Two term projects will be completed over the course of the semester. These activities will reinforce geographic concepts learned through the readings and discussion. (**Detailed Project Descriptions will be posted**)
  - **Project 1:**
    - At the close of the study of Cultural Geography, students will conduct an individual field study of their hometown. In this assignment, students will be called on to become a Windshield Geographer to study the cultural landscape of the town in which they live. Students will be expected to compile a PowerPoint Presentation and upload it to the class website to share their geographic perspective of the cultural geography of their town. A more detailed description of the assignment will be posted on the course website.
  - **Project 2:**
    - At the end of the semester, students will type a 3 page reflective summary of one of the areas of study from throughout the course. Students will have to discuss the spatial perspective as it pertains to the area of study from a variety of scales. This assignment will be posted after SPRING BREAK and may be completed any time before Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### 3. Exams: (30%)

- Two examines will give given during the semester.
  - **Mid-term Exam (15%)** - **Week of March 23<sup>rd</sup>**
    - Ch. 1-7
  - **Final Exam (15%)** - **Week of May 11<sup>th</sup>**
    - Ch. 8-12

## COURSE OUTLINE

<b>Week of Monday...</b>	<b>Topic –Textbook Chapter</b>	<b>Assignments due by...</b>
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction to Human Geography – Ch. 1	January 25 <sup>th</sup>
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Population – Ch. 2	February 1 <sup>st</sup>
February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Migration – Ch. 3	February 8 <sup>th</sup>
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	Local Culture, Popular Culture, and Cultural Landscapes – Ch. 4	February 15 <sup>th</sup>
February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Identity: Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Sexuality – Ch. 5	February 22 <sup>nd</sup>
February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Language – Ch. 6	March 1 <sup>st</sup>
March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Religion – Ch. 7	March 8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>March 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Windshield Geographer Project</u></b>	<b><u>PowerPoint Uploaded by March 15th</u></b>
<b>March 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><i>SPRING BREAK</i></b>	<b><i>NO ASSIGNMENT DUE</i></b>
<b>March 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b><u>MID-TERM EXAM</u></b>	<b><u>DUE SUNDAY MARCH 29<sup>th</sup></u></b>
March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Political Geography – Ch. 8	April 5 <sup>th</sup>
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Urban Geography – Ch. 9	April 12 <sup>th</sup>
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Development – Ch. 10	April 19 <sup>th</sup>
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Agriculture – Ch. 11	April 26 <sup>th</sup>
April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Industry and Services – Ch. 12	May 3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>May 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Geographic Perspective Paper</u></b>	<b><u>Paper Posted by May 10<sup>th</sup></u></b>
<b>May 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>FINAL EXAM</u></b>	<b><u>DUE FRIDAY MAY 15<sup>th</sup></u></b>