

TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENT: Annual; 2nd Semester

CREDITS: 6

COURSE TEACHER(S): Dr Ben A GERLOFS

ASSESSMENT:

EXAMINATION 40 %	COURSEWORK 60 %
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class participation• Group project report and presentation• Individual essay

OBJECTIVES:

Students will be familiarized with the foundation of Cultural Geography, and learn to make sense of the mutually constitutive relationship between people and their environments.

COURSE SYNOPSIS:

This course interrogates the cultural, social and urban aspects of our everyday life through a Cultural Geography perspective. More specifically, it will utilise the concept of 'landscape' as lens through which to explore contemporary debates on people and their lived urban environment. Students will explore how cultures are geographically expressed and how geography is a basic element in the making of culture. Furthermore, attention will be paid to the power relations amongst various stakeholders in the creation of urban spaces and social systems. The course thus plots a thematic learning journey, which spans from urban injustice, struggles over public spaces, and identity politics to culture and heritage as tourism resources. As such, students will be familiarised with the basics of Cultural Geography, and learn to make sense of the mutually constitutive relationship between people and their environments.

LECTURE TOPICS:

- Definitions and approaches
- Power and imagination
- Moral geographies of urban landscape
- Public space and urban social movements
- Urban mobilities
- Identity at a variety of different scales
- Multiculturalism and post-nationalism
- Neoliberalisation of Urban Governance
- Culture and heritage as economic resource

RECOMMENDED READING LIST:

- Crang, M. (1998) Cultural Geography. London: Routledge.
- Oakes, T.S. and Price, P.L. (eds.) (2008) The Cultural Geography Reader, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon; New York: Routledge.
- Valentine, G. (2001) Social Geographies: Space and Society, Harlow, England; New York, N.Y.: Prentice Hall.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) After completing this course, students would be able to:		Alignment with Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)*						Course Assessment Methods
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	engage with major theories and debates in the cultural geographies of urban spaces	✓			✓			Class participation, group project report and presentation, individual essay & exam
2	adopt a critical perspective in understanding 'culture' in the governing of urban spaces	✓	✓					Class participation, group project report and presentation, individual essay & exam
3	understand landscape as an expression of socio-cultural forces	✓						Class participation, group project report and presentation, individual essay & exam
4	analyse culture in the age of globalisation		✓			✓		Class participation, group project report and presentation, individual essay & exam
5	develop analytical skills for interpreting place, space, and political-economic processes from a cultural geographical perspective			✓		✓		Class participation, group project report and presentation, individual essay & exam
6	gain critical reading, writing and presentation skills						✓	Class participation, group project report and presentation, individual essay & exam
7	put qualitative research methods to practice (observation, participant observation etc.)						✓	Class participation, group project report and presentation, individual essay & exam

*Geography Major Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

In order to meet the demands and challenges in this dynamic and ever-changing world, the Department has designed a series of well-structured and contemporary courses to cater to the different interests of students. Its courses are designed to align with the University's educational aims which hope to nurture future generations not only with a critical and intellectual mindset, but also with a passion to contribute to society in general.

After completing the programme, Geography Major students should be able to:

- PLO1** critically analyse the geographical aspects of the relationship between people and the natural environment;
- PLO2** demonstrate and develop an understanding of how these relationships have changed with space and over time;
- PLO3** identify, collect and utilize primary and secondary data to investigate and analyse the issues and problems facing people, places and society;
- PLO4** integrate, evaluate and communicate information from a variety of geographical and other sources;
- PLO5** participate in promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scales; and
- PLO6** effectively apply a range of transferable skills in academic, professional and social settings.

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