

Cultural Geography

Course Syllabus

General Information

Instructor: Cameron Craig
Office: Physical Science 3012
Contact: cdcraig@eiu.edu
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<http://www.TCPFilms.com>
Office hours: MTWTF; 12-12:50

Course Information

Objective: This course will provide you with an awareness of the different threads of humanity that are woven together as a fabric that explains who we are on this planet we call Home.

Textbooks: Rubenstien, *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography*

Attendance: Required. No make-up work will be accepted.

US Map Quiz: All students will take the US Map Quiz. You will have two opportunities to take the quiz. You must successfully identify all 50 states for credit. If you get 50, you will not have to take the quiz again. If you do not get all 50, you will have one more opportunity to take it. You must get all 50 or total points will be 0.

Term Paper: The cultural geography term paper is an important component to the course. You will select a documentary film from a PBS or NGS production and write a minimum of four pages (double-spaced) that critically analyzes the content of the production. You are limited to topics of a cultural theme. The Term Paper is worth 100 points. The term paper is due July 17th at 1pm.

Critical Papers: Each week you will be assigned a topic to write an essay that deals with a set of lectures. You are to write an essay that critically analyzes the topics presented. You may use any additional resource with the appropriate bibliographic reference. There is no minimum length but you are restricted to a single piece of paper (front and back). It can be single-spaced or double-spaced. Your score will be determined on the content (i.e. is it thorough enough to receive full credit or is it just a regurgitation of the lecture). Each Critical Paper is worth 10 points. The Critical Papers will be due every Thursday at 1pm.

Service Paper: The class will engage in a Service Learning event. When the Service Learning event is finished you will write an essay how that service learning deals with cultural geography. The format of the paper is that same as the Critical Papers. The Service Paper is worth 20 points. The due date is July 16th.

Field Paper: The class will be going to the CANDLES Museum in Terre Haute, Indiana on July 6th (further information will be given about the departure time later). The Field Paper is an essay that describes your personal thoughts about what you learned on the excursion in regards to cultural geography. The format of the paper is that same as the Critical Papers. The Field Paper is worth 20 points. The due date is July 9th.

- Examinations:** The format of the examinations will be multiple choice, true/false, either/or, and matching. There are three examinations including the final. Each examination is worth 100 points. The first examination will be administered on June 27th, the second on July 9th, and July 20th.
- Due Dates:** All work for the session is to be completed by the due dates within the semester. No additional work or extra credit will be given after the semester ends to change your grade. The final grade for the course is final.
- Etiquette:** Success in this course will be based your ability alone. Ask questions when you do not understand a concept. Contact the instructor for further help. Take notes during lecture and read course materials. Respect your classmates and instructor. Disrespect results in a 100-point reduction of your total point score. All technology, except the use of laptops, are not permitted during the class session. Technology includes text messaging, audio/video devices, and mobile phones. Students are given 100 points at the start of the semester. The use of any device listed above during class will result in all 100 points subtracted from the final score.
- Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is not tolerated here at EIU or at any other academic institution. If any student plagiarizes, the student will be sent to Judicial Affairs and you will receive an F for the course.
- Special Needs:** Students with special needs must be registered with the appropriate campus office for consideration. Please inform and present the necessary documents to the instructor at the start of the semester.

Grading Information

- Grading:** The course will use the university standard grading scale (i.e. 90%, 80%, etc).
- Components:** The grade distribution listed below will be used in determining the grade you earn for the course.

| Component | Quantity | Value | Total |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------------------|------------|
| Examinations (including the Final) | 3 | 100 | 300 |
| Cultural Geography Term Paper | 1 | 100 | 100 |
| Critical Papers | 4 | 10 | 40 |
| CANDLES Museum Essay | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Service Learning Essay | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| US Map Quiz | 1 | 50 | 50 |
| Technology Use (subtracted) | 1 | 100 | 100 |
| | | Grand Total | 630 |