

**University of Winnipeg**  
**Department of Geography**  
**GEOG 1105 - 760, Winter 2024 (Jan 09- Apr 04)**  
**Challenges of a Changing World: An Introduction to Human Geography**  
**Course Outline and Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Mohammad A. Alam

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**Office hours:** by appointment

**Lecture:** Asynchronous

**Lecture Location:** Asynchronous

*\*Please note when corresponding with the instructor, use your University of Winnipeg email account system: name@webmail.uwinnipeg.ca*

**Course description:**

This course introduces geography as a means of interpreting world issues and places human-environment relationships in the context of global change. Rotating topics include resource use, food and energy supply, population change and human health; the dimensions of global forces such as urbanization, postcolonialism, nationalism, and globalization; and the environmental effects of climate change, biodiversity loss, and sustainability. Through the study of these challenges of a changing world, subfields in human geography are introduced including population, environmental, urban, political, social, and cultural geography. Students learn theoretical and practical application in these fields and may specialize in them in upper years.

**Course Objective**

- provide a strong foundation in a number of the core concepts of human geography related to people, culture, and environment;
- emphasize the relevance of the geographical concepts of space, place, and human-environment interactions, issues of population, resources and settlement;
- develop student knowledge of the evolution of the field in relation to other social sciences;
- provide the opportunity for students to actively engage in concepts and develop critical thinking in relation to the subject matter;
- and, assist in the development of academic skills such as reading comprehension, referencing, academic writing.

**Required Textbook:**

Website: <https://www.oupcanada.com/catalog/9780199032938.html>

**NEXUS:**

Documents related to this course (e.g. course syllabus, project guidelines, lecture slides, supplemental readings), quizzes, tests, and exams will be made available to students through the NEXUS system. You must be registered in the course to have access to these materials. To login in to NEXUS, go to:

<https://nexus.uwinnipeg.ca/>

If you encounter difficulties with Nexus contact the help desk at 204-786-9149 or

[help.desk@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:help.desk@uwinnipeg.ca)

**Course Organization:**

This course is structured to foster engagement and discussion in class. Regular attendance at lectures is required and reading preparation before class will enhance students' understanding of the geographical concepts applied to the themes of the society and culture. 10% of your grade will be based on your participation. Occasionally short vide

\*\*\* Completing assigned readings and being prepared to participate during class time will enhance learning in this course.

### **Description of Evaluation Criteria**

#### **1. Quizzes (10% of final grade)**

There will be two quizzes during the term to support knowledge development of the course material and greater preparation for the mid-term and final exams. These quizzes will be only 30 minutes in length and may include multiple choice, true/false questions and short answer questions. All material covered in the classroom and assigned from the textbook will be the basis of these mini-tests. All quizzes will be available online (Nexus learning tool).

#### **2. Mid-term tests (50% of final grade)**

The two 75 minute mid-term tests will be comprised of multiple-choice and true/false questions, in addition to short answer questions requiring written responses of 1-2 paragraphs. Mid-term 1 will be based on Themes 1 and 2, and the materials covered in Themes 3 and 4 will be the basis for mid-term 2. However, this may change depending on what is covered in class. The midterm tests will be online, and conducted through UW's Nexus site. The instructor will let students know how to locate tests and exam on Nexus in the class. *The student should not use his or her textbook, course notes, or receive help any other outside source during the tests.* This instructor will inform the students of any changes.

#### **3. Final Exam (40% of final grade)**

The three-hour exam will cover all course material and will include multiple-choice and true/false questions, as well as short answer and essay questions. The final exam will be online and students should be able to locate it on Nexus learning tool. The student should not use his or her textbook, course notes, or receive help any other outside source during the exam.

\*Please confirm exam time by checking <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/exam-schedules/>  
**Students are responsible for checking this site.**

### **Format**

You must submit your assignments electronically. Instructor or TA will send an email confirmation that assignment was received. Feedback on assignments and grades will be returned electronically.

All written assignments submitted for course credit should reflect close attention to good style and format. Paragraphs must be double-spaced. Student name and number should be centered on a separate title page at the front of each assignment.

A clear and concise written style is required. Grammar, spelling and punctuation will be graded. It is strongly recommended that students spell-check (and grammar-check if in doubt) all work before it is submitted. Another option is to have another person proof-read the work and check that it 'makes sense'.

All assignment submissions are final: once the assignment is handed in, the Instructor will not accept revisions or re-submissions unless specifically requested.

Strict adherence to the stated/announced assignment deadlines is required. Unexplained late submissions



The following table outlines the topics to be discussed during the lectures. The order of presentation is subject to change as circumstances dictate and all the topics listed may not be covered (text readings assigned during class).

**Tentative Schedule of Topics**  
**(topics may change due to unforeseen circumstances)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Week 1	*Course initiation and resources • Introductory concepts	Course syllabus; Mental maps for student course objectives; Library tools; Chapter 1
Week 2	• Introduction to human geography • Population and Health Geography	Chapter 1 Chapter 2

**General Course Information**

- When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, I will make every effort to inform students via UWinnipeg email (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as

obtaining a copy (of all or part) of a test/exam/assignment before it is officially available, purchasing tests, essays or other assignments and submitting the work as your own.

- Improper Academic/Research practices include: fabricating or falsifying results, using other people's research findings without permission, misrepresenting research results or methods, referring to non-existent sources or investigators, contravening the University's Policy and Procedures On Research Integrity.
- Obstructing academic activities of another person; for example interfering with another person's access to pertinent resources or information to gain academic advantage.
- Impersonation: both impersonation of another individual or allowing someone to impersonate you.
- Falsification or Modification of an Academic Record: including tests, transcripts, letters of permission, etc.
- Aiding and Abetting Academic Misconduct.

**Penalties for Academic Misconduct:**

Can include, but are not limited to:

- Written warning
- Lower or failing grade on an assignment or test
- Lower or failing grade in a course
- Denial of admission or readmission to the University
- Forfeiture of University awards or financial assistance
- Suspension from the University for a specified period of time
- Withholding or rescinding a UW degree, certificate or diploma
- Expulsion from the University

**Procedures:**

All allegations of academic misconduct must be reported initiating a process which involves several steps. These include procedures involving the instructor of the course in which the misconduct is alleged to have occurred, the Departmental Review Committee, and the Senate Academic Misconduct Committee. See the detailed description of the procedures, which also outline the appeals process regarding Academic Misconduct.

Students facing a charge of academic or non-academic misconduct may choose to contact the University

intellectual property rights could face serious consequences pursuant to the *Academic Misconduct or Non-Academic Misconduct Policy*.

### **Accessibility Services**

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., access to volunteer note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 786-9771 or email [accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca) to discuss appropriate options. Specific information about AS is available on-line at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.

### Respectful Working and Learning Environment

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn, and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found at <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/>.

**Respectful Learning Environment.** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner on campus and in the learning environment irrespective of platform being used. Behaviour, communication, or acts that are inconsistent with a number of UW policies could be considered non-academic misconduct. See the Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/respect-policy.html>) and Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/policies/docs/policies/acceptable-use-of-information-technology-policy.pdf>). More detailed information is outlined in the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/policies/docs/policies/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/policies/docs/procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>).

**Privacy.** Students should be reminded of their rights in relation to the collecting of personal data by the University (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/admissions-privacy-notice.html>), especially if Zoom is being used for remote teaching (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-privacy-notice.html>) and testing/proctoring (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-test-and-exam-proctoring.html>).

### Official Correspondence

Students have the responsibility to regularly check their University of Winnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the University and/or their course instructors.

### Religious Holidays

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holydays of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work or examinations without penalty.

### **Academic Integrity and AI Text-generating Tools**

Students must follow principles of academic integrity (e.g., honesty, respect, fairness, and responsibility) in their use of material obtained through AI text-generating tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Bing, Notion AI). If an instructor prohibits the use of AI tools in a course, students may face an allegation of academic misconduct if using them to do assignments. If AI tools are permitted, students must cite them.