

**Economic Geography**  
**GEO 3502-319H**  
**Section 14798**  
**3 Credits**  
**&**  
**Economic Geography (UFO)**  
**GEO 3502-3225**  
**Section 14799**  
**3 Credits**

**Economic Geography: *Online Sections***

**Instructor of Record:** Mr. Matthew G. McKay (Matt), Department of Geography

**Email:** [mmckay1@ufl.edu](mailto:mmckay1@ufl.edu)

**Telephone:** (860) 690-6192 (*direct/voicemail*)

**Office Location:** Turlington Hall (TUR) 1215

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM (online)

Thursday: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM (online)

\*(In person: *by appointment*)

**Teaching Assistant (TA)/Grader:** Mr. Amanambu Chukwudi Amobichukwu (Amobi)

**Email:** [a.amanambu@ufl.edu](mailto:a.amanambu@ufl.edu)

**Telephone:** (352) 793-7388

**Office Location** Turlington Hall (TUR) 1215 [Office Hours: To Be Determined TBD]

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** This course will fulfill the University of Florida's *Writing and Math Requirement* (formerly Gordon Rule), as it means that students in this course are required to write *at least* **6,000** words in assignments throughout the semester.

For more information on the *Writing and Math Requirement (Gordon Rule)*, please examine the following link at the Office of the Registrar: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/soc/201308/gord.html>

KEY LANGUAGE INCLUDED IN ABOVE LINK (Last accessed January 5, 2020):

“The writing in such courses will be evaluated on content, organization and coherence, argument and support, style and mechanics. Evaluations will be on individual work and the evaluated work will be returned prior to the last day of class...” AND:

“Writing course grades have two components. Professors will indicate whether or not students met the writing requirement AND will assign a course grade. Therefore, to receive writing credits students must receive a minimum grade of 'C' (2.0) AND satisfactory completion of the writing component. It IS possible not to meet the writing requirement and still pass the class. Students should review their degree audits after receiving their grades to verify receipt of credit for the writing component.” (***EMPHASIS MINE***)

Please see the listing for **WM** (Writing and Math Requirement) for this particular course at the following link: <https://one.ufl.edu/soc/>

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

Telephone: (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: 29° 38' 58" North Latitude, 82° 20' 37" West Longitude

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

Dr. Mao, Ph.D., Associate Professor

Email: [liangmao@ufl.edu](mailto: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 Sciences**

**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 2019-20,  
<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 recent and contemporary economic issues in the context of globalization, albeit with inclusion of historical developments of the subfield of Economic Geography.

**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.

\*Summarized list of expected course objectives:

- Understand the genesis, development, and evolution of Economic Geography as a subfield
- Obtain an understanding of major forms of economic activity and processes
- Learn to critically analyze economic issues from a geographical perspective

**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, particularly in light of historical theoretical developments; 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.

**Course Materials (and REQUIRED TEXTBOOK):**

Trevor Barnes & Brett Christophers. 2018. *Economic geography: a critical introduction*. Hoboken, NJ : John Wiley & Sons.

Niccol, Andrew, Dir. 2005..*Lord of War*. Lions Gate Films.

**Highly Recommended Textbook:**

Coe, Neil M., Kelly, Philip F., and Henry W.C. Yeung. 2020. *Economic geography. A contemporary introduction*. Third Edition. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

**Recommended Text (i.e., a brief monograph):**

\*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 University of Florida (UF) Bookstore, Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com, etc.

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

### **General Requirements**

NOTE: Make-ups cannot be given, except in documented emergencies in which the instructor has been contacted in advance or as soon afterwards as possible. Requests for such exceptions must be submitted in **writing**, with full explanations and documentation attached. The format of any make-up will be at either my discretion, or at the Teaching Assistant's (TA). The penalty for work turned in late is 10% of the total possible points per day late. Quizzes, exams, and discussion posts may not be turned in late.

### **Assessment and Grades**

Due dates for all assignments will be posted on Canvas.

- ***Quizzes – 25%***

Each unit of class will have a quiz covering the content of the readings, videos, and other materials for that part of the class. Questions will be some combination of multiple-choice, short answer, and fill-in-the-blank questions. Quizzes are open book but are timed. Once started, a quiz's time cannot be extended for any reason.

- ***Final Exam – 15%***

As with the quizzes, the questions on the final exam will be some combination of multiple-choice, short answer, and fill-in-the-blank questions. Content will be cumulative, but will be weighted toward material covered in the latter part of class.

- ***Discussions – 30%***

Each unit of class will have an extended discussion assignment requiring you to engage with the material and your fellow students. These assignments are the primary way we will interact with each other as students read and critique the course material.

- ***Film Review Essay – 15%***

You will write a critical review of the film *Lord of War*. The film focuses on a fictionalized, somewhat fantastic story of an arms dealer. Your critique should examine how well the film presents the realities of the arms trade, and the merits of what it has to say about this illegal/illicit economic activity. The minimum length is 1,000 words.

- ***Final Project – 15%***

There will be a final at the end of the semester. This project will require each student to critically analyze the process of globalization as it interacts with and is impacted by other economic activities.

**Assignments are weighted by group:**

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<b>Group</b>	<b>Weight</b>
<b>Quizzes</b>	25%
<b>Discussions</b>	30%
<b>Film Review Essay</b>	15%
<b>Final Exam</b>	15%
<b>Final Project</b>	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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

## **Class Units and Schedule of Topics**

### *Part 1: Thinking Critically About Economic Geography*

- Module 1 – Introducing Economic Geography
- Module 2 – History of Economic Geographic Thought
- Module 3 – Theories of Economic Geography
- Module 4 – Methodologies of Economic Geography

### *Part 2: Applications and Manifestations of Economic Geography*

- Module 5 – Globalization
- Module 6 – Uneven Development
- Module 7 – Money and Finance
- Module 8 – Cities and Urbanization
- Module 9 – Nature and the Environment
- Module 10 – Industrial and Technological Change

**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>

**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, 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/](http://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 at <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>

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 either the Teaching Assistant (TA) and/or I indicate that you have problems with grammar and writing style with respect to any coursework submitted to Canvas, one or both of us will encourage you to take evidence of your writing to the Writing Studio and work with the consultants there to assist in strengthening your writing submission for credit. 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 typically earn A and B grades are welcome to make an appointment at the Writing Studio. One-on-one assistance and consultation are available, ***including online.***

Contact Information:

The Writing Studio (within the **University Writing Program**)

2215 Turlington Hall (TUR)

PO Box 112020

Gainesville, Florida 32611-2020

Phone: (352) 846-1138

Fax: (352) 846-1345

**<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 American Association of Geographers. I recommend that you use the following guide as a reference to maintain consistency with your proper citations/documentations that is in accordance with academic scholarship.

**[http://www.aag.org/galleries/publications-files/Annals\\_of\\_the\\_AAG\\_Style\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.aag.org/galleries/publications-files/Annals_of_the_AAG_Style_Sheet.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 (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/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.

**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 CONTACT 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 CONTACT ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ASSIST YOU WITH MOVING FORWARD. Welcome to “Economic Geography”! I look forward to being your instructor.



Date	<b><i>SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)</i></b>		
Monday, January 6, 2020	Assignment	1) Read Course Syllabus 2) Acquire e-book entitled <i>Economic Geography: A Critical Introduction</i> (2018); <b>COURSE ASSIGNMENTS ARE BASED ON THIS SINGLE TEXT!!!</b> 3) Acquire optional, soft-cover, short text, entitled <i>Economics: A Very Short Introduction</i> (2007): This short text is HELPFUL in general. 4) Acquire additional recommended textbook entitled <i>Economic geography. A contemporary introduction</i> . This textbook is highly recommended and provides conceptual foundations, case studies, and data relevant to Economic Geography as a subdiscipline of the branch of Human Geography. The discipline of Geography encompasses two branches – Physical Geography, as well as Human Geography	Due: flexible; ideally, read syllabus by Tuesday, January 7, 2020, or as soon as possible when adding the course; same with acquiring required and recommended texts *Anyone adding this course by Friday, January 10, 2020, should work toward these efforts by Wednesday, January 15, 2020
Wednesday, January 15, 2020 (post Add/Drop)	Assignment	Activity: Course Introductions – Introduce Yourself	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Monday, January 20, 2020	Assignment	Module 1: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Monday, January 20, 2020	Assignment	Module 1: Quiz	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, January 26, 2020	Assignment	Module 2: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, January 26, 2020	Assignment	Module 2: Quiz	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, February 2, 2020	Assignment	Module 3: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, February 2, 2020	Assignment	Module 3: Quiz	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, February 9, 2020	Assignment	Module 4: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, February 9, 2020	Assignment	Module 4: Quiz	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, February 16, 2020	Assignment	<b><i>Final Project Topic</i></b>	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, February 23, 2020	Assignment	Module 5: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, February 23, 2020	Assignment	Module 5: Quiz	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, March 1, 2020	Assignment	Module 6: Discussion 1	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, March 1, 2020	Assignment	Module 6: Discussion 2	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, March 1, 2020	Assignment	Module 6: Quiz	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, March 15, 2020	Assignment	Module 7: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, March 22, 2020	Assignment	Module 8: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, March 29, 2020	Assignment	Module 9: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, April 5, 2020	Assignment	Module 10: Discussion	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, April 5, 2020	Assignment	Module 10: Quiz	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, April 12, 2019	Assignment	<b><i>Film Review Assignment</i></b>	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, April 19, 2020	Assignment	<b><i>Final Project</i></b>	Due by 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, April 26, 2020	Assignment	<b><i>Final Exam</i></b>	Due by 11:59 p.m.