

**CUYAMACA COLLEGE**  
**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD**

**Geography 130 – Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape**

3 hours lecture, 3 units

**Catalog Description**

Introduction to the study of the dynamics and complex relationships between the Earth's people and the ever-changing world in which they live. Special attention given to the historical role of the human-environment relationship, as well as the influences of language, religion, and other cultural factors in shaping the world's many cultures. Topics investigated on a global, regional and local scale include: origin and diffusion of the world's major languages and religions; population and settlement patterns; political and economic systems; methods of livelihood; the role of technology in our rapidly changing world. Emphasis is on human-environment relations and understanding and appreciation of our diverse multicultural world. Local field trips link course materials to real-world phenomena.

**Prerequisite**

None

**Course Content**

- 1) Introduction to geologic concepts, spatial thinking and cultural analysis
- 2) Basic map reading and interpretation
- 3) Earth-Sun relations as related to cultural phenomena
- 4) Human settlement patterns and migration trends
- 5) Human population growth and implications for the future
- 6) Economic and social development
- 7) Economic globalization
- 8) Historical development and organization of states, and other international political systems
- 9) Imperialism, colonialism and other forms of state expansion
- 10) Historical and modern distribution of religions and languages
- 11) Social, political and physical impact of religion on the landscape
- 12) Social customs on the landscape
- 13) Historical and modern patterns of acculturation
- 14) Origin, development and distribution of agricultural systems
- 15) Genesis and growth of urban environments
- 16) Urban trends and problems in the modern world
- 17) Origin, diffusion and cultural impacts of industrialization
- 18) The role of technology in our rapidly changing modern world
- 19) Global, regional and local environmental concerns as relevant to topic discussions

**Course Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- 1) Compare and contrast cultural aspects of the world including ethnicities, languages, religions, political and economic systems, and patterns of livelihood.
- 2) Analyze and evaluate current scientific models used to predict human patterns of behavior including population and migration trends, economic and social development, and technology and resource utilization.
- 3) Recognize and comprehend spatial and temporal patterns as they relate to cultural phenomena.
- 4) Analyze and interpret maps.

- 5) Recognize and identify political boundaries and significant physical features.
- 6) Analyze and evaluate the current trends toward globalization of economic systems.
- 7) Investigate and evaluate the relationships between the physical and cultural environment.
- 8) Identify and assess the significance of the human impact on Earth's physical environment.

### **Method of Evaluation**

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Quizzes, exams
- 2) Homework assignments
- 3) In-class activities
- 4) Participation
- 5) Research project

### **Special Materials Required of Student**

Colored pencils, ruler, calculator

### **Minimum Instructional Facilities**

- 1) Smart classroom with writing board
- 2) Wall maps illustrating global/regional scale spatial distributions of cultural and physical phenomena at Earth's surface (e.g., thematic maps covering modern distributions of languages, religions, agricultural practices, etc.; political maps showing modern political boundaries; physiography, climate, vegetation, and other appropriate physical geography type maps)
- 3) Globe

### **Method of Instruction**

- 1) Integrated classroom lecture, discussion and demonstration
- 2) Small and large group discussion
- 3) In-class activities and independent homework, research projects
- 4) Instructional slides, audio/video presentations
- 5) Auxiliary use of study groups, peer tutoring and/or instructional office hours

### **Out-of-Class Assignments**

- 1) Reading assignments
- 2) Research projects

### **Texts and References**

- 1) Required (representative examples):
  - a. Rubenstein, J.M. *The Cultural Landscape: Introduction to Human Geography*. 13th edition. Pearson, 2020.
  - b. Rubenstein, J.M. *Contemporary Human Geography*. 5th edition. Pearson, 2023.
  - c. Verigin, *Goode's World Atlas*. 23rd edition. Pearson, 2016.
- 2) Supplemental: None

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Compare and contrast cultural aspects of the world including ethnicities, languages, religions, political and economic systems, and patterns of livelihood.
- 2) Analyze and evaluate current scientific models used to predict human patterns of behavior including population and migration trends, economic and social development, and technology and resource utilization.
- 3) Recognize and comprehend spatial and temporal patterns as they relate to cultural phenomena.

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- 5) Recognize and identify political boundaries and significant physical features.
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- 7) Investigate and evaluate the relationships between the physical and cultural environment.
- 8) Identify and assess the significance of the human impact on Earth's physical environment.