**Geography 106 Sustainable World**

Instructor: Michael S. McGlade, Ph.D.

Class Location: MOD 107 Class Meets: MW 12:00-1:50

Office: HSS 211 Phone 503-838-8381

Office Hours: MW 11-12, T 12-2, 2:30-3:30 e-mail: mcgladm@mail.wou.edu

Course Overview: Description and explanation of geographic patterns of economic activity and human well-being are the primary foci of this course. Main topics include population and health geography, international development, resources and energy. Throughout the course, international comparisons are used to increase awareness and illustrate concepts.

Course Goals:   
Describe and explain how societies utilize and manage resources within their political-economic system

Describe and explain concepts of environmental sustainability, economic sustainability, social inclusion, and how they are connected

Explore concepts and geographic patterns in economic and social development and explain spatial differences

Goals align with the following Geography program outcomes: [PO2] Interpret the interrelationships between people, space and place. [PO3] Analyze human-environment relations.

Readings:

-All readings will be available on Moodle, unless otherwise noted. See calendar on reverse side for dates.

Course Requirements: Three examinations (300 pts.), two projects (40 and 60 pts.), discussion and participation (40 pts) and various announced or unannounced quizzes (4-8 pts. each) will be the primary means of evaluation in this course. Instructions for doing the projects will be given in class. Quizzes may cover any notes given prior to the quiz, the readings listed on the syllabus on or before the day of the quiz, and any other reading materials made available prior to the day of the quiz. The readings will generally relate to classroom lectures and activities, although some will go beyond what is covered in the classroom. Some reading questions will be made available as the term progresses. Your answers to the reading questions will not need to be turned in; however, they will assist you with exam questions.

Exams: consist of mostly essay and short answer questions. Your lowest score will be weighted 0.8 times your other two exam scores, and your best score will be weighted 1.2 times your other exam scores. This will “soften” the effects of a poor exam. All material covered in class as well as that in the readings will be the basis for the examinations. No make-up examinations will be given except in the most unusual of circumstances, and should be arranged prior to the exam being missed. Every attempt will be made to stick to the exam schedule dates found on the reverse side of this page. The third exam is not comprehensive.

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| Letter Grade | Percent |
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89.9 |
| C | 70-79.9 |
| D | 60-69.9 |
| F | <60 |

**Tentative Topics & Schedule\***

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| Dates | Topics | Readings\* |
| January 6, 8 | Introductory concepts, population geography | <http://www.prb.org/pdf/PopHandbook_Eng.pdf>  pp. 5-19, 25-30, 41-54. This material for reference only – to clarify concepts that you may not understand from lectures.  Population: a Lively Introduction <http://www.prb.org/pdf07/62.1LivelyIntroduction.pdf>  Reading questions in Moodle |
| January 13, 15, 22 | population, demographic transition, carrying capacity & sustainability  Our economic system: Neoliberalism | <http://www.prb.org/pdf06/60.4GlobalDemographicDivide.pdf>  pp. 1-22; TBA  Monbiot: Neoliberalism: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/apr/15/neoliberalism-ideology-problem-george-monbiot>  Reading questions in Moodle |
| **January 27** | Project due |  |
| **January 29** | Exam #1, then class meets |  |
| January 29 – February 17 | Resources and energy:  climate change & fossil fuels,  The hope and political economy of transitions to renewable energy | Bill McKibben, [Extreme Weather](https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/11/26/how-extreme-weather-is-shrinking-the-planet);  TBA  Reading questions and other activities in Moodle |
| **February 19** | **Exam #2, then class meets** |  |
| February 19 – March 4 | Concepts in development, sustainability, and social inclusion; neoliberalism | Anu Partenen: The Nordic Theory of Everything;  reading pages & questions in Moodle |
| **March 9** | **Development project due** (printed copy only, no electronic submissions) | Anu Partenen: The Nordic Theory of Everything, reading pages & questions in Moodle |
| March 9 | Comparative development in Nordic countries and the US: what really matters? | Anu Partenen: The Nordic Theory of Everything, reading pages & questions in Moodle:  Other TBA |
| **Wednesday March 11** | **Exam #3** |  |
| **Friday March 20, 12 - 2** | **Final discussion of development** | Instructions to be announced on Moodle |

\*other reading may be assigned in addition to what is listed in this syllabus. All material on syllabus is subject to change. Check class website for latest version of syllabus:[www.wou.edu/~mcgladm](http://www.wou.edu/~mcgladm)

Any student who feels that she or he may need an accommodation for any type of disability should talk me during office hours the first week of the course and/or should contact the Office of Disability Services (838-8250v/tty).

Student Success Concerns:

If the instructor determines your performance in this class is placing you at academic risk, you may be referred to a member of the Student Success Team. A student success specialist will offer to work with you to address issues and develop a student success strategy. Regardless of whether a referral has or has not been made, you are ultimately responsible for tracking your own progress in this course. If you would like to meet with a student success specialist regarding any academic struggles you are experiencing, please contact the Academic Advising and Learning Center at 503-838- 8428 or at studentsuccess@wou.edu.

Student Absence Notification:

If for some reason you are absent due to an extenuating circumstance or medical situation, the instructor may ask you to report the incident through official channels before making exceptions to missed or late work. For more information on how to submit a student absence notification request, please contact the Academic Advising and Learning Center at 503-838- 8428 or at studentsuccess@wou.edu.