

San José State University
Department of Urban and Regional Planning
GEOG 10, Cultural Geography, Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Eileen Peña
Office Location: Washington Square Hall (WSQ) 111A
Email: eileen.pena@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays online via Zoom and by pre-arranged appointment
Zoom

Class Days/Time: Online - Asynchronous
Classroom: Online through Canvas
Prerequisites: None
GE/SJSU Studies Category: D1 – Human Behavior

Course Catalog Description

The human population studied through the perspective of cultural groups, their institutions and geographic distributions, how different people occupy, use, and modify their environment, and the interaction of individuals from one group with those of another.

Course Format

This course is an online-only course and asynchronous (meaning, we don't have to be online at the same time - you have a week to complete the posted assignments at your own pace). No in-person class meetings are required. Access to a computer with a reliable Internet connection as well as a word processing program (such as MS Word) are required. The course is through Canvas learning management system. Information about Canvas, including links to log-in are here: <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/>

General Education Learning Outcomes (GELO)

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

Objective 1: Identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those social processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.

Assignment application: Dynamic course material quiz.

Objective 2: Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.

Assignment application: Mapping activity.

Objective 3: Identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them.

Assignment application: Dynamic course material quiz.

Objective 4: Evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.

Assignment application: Cultural geography research paper.

Objective 5: Compare and contrast two or more ethnic groups, cultures, regions, nations, or social systems.

Assignment application: Dynamic course material quiz.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

Locate and identify every country in the world on an online map.

Demonstrate their ability to research a geography-related topic via their research paper assignment.

Demonstrate their knowledge of culture and some other traits of the various world regions and topics.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

There is no required textbook or printed materials for this course. All information will be available online at no cost.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Access to a computer and reliable Internet source as well as a word processing program (such as Microsoft Word) are required.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Assignments including quizzes and exams will not be accepted late. Students must work ahead of the due dates to complete the work and allow for any potential issues at the last minute. It is suggested that students have a readily available back-up computer and Internet source such as the library or a friend's computer to use in case theirs is not working.

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction,

preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practical. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus. For more information see: [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>.

Research Paper Guidelines:

The research paper of a minimum of 1500 words is required for this course. It is a written document with a photo, map and references to be submitted through Canvas learning management system. The topic, as well as complete instructions and guidelines are posted in the online classroom. See course schedule below for due date.

Final Examination or Evaluation

The final exam will be online and based on course materials presented in the second half of the semester (post-midterm exam).

Grading Information

Midterm Exam	50 points
Quizzes (13 worth 10 points each)	130 points
Intro Discussion Assignment (1 worth points 10 each)	10 points
Map Assignments (16 worth 10 points each)	160 points
Research paper	100 points
Final Exam (not cumulative)	50 points
Total points available	500 points

Grading Information

Final letter grades will be based on the grading scale below:

Points	Letter Grade	Percentage
475-500	A	96 to 100 %
450- 474	A minus	90 to 95.9 %
435-449	B plus	86 to 89.9 %
415-434	B	83 to 85.9 %
400-414	B minus	80 to 82.9 %
365-399	C plus	76 to 79.9 %
335-364	C	73 to 75.9 %

300-334	C minus	70 to 72.9 %
285-299	D plus	66 to 69.9 %
250-284	D	66 to 69 %
Less than 250	F	

Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C- not accepted), and completion of Core General Education are prerequisite to all SJSU Studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended. A minimum aggregate GPA of 2.0 in GE Areas R, S, & V shall be required of all students.

Classroom Protocol

Generally, in an online course, there is much less room for undesirable classroom behavior (such as inappropriate cell phone use, etc.). However, mature and respectful behavior is still required in all communications such as discussion forums and other methods of communication – directed both to fellow classmates as well as the instructor. Disrespectful or inappropriate behavior will be handled first by the instructor and secondarily by the college, as necessary.

University Policies

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. To learn important campus information, view [University Grading System Policy F18-5](#) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F18-5.pdf>) In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as the next step.

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. To learn important campus information, view the University Policy at [University Policy S16-9](#) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>) In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as the next step.

Workload and Credit Hour Requirements

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading. However, students are expected to attend all meetings for the courses in which they are enrolled as they are responsible for material discussed therein, and active participation is frequently essential to ensure maximum benefit to all class members. In some cases, attendance is fundamental to course objectives; for example, students may be required to interact with others in the class. Attendance is the responsibility of the student. Participation may be used as a criterion for grading when the parameters and their evaluation are clearly defined in the course syllabus and the percentage of the overall grade is stated. The full policy language can be found at [University Attendance and Participation Policy F15-12](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf>)

Timely Feedback on Class Assignments

Per [University policy S17-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf>), all students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

[University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>) states that San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](https://www.sjsu.edu/provost/academic_affairs/resources/Academic_Calendars/) at https://www.sjsu.edu/provost/academic_affairs/resources/Academic_Calendars/ Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes ([Late Drop Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) <https://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>)

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](https://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) <https://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

“Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

It is suggested that the green sheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.

In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.

“Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share, or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic Integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>) requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Visit the [Student Conduct and Ethical Development](https://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) <https://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/> website for more information.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](#) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center \(AEC\)](https://www.sjsu.edu/aec/) <https://www.sjsu.edu/aec/> to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs and other resources for student use are available in:

[Associated Students Print & Technology Center](http://as.sjsu.edu/asptc/index.jsp) at <http://as.sjsu.edu/asptc/index.jsp> on the Student Union (East Wing 2nd floor Suite 2600)

[The Spartan Floor](https://library.sjsu.edu/services/services) at the King Library at <https://library.sjsu.edu/services/services>

[Student Computing Services](https://library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-services-center) at <https://library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-services-center>

[Computers at the Martin Luther King Library](https://www.sjpl.org/wireless) for public at large at <https://www.sjpl.org/wireless>

Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from [Collaboration & Academic Technology Services](#)

https://www.sjsu.edu/it/index.php?utm_source=at&utm_medium=permanent&utm_campaign=redirect

located in IRC Building. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections' free tutoring and mentoring is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. Peer Connections tutors are trained to provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group and individual tutoring are available. Peer Connections mentors are trained to provide support and resources in navigating the college experience. This support includes assistance in learning strategies and techniques on how to be a successful student. Peer Connections has a learning common, desktop computers, and success workshops on a wide variety of topics. For more information on services, hours, locations, or a list of current workshops, please visit [Peer Connections website](#) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The San José State University Writing Center offers a variety of resources to help students become better writers, and all of our services are free for SJSU students. Our mission is to enhance the writing skills of SJSU students so they can communicate clearly in any setting (informal, academic, or professional). We accomplish

this goal through creating original writing resources, offering workshops, and conducting one-on-one and small-group tutoring sessions.

The SJSU Writing Center has two locations: We conduct drop-in tutoring sessions in Clark Hall, Suite 126; we conduct scheduled appointments on the second floor of the MLK Library. All our writing tutors have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>.

SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services

The SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Carlos in the new Student Wellness Center, Room 300B. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide confidential consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling and Psychological Services website](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>

Geography 10 / Cultural Geography, Fall 2020, Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/19-8/23	Course and Student Introductions <i>Intro post, map activity</i>
2	8/24-8/30	Introduction to Human Geography <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
3	8/31-9/6	Population and Health <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
4	9/7-9/13	Migration <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
5	9/14-9/20	Local Culture, Popular Culture, and Cultural Landscapes <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
6	9/21-9/27	Identity: Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Sexuality <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
7	9/28-10/4	Language <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
8	10/5-10/11	Religion <i>Quiz, map activity</i>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
9	10/12-10/18	Midterm Exam Online - Open Monday-Sunday (Closes Sunday 11:59pm)
10	10/19-10/25	Political Geography <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
11	10/26-11/1	Urban Geography <i>Quiz, map activity</i> Research Paper due Sunday 11:59pm
12	11/2-11/8	Tourism <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
13	11/9-11/15	Agriculture <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
14	11/16-11/22	Technology <i>Quiz, map activity</i>
15	11/23-11/29	Thanksgiving Week - no assignments due
16	11/30-12/6	Natural Hazards <i>Quiz, map activity</i> Extra Credit Due (11:59pm)
17	12/7-12/13	Final Exam Online - Open Monday-Sunday (Closes Sunday 11:59pm)

Plagiarism and Citing Sources Properly

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's language, images, data, or ideas without proper attribution. It is a very serious offense both in the university and in your professional work. Plagiarism is both theft and lying you have stolen someone else's ideas, and then lied by implying that they are your own.

Plagiarism will lead to grade penalties and a record filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. In severe cases, students may also fail the course or even be expelled from the University.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, it is your responsibility to make sure you clarify the issues before you hand in draft or final work.

Learning when to cite a source and when not to is an art, not a science. However, here are some common examples of plagiarism that you should be careful to avoid:

Using a sentence (or even a part of a sentence) that someone else wrote without identifying the language as a quote by putting the text in quote marks and referencing the source.

Paraphrasing somebody else's theory or idea without referencing the source.

Using a picture or table from a webpage or book without reference the source.

Using data some other person or organization has collected without referencing the source.

The University of Indiana has developed a very helpful website with concrete examples about proper paraphrasing and quotation. See in particular the following pages:

Overview of plagiarism at www.indiana.edu/~istd/overview.html

Examples of plagiarism at www.indiana.edu/~istd/examples.html

Plagiarism quiz at www.indiana.edu/~istd/test.html

If you still have questions, feel free to talk to me personally. There is nothing wrong with asking for help, whereas even unintentional plagiarism is a serious offense.

Citation style

All instructors in the URBP department are encouraged to have students follow the citation formatting guidelines in Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Research Papers. By using a consistent style across classes, we make it easier for students to learn and apply proper formatting. You may choose to require a different style if you prefer, though. Whatever style you ask students to use, however, should be described in this section of the syllabus.