Course Description: Students learn about human cultural variable in the context of the globe, including the description, analysis, and explanation of population, migration, folk and popular culture, language, religion, ethnicity, political geography, development, agriculture, industry, economic activities, urban, areas, and resource utilization. Special emphasis is placed on contemporary issues such as the effects of globalization and the impact of human settlements on the natural environment. Students also learn basic geographic literacy and map reading. ADVISORY: English 28 and 67 or equivalent.

Cultural Geography studies the peoples of the world within the context of the globe. In other words, it explores the sociocultural characteristics of contemporary societies within their spatial structure. This course focuses on similarities and differences of various cultures with respect to ethnic, religious, linguistic, economic, demographic, developmental, and settlement characteristics. This course discusses the origins, dispersals and current distributions of humans and cultural elements. It discusses the contemporary phenomenon of globalism as it applies to culture, politics, and economics. It answers the questions: Who or what? Where found? Why? What impact? This course acquaints students with basic geographic literacy and theory. It also introduces students to the use of maps, the basic tools of geography.

Objectives: To acquaint students with the various cultures of the world, where they are found, how they interact, and the reasons for the cultural patterns we see today. This course will give valuable background knowledge for a variety of disciplines, and prepare students for living successfully in today’s global society. It will also help students understand themselves and their own culture, and be able to describe and analyze the dynamics of various social and cultural interactions.

SLOs: Upon successful completion of GEOG 2, students will be able to demonstrate competence in the following Student Learning Outcome:

When given three cultural geography concepts studied in class, from the following: population, migration, folk and popular culture, language, religion, ethnicity, political geography development, agriculture, industry, settlements/services, urban patterns/issues, or resource issues, students will be able to correctly describe the term using appropriate geographical terminology, give an example as it relates to a world culture, and logically discuss the concept as it applies to contemporary issues and as it relates to corresponding cultural geography theory.

Policy on Academic Honesty: Los Angeles City College maintains a Policy on Academic Honesty that is adhered to in this class. Any effort to copy another student’s work during exams or to present another’s work as your own will be considered cheating, and will be punished by an “F” grade on the assignment/test and the student’s name will be placed on file with the LACC Executive Vice President, Instruction. Specific examples of cheating include, but are not limited to:

- Using unauthorized material on exams
- Copying another student’s exams
- Submitting any assigned work not the student’s own
- Copying other written materials without proper credit to the original author
- Downloading from computer networks without citation
- Representing downloaded written materials as the student’s own
For a complete copy of the Policy on Academic Honesty, 
see the schedule of classes and the school catalog.

Note: During exams students will be required to place all of their belongings in the front of the classroom, keeping only their pen, pencil, and Scantron on their desks. No electronic devices, including cell phones, may be kept with the student during an exam.

Exams: There will be a 2 midterms and 1 final exam, each worth 20 points. The schedule is shown on this syllabus. Exams will have multiple-choice, matching, true/false, fill in the blank, map labeling, definitions, and short essays. They will often contain charts, maps, or graphs from the textbook. You will be asked to use the information to analyze the topic using knowledge acquired in the reading or lectures. You will need to bring a regular 100-question Scantron for each exam. The final is exactly like the midterms in format. Exams are NOT cumulative. Note: make-up exams are longer and more difficult than the original exams. To take a make-up exam, discuss it with your instructor immediately and make arrangements to take the test outside of class hours.

Assignments: There are several assignments that will be given in class, which will equal a total of 12 points.

Field Trip: There will be one field trip worth 10 points. The field trip will take place during class time on Wednesday, November 30th. You will need to purchase a Metro Day Pass for $6.00 and bring some money for a snack. We will be going on the Metro Red and Gold Lines to Old Town Pasadena. To receive your points, you must do the preparation exercise, attend the field trip, and fill out the worksheet that you will receive on the trip.

Maps and Map Quizzes: You will be expected to learn some basic world geography. Each week you will study a blank map and a list of terms that you will look up in your World Atlas. Fill in and label the terms on the appropriate blank map, which you will then use to study for the upcoming in-class map quiz. There will be a map quiz each week, except for exam days and the day of our field trip. 8-10 = 2 points, 5-7 = 1 point, less than 5 = 0 points.

Scoring:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterms I and II</td>
<td>20 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Trip</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Quizzes (9)</td>
<td>2 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>20 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Total</td>
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</tbody>
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90 – 100 = A
80 – 89 = B
70 – 79 = C
60 – 69 = D
59 or below = F

How to calculate your points: Keep a running total by subtracting what you MISSED on each assignment from 100. This is will keep you always up to date on your class progress.

100 points MINUS ________________ = ________________

Example: Midterm I = 20 points, so if you got 12, then you need to subtract 8 from 100. Your highest total score for the class will now be 92. Next you get a 1 out 2 possible on a map quiz. Subtract 1 from 92, and your new maximum score is 91. Keep subtracting the points you MISSED until the end of the semester, and you will know your final grade.

Use the space below to keep track of your class score:
Textbook (required): Contemporary Human Geography, by James M. Rubenstein, ISBN 9787-0-321-81112-7. This is the second edition, but the first edition is also acceptable. We will cover 1-2 chapters per week. Please keep up with the reading, i.e. have the material read before the class for which it is assigned. Lectures will go over the most important points of each chapter, but you will not be able to keep up unless you have already read the material. Use the glossary at the back of the book to look up any terms with which you are not familiar. Refer to maps and charts frequently. In addition, you will have free access to a companion website to the textbook at www.mygeoscienceplace.com. You need to log on with the access code under the silver foil covering on the title page of your textbook. You will find chapter reviews, exercises to memorize key terms, and practice quizzes. USE THESE RESOURCES!

Atlas (required): You also must have a college-level atlas like Goodes World Atlas. It is now in the 22nd edition, but 21st and 20th editions are both okay. If you buy the textbook at the college bookstore it will come prepackaged with this item. This will be used to prepare your study maps for the weekly map quizzes. Bring this book every Wednesday when we will go over the map quiz for the following week.

Map Packet: You must purchase a map packet with the blank maps and other study items needed for this class. It is available in the bookstore. IT IS NOW ALSO AVAILABLE ON-LINE!! Go to the college website, click under “students” then “faculty web pages.” Click “Marla Conti” and go to MAPS.

Supplies: Maps are the basic tools of the geographer, and you will be working with many maps in this class. You must have a box of colored pencils, crayons, or markers, with approximately eight different colors. These will be used to fill in your blank maps and on map quizzes. I will accept pen/pencil only on the first map quiz; after that, you must have colored pencils, markers, or crayons.

You must keep up with the reading in this class – be sure to have read or at least skimmed the chapter before the lecture on the same material. Summer/winter sessions require extreme vigilance because the pace is accelerated.

Reading and Exam Schedule

Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 ………………….Midterm I, ____________________________
   Thinking Geographically, Population, Migration, Folk and Popular Culture
   Also Maps and Map Projections and basic map reading (PowerPoint and Goodes World Atlas)

Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9…………………..Midterm II, ____________________________
   Language, Religion, Ethnicity, Political Geography, Development

Field Trip……………………………..Wednesday, March 27th during class hours
   Metro and Old Town Pasadena – will last from approximately 7pm until 10:30pm

Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14………………Final Exam, Wednesday, May 29, 7:30 – 9:30pm
   Agriculture, Industry, Settlements and Services, Urban Patterns, Resource Issues
   Also outside reading on urban and resource issues
Hints for Success:
The material on the exams will come directly from my lectures as well as the textbook. It is imperative that you attend the lectures to prepare for the exams – you cannot pass this course by reading the textbook alone. However, without reading the textbook, you will be lost in the lectures. **So, you must attend class regularly AND read the textbook.**

Concentrate on maps and charts – these will be used extensively in this course. You must understand the material being illustrated as well as how to read them, so ask questions if you have difficulty with as aspect of map reading or comprehension, or if you are unclear about interpreting the data contained in a chart.

If it is written on the board or on a PowerPoint slide, it will be on your test. So, be sure to include it, along with explanations and details relating to it, in your notes. Taking good notes is essential for success in college. If you feel you need additional help in this area, please contact the Learning/Tutoring Center for tutoring and personal development courses.

Make 3 x 5 note cards. This is a social science class, and it has a lot of terminology to memorize. Look at the end of each chapter and make a card for each key term: put the term on one side, and its meaning on the other. Take these with you and memorize them when you are on telephone hold or waiting at a stoplight. Study cards have been shown to increase long term memory and maximize study time.

Use good test-taking skills. Do multiple-choice and true/false questions first, then do fill-in-the-blank and essay questions. Use questions to help you answer other questions. Tests are timed, so skip any questions you can’t get quickly and come back to them later. Physically cross off wrong answers – this stops your mind from re-considering that answer every time you look at the question and speeds up your reading. It narrows down the possibilities from which to choose, so you are much likelier to get a higher score even if you guess. If you don’t know a word, get the meaning from context – if it is an answer choice, it is probably not the correct one or you would recognize the term from studying.

Remember, there are only 100 points in this class, so every point counts. I do NOT give extra credit. Concentrate on doing a good job on the assigned work and exams.

Please sit as close to the front and center as possible. This is such a large classroom that you can get “lost” in the far corners. Many lectures involve technical diagrams that will be projected on the screen, and you must be able to view them in detail. **Plus, it has been confirmed statistically that the students who sit near the front do better in the class.**

Get a class buddy. You should always get the name and phone/email address of at least one or two classmates at the beginning of the semester for any class you take. You can ask about homework, find out what you missed if you are absent, clear up questions about material, or even study together before an exam.

Class buddy #1: ________________________ phone ___________________ email_____________________

Class buddy #2: ________________________ phone ___________________ email_____________________}

Class Rules:
1. No talking during class lectures – it is rude and disturbs the other students. If you insist on doing so, you will be asked to leave. The second time, you will be dismissed from the class. This is a large class, so there is zero tolerance on talking.

2. Turn off cell phones and pagers during class time. Again, it is both rude and disturbing.

3. I would rather you came in late than not at all. Please do it quietly so as not to disturb the class.

4. That being said, getting up to leave in the middle of class is not acceptable unless it is a true emergency.

5. Recording of lectures is not allowed. I will make an exception for special needs students who have cleared it with me in advance.

6. ANY ACT OF CHEATING will lead to immediate dismissal. DON’T DO IT!