

## **GEOG212: The World in Cultural Perspective Laboratory**

**University of Maryland  
Fall Semester, 2009**

**Tuesday at 9:30-11:30 am in LeFrak 1124**

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Instructor:	Jennifer Pomeroy
Office:	2108 LeFrak Hall
Phone:	301-405-4073
Email:	jpomeroy@umd.edu
Office Hours:	After class or by appointment

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### ***Course Objective***

To expose students on various aspects of human geography and learn about the research process through a practical, hands-on approach. By the end of the semester, students will gain basic knowledge on methods and techniques employed within the field of human geography and write a human geography paper!

### ***Course Format, Expectations, and Requirements***

No exam in this course but class attendance is mandatory and active participations are expected. Although this course is a one credit lab, several writing assignments, reflecting the nature of conducting research, are required.

Specific expectations, materials, and requirements for each assignment will be discussed in class. However, these general guidelines must be followed:

- All assignments must be typed or word-processed, double-spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman style, number pages, and with one inch margin.
- Do not use a fancy binder. Simply staple the papers together in the upper left corner.
- A cover sheet for each assignment should be included which contains your name, date, assignment and title.
- Follow the guidelines for each assignment's page/word length.
- Since assignments will be graded on the following criteria, content, presentation, organization, clarity, and grammar will count.
- Must include proper APA citation.
- Academic honor pledge

Academic Dishonesty – Those students who commit breaches of academic honest will be subject to the sanctions and procedures outlined on the following website to determine how the University of Maryland defines plagiarism and academic dishonesty -- <http://www.testudo.umd.edu/soc/dishonesty.html>

Assignment Deadlines – Assignments are due on the date specified in the course calendar unless announced otherwise in lecture. Due to issues to fairness and for reasons of efficiency, late assignments will penalized, with a deduction of 20% of the possible the point total for the first day. 50% for the second day and not accepted late than that. Take the proper precautions to have your assignment competed. Exceptions are only granted in matters of personal emergency or for medical reasons with proper documentation. If you anticipated a problem with a particular assignment, please see the instructor as soon as possible.

Course Evaluation - Assignments are specifically evaluated by the following:

Class attendance <i>and</i> participation	100 points
Research Topic	25 points
Journal Article Review ( 2 articles)	40 points
Outline of Research Paper	25 points
Presentations	25 points
Bibliography	10 points
Final Research Paper	100 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>325 points</b>

Students with Special Needs - If you have a documented physical or learning disability, please contact me as soon as possible so that accommodations can be made.

Classroom Policies - It is assumed that everyone in this course will conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner. Assumed and expected behaviors include:

- Regular class attendance that is attentive; absence beyond two will subject to 10 points deduction per absence, including partial attending;
- Respect for the instructor, field trip hosts, and other students;
- The valuing of other questions and contributions contributed to class discussion.

The following behaviors are not acceptable:

- Use of cell phones in class, either for conversation or text messaging. Please keep your phone off and stored during the class.
- Tardiness and inattentive behavior;
- Inappropriate conversation not pertinent to the lecture topic or course generally.

In summary, please use the good common sense with which you are equipped and observe the “golden rule – do unto others as would have them do unto you!”

### Tentative Course Calendar

Date	Topic	Activity/Assignment
September 1	Course Overview – syllabus Lecture 1: What is human geography?	Think about your research topic
September 8	Lecture 2: How to identify a research topic?	Discussion of your research interest & identify your research topic
September 15	Lecture 3: How to conducting journal article review?	<b>Research Topic due</b>
September 22	Maryland Room Tour <a href="http://www.lib.umd.edu/mdrm">www.lib.umd.edu/mdrm</a>	
September 29	Guest Speaker – Ron Luna Migration and Transnationalism	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Article Review due</b>
October 6	TBA	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Article Review</b>
October 13	Guest Speaker – Richard Russo Preserving Farmland by Applying a Social-Cultural Framework	<b>Outline due</b>
October 20	Graduate Students Panel	<b>Bibliography Due</b>
October 27	Research Day #1	McKeldin Library, Room 6107
November 3	Research Day #2	McKeldin Library, Room 6107
November 10	Research Progress Report Presentations	
November 17	Guest Speaker – Brandon Behlendorf Research on Terrorism Using GIS	
November 24	TBA	
December 1	Presentations	
December 8	Research Day – no class!	<b>Research Paper in hard copy due on December 15 by 11:30 am</b>

Final Comment and Disclaimer – The policies, assignments and requirements, and course calendar in this course are subject to change by the instructor.