

**Economic Geography
Geography 3502: 3 Credits
Section: 0948
Little Hall (LIT): Room 0101**

Spring 2018

Course Meeting Times: (Period 6 MWF: 12:50 PM – 1:40 PM)

Instructor: Matthew G. McKay, Department of Geography

Contact Information:

Phone: (860) 690-6192 (direct/voice mail)

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Office Location: Turlington Hall (TUR) 3108-B

Office Hours:

Wednesday: 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Friday: 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

*(Other times *by appointment*)

Location of the Department of Geography:

3141 Turlington Hall

330 Newell Drive

Gainesville, FL 32611-7315

Mailing Address:

Department of Geography, University of Florida

3141 Turlington Hall, P.O. Box 117315

Gainesville, FL 32611-7315

Department of Geography: (352) 392-0494

Fax: (352) 392-8855

Department of Geography: Main Office's Hours of Operation:

Monday through Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Office Location: TUR 3141

Geographic Coordinates: 82.34312 West Longitude, 29.64990 North Latitude

For questions or to inquire about majoring in Geography, please contact the following professor:

Dr. Mao, Ph.D., Associate Professor

Email: liangmao@ufl.edu

Telephone: Dr. Mao: (352) 294-7516

Web site information: <http://geog.ufl.edu/programs/undergrad/>

*****General Education Requirement (GE): (S) Social and Behavioral**

University Catalog Description of Course:

“A comprehensive geographical survey of major economic activities such as agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining, manufacturing and commerce. Emphasizes the study of the characteristics of distribution and the regional patterns of these activities.”

(Source: University of Florida Undergraduate Catalog 2017-18,

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/courses/descriptions/geography.aspx>)

Course Description:

The discipline of geography includes two branches --physical and human, and this course focuses exclusively on the latter. This course provides a geographical perspective of contemporary economic issues in the context of globalization, albeit with inclusion of historical developments of the subfield of Economic Geography. The objectives of the course are to discuss concepts related to the evolution and spatial distribution of economic activity, and to explore how the resultant emerging locational patterns of economic activity are affected by globalization. Discussions will focus on issues such as trade, technological change, and governmental policy from the perspectives of labor, the firm, the consumer, and the state. This course will utilize lecture format, class discussion, documentaries, short videos, and guest lectures (when possible) for instructional purposes.

OBJECTIVE: This course will provide students with the contextual information and awareness of the spatial distribution and spatial interaction of economic activities in a rapidly globalizing world economy and to aid students in placing this relationship in the context of broader social and political institutions and dynamics.

COURSE OUTCOMES: At the completion of this course, students should be able to:
1).develop an understanding of concepts and issues related to the spatial interactions of the economy; 2) develop an understanding of how increasing globalization of our world today affects these interactions; and 3) develop the ability to analyze – critically – current issues related to economic geography.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Wood, Andrew and Susan Roberts. 2011. *Economic Geography: Places, networks and flows*. London: Routledge.

Aoyama, Yuko, Murphy, James T., and Susan Hanson. 2011. *Key concepts in economic geography*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications Inc.

The Aoyama et al. text is a useful companion written by top scholars in the field of Economic Geography and provides important essay-style chapters for getting at the most crucial issues of innovative research paradigms, some of which have applications for businesses and policymakers. This is a “must have” book for ANYONE considering further courses in Economic Geography at the undergraduate level (and beyond).

RECOMMENDED TEXT:

Dasgupta, Partha. 2007. *Economics: A very short introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, Inc.

This particular text will provide students the opportunity to make better connections to issues in Economic Geography by providing a background and/or refresher in Economics, particularly when comparing the economically advanced developed world in contrast to the developing countries, the latter of which are often referred to as the “Global South.” This particular text is highly recommended if a student has not taken an undergraduate course in Economics. Nonetheless, this book is useful even if one is already an Economics major. It is available at retail establishments such as the UF Bookstore, Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com, etc.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS: The instructor will submit additional readings digitally or in hard copy as deemed necessary throughout the semester to reinforce the learning objectives. Please check E-Learning (Canvas) periodically for updates in this regard.

GRADING:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 1) Attendance and Participation: | 20% |
| 2) Exam | 20% |
| 3) Film Reviews: | 30% |
| 4) <u>Article Reaction Papers:</u> | <u>30%</u> |

100% - **TOTAL COURSE EVALUATION**

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Regular classroom attendance and participation are key components of student success; however, for full credit toward attendance and participation, students are expected to be at every class meeting throughout the entire class session, and must not be reading other materials (including laptop computers, tablets, cell phones, etc.). Participation entails responding to questions directed by the instructor and by participating in peer-initiated discussions as well.

EXAM:

TBD

ARTICLE REACTION PAPERS:

TBD

FILM REVIEWS:

Three films will be shown during the semester, as all relate to changing economic conditions that have spatial implications and thus, relate well to Economic Geography (even though people may have seen one or more of these documentaries in other courses or outside of an academic environment). Each film review will require a written summary and answers to a set of questions, and will be due one week after the conclusion of the showing of each film during class time.

FINAL GRADES WILL BE ASSIGNED AS FOLLOWS:

- A = 94.0-100
- A- = 90.0-93.9
- B+ = 87.0-89.9
- B = 84.0-86.9
- B- = 80.0-83.9
- C+ = 77.0-79.9
- C = 74.0-76.9
- C- = 70.0-73.9
- D+ = 67.0-69.9
- D = 64.0-66.9
- D- = 60.0-63.9
- E = < 60.00

NO CLASS MEETING: 1/15/18, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday; Week of 3/5-3/9 (Spring Break)

LAST DAY OF CLASS: 4/25/18

GRADING POLICY: This course will adhere to the University of Florida's policies on grading, as found at the following Web link.

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

This is *not a correspondence course* and thus your physical presence in the classroom is required. You are expected to attend class regularly, and as such, I will take attendance every class session to get to know everyone's name and to learn more about the students in the beginning of the course. Punctuality and regular attendance are essential components toward student success (given the amount of material discussed during class time), however, you are responsible for all the material covered in class, whether you are present or absent.

NOTE: Please see the following link for more information on attendance, as this course will adhere to the University of Florida's regulations in this regard.

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you need course adaptations or accommodations due to a documented disability, if you have emergency medical information that you need to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

If students need classroom adaptations/accommodations, then they must begin the process by registering with the Dean of Students Office.

Additionally, please see the Disability Resource Center for arrangements in this regard (if you have not done so already) in 0001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall).

Contact information for this center can be found at www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

OTHER KEY INFORMATION FOR SHORT-TERM/LONG-TERM SERVICES RELATED TO ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, OR PERSONAL ISSUES:

The University Counseling & Wellness Center: (352) 392-1575
(<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>)

The Student Health Care Center (352) 392-1161

The University Police Department can be contacted at (352) 392-1111 or dial 911 for emergencies.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If I have indicated that you have problems with grammar and writing style, I will encourage you to take your drafts to the Writing Studio and work with the consultants there to assist in strengthening your papers. Anyone is eligible to utilize their services, which are FREE of charge, so take advantage of what they are able to assist you with in the process. Even students who earn A and B grades are welcome make an appointment at the Writing Studio. One-on-one assistance and consultation is available.

Contact Information:

The Writing Studio (within the University Writing Program)
302 Tigert Hall
(352) 846-1138
<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-center/>

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT CITATIONS AND REFERENCES:

Using others' words, ideas, images, graphics, illustrations, maps, diagrams or other intellectual property requires proper citations and documentation. One's own words describing information gathered from elsewhere (in addition to direct quotations) requires proper citation and documentation to avoid plagiarism. You are responsible for knowing the rules of referencing sources for your writing. The following Web link will provide you with the citation style used in the Annals of the Association of American Geographers, which is a top-tiered, peer-reviewed scholarly journal published by the Association of American Geographers. I recommend that you use the following guide as a reference to maintain consistency throughout the course with your proper citations/documentations that is in accordance with academic scholarship.

<http://www.aag.org/galleries/default-file/annalsstylesheet.pdf>

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION:

Students will be expected to evaluate the quality of instruction in this course based upon 10 criteria. Evaluations can be completed online at this site:
<https://evaluations.ufl.edu>

Evaluations can typically be completed during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students shall be made aware of when the evaluations will be accessible online. The summary results of these evaluations will be available at the following site:
<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC HONESTY:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "(W)e, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

OTHER COURSE POLICY ISSUES:

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

University classrooms are professional environments and you are expected and required to act accordingly. Class attendance is more than a mere physical presence in the classroom – it means the following rules are expected and required: no reading of novels, magazines, newspapers, notebooks, or anything else during class. Playing of games, passing notes, having side conversations with neighbors, or using laptops are not permitted. **ABSOLUTELY NO TEXT MESSAGING DURING CLASS TIME!** You should set your cell phones to mute or vibrate and put them away for class. As the instructor, I reserve the right to interrupt class to ask that the offending student(s) to STOP with whatever activity that it is that disrupts the teaching/learning process, and if necessary, require that they leave the class if said activity continues during a class session or in subsequent sessions. Lastly, it is okay to disagree with others about their opinions, but please show due respect accordingly. You are all in this together and my job is to best facilitate the learning environment equally amongst all students. Civility is expected at all times.

CLASS CANCELATION:

In the event that the university is closed due to inclement weather or for some other unforeseen circumstance, then that class meeting's itinerary is moved to the next scheduled class session. However, it is your responsibility to keep up-to-date with any changes that might occur with adjustments to the class schedule and with respect to due dates.

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER OR MODIFY THE CONTENT COVERED AND THE SCHEDULE FOR DUE DATES AT ANY TIME DURING THE SEMESTER.

I look forward to working with you all this spring semester. Good luck, learn geography, and have fun in this class too! Much of your education is what you make of it, so do your part to make the best of this experience while you earn credits toward your university degree. Have a great semester!

IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH YOUR PROGRESS DURING THE SEMESTER, PLEASE SEE ME AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER TO ADDRESS CONCERNS. ADDITIONALLY, IF ENGLISH IS NOT YOUR FIRST LANGUAGE AND THIS MAY PRESENT A PROBLEM IN YOUR COMMUNICATING IN WRITING IN THIS COURSE, PLEASE SEE ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ASSIST YOU WITH MOVING FORWARD. Welcome to “Economic Geography”! I look forward to being your instructor.

SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

<u>Module:</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENTS DUE:</u>	<u>WRITING ASSIGNMENTS DUE:</u>
<u>Introduction:</u>	<i>1/8/18: Read Syllabus</i>	
Introduction of instructor and meeting of students; discussion of syllabus, course policies and procedures, etc. Pre-assessment; Introduction to subfield with important introductory module	<i>Wood & Roberts: Introduction (p. 1-11) & PART 1 Preface (p. 13-14)</i>	
<i>Film #1:</i>		
		<i>TBD: Article Reaction Paper #1</i>
<u>Location Theory:</u>		
Location Theory I	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 1</i>	
Location Theory II	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 2</i>	
<u>Modeling Economic Geography:</u>		
	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 3</i>	
<u>The Geographies of the Firm:</u>		
	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 4</i>	
	<i>*Aoyama, Murphy, & Hanson: Chapters 1&2</i>	
<u>Economic Globalization:</u>		<i>TBD: Film Review #1</i>
	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 5</i>	
	<i>*Aoyama, Murphy, & Hanson: Chapter 3</i>	
<i>Film #2:</i>		
<u>Geographic Inequities (Uneven Development)</u>	<i>**Highly recommended: Dasgupta, entire book (Economics: A very short introduction)</i>	<i>TBD: Article Reaction Paper #2</i>

<u>Module:</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENTS DUE:</u>	<u>WRITING ASSIGNMENTS DUE:</u>
	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 6</i>	
<u>Local and Regional Economies</u>	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 7</i>	
	<i>*Aoyama, Murphy, & Hanson: Chapter 4</i>	<i>TBD: Film Review #2</i>
<u>Economy, Nature, and Financialization</u>	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 8</i>	
	<i>*Aoyama, Murphy, & Hanson: Chapter 5</i>	
<u>Film #3:</u>		
<u>Conclusions: “Cultural Turn” in Economic Geography and its importance moving forward</u>	<i>*Wood & Roberts: Chapter 9</i>	
	<i>*Aoyama, Murphy, & Hanson: Chapter 6</i>	<i>TBD: Exam</i>
<u>Exam Group Code: 3A</u> (Designated Final Exam Session) →		<i>Thursday, May 3, 2018: 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM</i>