

## Social Geography

GEO2410 – Section 2286 (Spring 2020 – 3 credits)

(Satisfies Social Science General Education & Diversity Requirements)

- **Instructor:** Michael Waylen – Ph.D Student in Geography Department
- **E-mail** – [kilgorettrout89@ufl.edu](mailto:kilgorettrout89@ufl.edu)
- **Course Meeting Times:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; 1:55 PM – 2:45 PM (Period 7); Turlington Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room # 3012
- **Office Hours:** Rolfs Hall, Room #100 (ground floor)
  - Mondays 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM
  - Wednesdays 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM
  - Fridays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
  - or by appointment

### Course Overview

This course introduces students to contemporary perspectives in social geography including theories, methodologies, and the interdisciplinary evolution of the subfield relating to issues of race, class, ethnicity, sexuality, and environment. As a result, students are encouraged to engage with the spatial meanings, practices, and aspects of everyday life that are produced and reproduced in the urban landscape.

Social Geography focuses on issues and perspectives in contemporary urban landscapes through an understanding of historical social processes and their resulting spatial patterns that continue to shape everyday life. It examines the political-economic trends that give rise to urban landscapes and the confluence of social, economic, cultural, and political influences that contribute to concentrations of occupants and the contradictory meanings assigned to urban landscapes by intellectuals and planners.

The forces that produced the changed appearance and function of urban settlements also resulted in dramatic changes in their internal spatial structure, that is, in the locations of their residential and nonresidential activities, the buildings that housed them, and the connections among them. Social patterns and the spaces of difference, poverty, and affluence we experience today are endemic from changes in political-economies towards a globalized system. This course covers the changes in sociospatial organization, the drivers behind them, and the theoretical and methodological tools used to investigate them.

### Relevance to Social Science General Education & Diversity Requirements

After taking this course, students will be familiar with historical social processes that shape contemporary urban spatial structures and make informed decisions about where to live. This course is designed to sensitize students to the rich mosaic of diverse residential and nonresidential uses that make the internal structure of contemporary urban landscapes. It is intended to make students more critical of demographic, social, economic, and political factors that have contributed to urban landscapes. Additionally,

students will be introduced to a wide range of theories and methodologies involved in social science knowledge production.

### **Course Objectives**

- By the end of this course students:
  - Will have knowledge of *theoretical* (structural, post-structural, behavioral, and environmental) and *methodological* (quantitative and qualitative) approaches to interdisciplinary social science research.
  - Be able to apply theories and methodologies in the form of an original research proposal

### **Course Materials**

**\*Students should read required materials before attending lectures\***

**Textbook and Readings:** Paul Knox and Stephen Pinch, *Urban Social Geography, An Introduction*. 6<sup>th</sup> ed.

Other assigned readings to be made available in PDF on Canvas.

**Powerpoint Slides:** A set of slides will be made available for each of the lectures on Canvas.

**Study/Test Guides:** There are no study/test guides, but if you attend class regularly, use the powerpoint slides, and read the material, you will have a good idea of the material on the exams.

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend class regularly. Students must attend lectures to receive credit for class activities and in-class discussions. Attending lectures will familiarize students with content and course materials that are conducive to earning the highest possible grade.

### **Exams and Assignments**

**Exams (20%):** There will be two multiple-choice based exams on Tuesday, October 1st and Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Exams are based on vocabulary and key concepts. Exam 1 covers the first six weeks of material and exam 2 covers weeks 7 through 15. The exams will be in-person in Rinker Hall room 110.

**Online Discussion Posts (15%):** There are five discussion posts. There will be a prompt for each discussion post that students are to address using concepts from the course with a minimum of 250 and a maximum of 500 words.

**In-class Discussions and Activities (15%):** Some lectures include activities where students will collaborate in groups, discuss ideas, and present their ideas to the class. Students are required to be present in-class to earn credit for participation.

**Quizzes (20%):** Quizzes are based on the previous 2 weeks of course content. Quizzes are timed, 30-minute multiple-choice and short answer exams. All quizzes will be taken online via Canvas.

**Proposal Peer Review (10%):** Students will submit a **COMPLETED** rough draft of their research proposal including in-text citations and bibliography on Sunday, April 12th before 11:59 pm. Students will be assigned one other student's proposal draft to review and comment. Students must submit their comments and corrections by Sunday, November 19th before 11:59 pm. In addition to comments and corrections, students will submit a completed rubric detailing reasons for final grade. Please see "Research Proposal" section for further details.

**Research Proposal (20%):** Students will write a research proposal on a selected topic related to social geography. The research proposal must be double-spaced and Times New Roman twelve-point font. The paper must meet a minimum of 1500 words and not exceed a maximum of 2000 words. The research proposal will be graded based on content, grammar, punctuation, citations, and works cited. Title page and bibliography/works cited will NOT count towards the total word count. The final research proposal will be submitted on Canvas before midnight on Wednesday, April 22nd.

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Due Date/Time</u>	<u>Grade Percentage</u>
Discussion 1	January 12th before 11:59pm	3
Quiz 1	January 26th before 11:59pm	5
Discussion 2	February 2nd before 11:59pm	3
Quiz 2	February 9th before 11:59 pm	5
Test 1	In-class February 17th	10
Discussion 3	March 8th before 11:59 pm	3
Quiz 3	March 15th before 11:59pm	5
Discussion 4	March 22nd before 11:59 pm	3
Quiz 4	March 29th before 11:59 pm	5

Discussion 5	April 5th before 11:59 pm	3
Submit Peer Review Draft	April 12th before 11:59 pm	5
Complete Peer Review	April 19th before 11:59 pm	5
Research Proposal	April 22 <sup>nd</sup> before 11:59 pm	20

Final Exam –  
 April 30<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00  
 pm in Turlington  
 3012

**Penalties for late work:** All work submitted late, that is after the above due dates and times, is subject to a 10% penalty every day the assignment is late. For tests, makeup exams will only be given with documented illnesses, emergencies, or sponsored university events. Please see university policies for further information:

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

**Final Grades:** Final grades are out of 100 possible points and letter grades are based on the following scale:

Letter Grade	Points
A	94-100
A-	90-93

B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	64-66
D-	60-63
F	<59

**General Education Social Science/Diversity Requirement:** You are required to earn a C grade or better to qualify for credit. C- is not a qualifying grade. Please refer to the undergraduate catalog

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx> (Links to an external site.)

**Students with disabilities:** Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then show it to the instructor and provide specific written requests when requesting accommodations.

<https://disability.ufl.edu/> (Links to an external site.)

**Evaluation:** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These instructions are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> (Links to an external site.) . Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

**Statement of University's Honor Policy:** Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity (See student handbook for details). Cheating or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/> (Links to an external site.)

**Assistance with Personal Health:** Phone number and contact site for university counseling services and mental health services: 392-1575m <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx> (Links to an external site.)

University Police Department: 392-1111 or 911 for emergencies.

## **Lecture Topics**

Week 1: Course Introduction

Week 2: Introduction to geography, Social Geography and the Sociospatial Dialectic

Week 3: The Economic Context of City Life, Structuralist Approaches to Social Geography,

Week 4: Patterns of sociospatial differentiation, Spatial and institutional frameworks

Week 5: Structures of building provision and the social production of the urban environment, The cultures of cities

Week 6: Social dimensions of urbanism; Neighborhoods, community, and place;

Week 7: Segregation and congregation

Week 8: Environment and behavior in urban settings; Bodies, sexuality, and the city;

Week 9: Mobility and the city; Urban change and conflict

Week 10: Introduction to political ecology and environmental justice,

Week 11: Urban political ecology; Green urbanism and sustainability

Week 12: Final exam and Research Proposals due

## Reading and Assignment Guide Calendar:

January						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Course Introduction		USG Ch. 1		Intro to Human Geo	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Discussion 1 Due	USG Ch.2		USG Ch.2		Ch. 1 NGJ	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	NO CLASS - MLK DAY		Ch. 2 NGJ		Harvey Ch. 1	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Quiz 1 Due	USG Ch. 4		USG Ch. 4		USG Ch. 5	
February						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Discussion 2 Due	USG Ch. 5		USG Ch. 5		USG Ch. 6	

9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Quiz 2 Due	USG Ch. 6		USG Ch. 6		Review	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Mid-Term		USG Ch. 3		USG Ch. 3	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	USG Ch. 7		E. Soja and Postmodernity		Harvey and Postmodernity	
March						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK		NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK		NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Discussion 3 due	USG Ch. 8		USG Ch. 8		Politics of Place Readings	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Quiz 3 due	USG Ch. 9		USG Ch. 9		Global Cities	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Discussion 4 due	Gentrification		Gentrificaion		Gentrification	
29	30	31				
Quiz 4 Due	USG. Ch. 10					



April						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			USG Ch. 10		Methods and Theory in Research	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Discussion post 5 due	USG. Ch. 11		USG. Ch. 11		USG Ch. 12	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Submit Draft for Peer Review	USG Ch. 13		Intro to EJ/PE		Urban PE	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Complete Peer Review	Green Urbanism/ Sustainability		Final Draft Due & Review		No Class - Reading Days	
26	27	28	29	30		
	No Class		No Class	Second Exam@ 3:00 PM		