

**GEOGRAPHY 1113.701—Honors**  
**Introduction to Cultural Geography**  
Spring 2015, Room: HSCI 330

Instructor: Dr. Alyson Greiner  
Office: 326 Murray Hall  
Office Hours: T, TH 1:30pm-3:00pm, and by appt.  
Phone: 744-9169/-6250  
Email: [alyson.greiner@okstate.edu](mailto:alyson.greiner@okstate.edu)  
Course Web Page: Online Classroom/D2L at <https://oc.okstate.edu/>

### **Course Description**

This course will introduce you to the geography of human groups and activities around the world. It is also intended to help you improve your critical thinking skills. Along the way, you will learn about *cultural difference* as expressed through such things as patterns of language use, religious beliefs, and political practices. We will also explore *human/environmental interaction* and its relationship to differential patterns of development. The class will include a mixture of lectures, outside readings, in-class discussions and activities, and videos. I hope this class stimulates your curiosity about the world and gives you a fuller appreciation of its amazing diversity. The class meets S and I General Education criteria.

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- explain what culture is and why it is a contested concept.
- identify geographical tools and discuss their applications and limitations.
- discern geographical themes and issues in relation to current international affairs.
- assess the cultural impacts and consequences of globalization and other geographic processes.
- examine critical questions related to identity, cultural practices, the creation, modification, and meaning of cultural landscapes, and sustainable use of the environment.
- apply geographical concepts to their everyday life.

### **Books**

- Required:*
- 1) 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *Visualizing Human Geography: At Home in a Diverse World*, by Alyson L. Greiner. NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2014.\*
  - 2) 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *A New Introduction to Islam*, by Daniel W. Brown. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009.
  - 3) *Fast Food Nation*, by Eric Schlosser. NY: First Mariner Books edition, 2012.
  - 4) Additional readings as provided by the instructor.

\*Note: I do not make money on the sale of this book to OSU students. Book royalties are donated to a Geography Department fund that supports travel scholarships for undergraduate geography students to attend professional meetings.

## Grading

Grades are based on a 90%-80%-70%-60% scale. There are 700 points in this course, derived from:

*Readings Quizzes (6 @ 10 pts. each; lowest is dropped): 50 pts.*

Quizzes on reading material will be given at the start of class.

*Papers (2 @ 100 pts. each): 200 pts.*

Details will follow in separate handouts.

*Exams (3 @ 100 pts. each): 300 pts.*

A mix of short answer and essay questions. Final exam will include a comprehensive essay.

*International Current Events Analysis/Reflection (5 @ 20 pts.): 100 pts.*

See attachment for details.

*Discussion/Participation 50 pts.*

This part of your grade is based on your engagement with course material in class in discussions and through participation in class activities. Meeting with me in office hours counts, too.

## Expectations

Please come to class prepared to participate and engage the material. Complete the assigned readings in advance of our class meetings and take some time to reflect on them. Use the Concept Check questions to help you review the textbook material. Bring any questions you may have, and also be ready to share your reactions and comments in class. Respect the views of your classmates.

## Make-up Policy

You should make every effort to complete all work on schedule. Make-up work is permitted when a student has a legitimate excuse (see Student Handbook) **and** obtains the instructor's approval to make up work **prior** to the scheduled quiz or assignment due date. Students will be asked to provide documentation of their absence. Weddings, spring break travel, family reunions, etc. DO NOT constitute excused absences. Any student who has not made arrangements to make up a missed assignment within one week following the scheduled due date will receive a zero (0) on it. Note: The final exam will not be given earlier than its scheduled time.

## Special Accommodations for Students

If any member of this class has a disability and needs special accommodations, I will work with you and the Office of Student Disability Services, 315 Student Union, to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in this class. Please advise me of such disability before or immediately following the first scheduled class period in order that appropriate accommodations can be arranged.

## Student Conduct in Class

Please refrain from:

1. Surfing the Web, tweeting, texting, or taking calls during the class period. Please set phones to "silent" mode.
2. Doing puzzles or working on other assignments in class.
3. Sleeping. Beware--I like to call on people who are snoozing.
4. Packing up your books and materials before the class period ends.
5. Leaving class early.
6. Talking and giggling with your neighbor, or otherwise disturbing those around you.
7. Wearing baseball caps during exams. If you wear one I will ask you to turn it around.
8. Cheating on tests and assignments (see statement on academic integrity below).

**Academic Integrity**

Students should review the OSU policy on academic integrity ([academicintegrity.okstate.edu](http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu); see also the syllabus attachment). All students are expected to uphold and abide by this policy. In particular, you are expected to do your own work. You should be aware that both “taking” and “giving” improper assistance during quizzes and exams is a violation of academic integrity, even if the action is merely passive in nature (such as not covering your paper when you know that someone is looking at it). Cheating and plagiarism are violations of the university’s Academic Integrity Policy. All violations of academic integrity will result in sanctions in accordance with university policy.

If you are not sure what plagiarism is, please consult the following highly recommended web sites:

(1) Indiana University’s Writing Tutorial Service Pamphlet “Plagiarism: What It is and How to Recognize and Avoid It” at <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>.

(2) Purdue University’s On-line Writing Lab “Is It Plagiarism Yet?” at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/>

**Note**

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus and/or the content of the course. Every attempt will be made to notify you as soon as possible should any changes be necessary.

### Tentative Schedule

(Vis=textbook; FFN=*Fast Food Nation*; ISL=*New Introduction to Islam*)

Date	Topic	Readings
Week 1	Introduction	Vis Ch. 1
Week 2	Key concepts/Geographic tools	additional reading TBA
Week 3	Globalization and Cultural Geography <b>Mandatory in-class activity</b>	Vis Ch. 2; FFN Chs. 1-5
Week 4	Population and Migration	FFN Chs. 6 Vis Ch. 3
Week 5	Population and Migration, cont'd <b>EXAM 1: Tentative Thurs. Feb. 12</b>	
Week 6	Languages and Dialects <b>1<sup>st</sup> Paper Due Thurs. Feb. 19</b>	Vis Ch. 4
Week 7	Languages and Dialects	additional reading TBA
Week 8	Religions <b>Current Events projects #1 and #2 Due Thurs. Mar. 5</b>	Vis Ch. 5; ISL pp. 1-15; 49-68; 69-86; 96-100; 160-166
Week 9	Religions	ISL pp. 245-247; 249-253; 262-270; 282-298
Week 10	NO CLASS ALL WEEK -- SPRING BREAK	
Week 11	Identity <b>EXAM 2: Tentative Thurs. Mar. 26</b>	Vis Ch. 6
Week 12	Political Geography	Vis Ch. 7 additional reading TBA
Week 13	Geog of Industry and Services	Vis Ch. 10
Week 14	Agricultural/Environmental Geog <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Paper Due Thurs. Apr. 16</b>	Vis Ch. 11 and 12 (part)
Week 15	If time permits: Urban Geographies Possible Film: Life + Debt <b>Current Events projects #3, #4, and #5 Due Thurs. Apr. 23</b>	Vis Ch. 8
Week 16	If time permits: Development	Vis Ch. 9

FINAL EXAM: **Tuesday, May 5 from 10:00 am-11:50 am.**



# OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT Spring 2015

<http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/faculty-a-staff>

**YOUR SUCCESS AS A STUDENT IS OUR TOP PRIORITY.  
THIS INFORMATION IS PROVIDED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS MOST OFTEN ASKED BY STUDENTS.**

## IMPORTANT DATES

Last day to add a class (without instructor permission)	1/20/2015
Last day to drop a course with no grade and 100% refund	1/20/2015
Last day to add a class (requires instructor & advisor permission)	1/23/2015
Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University with an automatic "W" and receive a partial refund (requires advisor signature)	1/23/2015
Last day to post 6 week grades	2/24/2015
Last day to file diploma application (for name to appear in Spring Commencement program)	4/1/2015
Last day to drop a class or withdraw from the University with an automatic "W"	4/10/2015
Last day to withdraw from all OSU classes with an assigned grade of "W" or "F"	4/24/2015
Pre-Finals week	4/27/2015 – 5/1/2015
Final examinations	5/4/2015 – 5/8/2015

*Note: Outreach, Internet, and short courses have unique drop/add and refund deadlines; lookup the specific deadlines for these courses on the Short, Internet and Outreach Class Schedules page of the Registrar's [website](#).*

## Spring Semester Holidays

University Holiday	1/19/2015
Students' Spring Break	3/16/2015 – 3/20/2015

## DROPPING A COURSE AND WITHDRAWING FROM THE UNIVERSITY

students often confuse these terms. **Dropping a Course** (or courses) may occur during the first twelve weeks of the semester. This means, however, that you are still enrolled in at least one other OSU course. Exceptions to the deadlines above may only be considered by petition due to documented extraordinary circumstances and committee approval. The Retroactive Drop/Withdraw Petition and the Petition for a Refund of Tuition and Fees forms are available on the Registrar's [website](#).

**Withdrawing** from the university means that you are dropping *all* of your courses and *are no longer enrolled for the current semester*. This may occur until the Friday before pre-finals week. The withdrawal process is initiated with your academic advisor in your student academic services office. For additional information and dates, go to: <http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/policies-a-procedures/35-adding-a-dropping-policy>

## ALERTS AND RESCHEDULING

If the OSU campus officially closes due to inclement weather or other emergencies, alerts are provided to local news media and are posted on the OSU website. Exams, classes, or assignments that are missed in these circumstances may be rescheduled at times that are outside the normal meeting schedule for the class. If valid, documented circumstances prohibit students from attending the rescheduled classes, instructors should provide reasonable alternative means for makeup.

## SEEK ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

The OSU faculty and staff want you to be successful in your educational pursuits. If you have questions or concerns, seek help EARLY. We are here to assist you.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

101 Whitehurst, 405-744-5627 <http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu>  
OSU is committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic integrity (e.g., unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, multiple submissions, cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person cheat, unauthorized advance access to examinations, altering or destroying the work of others, and altering academic records) will result in an official academic sanction. Violations may subject you to disciplinary action including the following: receiving a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course, receiving a notation of a violation of academic integrity on your transcript, and being suspended from the University. You have the right to appeal the charge. Go to <http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu/> for a video on OSU's academic integrity policy and additional information.



## COPYRIGHT & FAIR USE POLICY OF COURSE MATERIALS

Course materials may not be published, leased, sold to others, or used for any purpose other than appropriate OSU-related individual or group study without the written permission of the faculty member in charge of the course and other copyright holders. This paragraph grants you a limited license giving you access to materials for this course, including PowerPoint slides, audio/video recordings, written, or other materials, for appropriate OSU-related educational use only. Lectures should not be recorded without permission from the faculty member and must not be further disseminated or shared.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is a critical component of learning; therefore, you are expected to attend and participate fully in all scheduled class meetings. Many instructors consider attendance so essential that your grade may be affected by your absence. *SOME DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSORS HAVE MANDATORY ATTENDANCE POLICIES*. If no written attendance policy is provided before the last day to add a class without instructor permission, no penalty may be assessed for class absences although you may not be permitted to make up certain in-class activities. If you are required to participate in official university-sponsored activities or military training, you should receive an excused absence unless the written course attendance policy indicates otherwise. If you will be absent from class for sponsored activities, you must provide prior notification of the planned absence to the instructor. You may be required to submit assignments or take examinations before the planned absence.

## PRE-FINALS WEEK POLICY

Final examinations are scheduled at the end of each semester and are preceded by pre-finals week, which begins seven days prior to the first day of finals. During pre-finals week, all normal class activities will continue; however, no assignment, test, or examination accounting for more than 5% of the course grade may be given; and no activity or field trip may be scheduled that conflicts with another class. This excludes makeup and laboratory examinations, out-of-class assignments (or projects) made prior to pre-finals week and independent study courses.

No student or campus organization may hold meetings, banquets, receptions, or may sponsor or participate in any activity, program, or related function that requires student participation. For additional information, contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 405-744-5627, 101 Whitehurst.

### **FINAL EXAM OVERLOAD POLICY**

In the event that you have three or more final exams scheduled for a single day, you are entitled to arrange with the instructor of the highest numbered course (4 digit course number) or two highest, if you have four finals on one day, to re-schedule that examination(s) at a time and place of mutual convenience during final exam week. If the final exam overload includes a common final exam, the common final exam is excluded from rescheduling unless multiple common exams are scheduled at the same time. You should submit this request in writing, with a copy of your class schedule, at least two weeks prior to the beginning of final exam week. The instructor has one week prior to the beginning of final exam week to arrange a mutually convenient time and place for administration of the final exam. After one week, if an agreement cannot be reached, take the request to the department head.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**Student Email** - OSU uses your OKSTATE.EDU email address as a primary form of communication. Students are expected to check their OSU email on a frequent and consistent basis to remain informed of their official university business. If you do not use the OSU email system you must redirect your okstate.edu email using the Orange-Key System ([www.okey.okstate.edu](http://www.okey.okstate.edu)). Failure to maintain an accurate email address may result in missed or lost university communications. For email assistance contact the IT Helpdesk at 405-744-HELP (4357).

**Computer Labs** - A complete description of computer labs and hours of operations are available at their website: <https://it.sharepoint.okstate.edu/TechnologySupport/DeskSide/default.aspx>. Lab information is also available by calling the Information Technology Help Desk, 405-744-HELP (4357).

### **EDMON LOW LIBRARY HOURS**

405-744-9775 or 405-744-9741

[www.library.okstate.edu](http://www.library.okstate.edu)

Text 405-592-4128

Sunday	9:00 a.m.-12:00 midnight
Monday-Thursday	24 hours a day
Friday	12:00 midnight-10:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

\*For holiday and intersession hours, check

<http://www.library.okstate.edu/services/hours.htm>

\*Contact the following for information on hours of operation:

Architecture Library	405-744-6047
Curriculum Materials Library	405-744-6310
Veterinary Medicine Library	405-744-6655

### **GENERAL EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS**

By enrolling at Oklahoma State University, you accept responsibility for complying with all University policies and contracts, and for local, state and federal laws on- or off-campus that relate to the University's mission. **The Student Rights and Responsibilities Governing Student Behavior** document explains the standards of behavior expected of you, processes in place for enforcing the rules, and the University's response to violations <http://studentconduct.okstate.edu/>

In general, the University expects you to respect the rights of others and authorities, represent yourself truthfully and accurately at all times, respect private and public property, and take responsibility for your own actions and the actions of your guests. Call 405-744-5470 for more information.

### **WHERE TO GO FOR HELP**

**Instructor** - If you have questions regarding your class, talk to your instructor. Faculty members usually include their office hours and/or phone number in the class syllabus. If you cannot locate this

information, set a time to meet with your instructor by speaking with him/her prior to or immediately following your class session or check with the departmental office on when the instructor may be available.

**Academic Advisor** - All students will benefit by conferring with an advisor on a regular basis. If you do not know your advisor, or are unhappy with your advisor, talk to the Student Academic Services Director for your college.

**Academic911.okstate.edu** - Your online resource for academic and personal success, sponsored by Student Affairs.

### **Mathematics Learning Success Center**

5th Floor, Edmon Low Library/405-744-5818 <http://www.math.okstate.edu/>

Tutors are available to answer questions for classes ranging from Beginning Algebra through Calculus II. Tutoring for Differential Equations and Linear Algebra is offered at specific times.

### **Writing Center**

440 Student Union/405-744-6671 <http://osuwritingcenter.okstate.edu>

The Writing Center helps writers throughout the composing process; you should plan to visit early and often throughout the semester, not just the day before an assignment is due. Tutors will work with you to improve your brainstorming, organizational, and composing techniques.

### **Learning & Student Success Opportunity (LASSO) Tutoring Center**

021 Classroom Building/405-744-3309 <https://lasso.okstate.edu/>

LASSO offers free individual tutoring for a variety of courses.

### **University Counseling Services**

320 Student Union/405-744-5472 or 405-744-7007 <http://ucs.okstate.edu/>

Professional counselors offer confidential personal and/or career counseling.

### **Office of Student Disability Services (SDS)**

315 Student Union/405-744-7116 <http://sds.okstate.edu/>

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, each student with a disability is responsible for notifying the University of his/her disability and requesting accommodations. If you think you have a qualified disability and need special accommodations, you should notify the instructor and request verification of eligibility for accommodations from the Office of SDS. Please advise the instructor of your disability as soon as possible, and contact Student Disability Services, to ensure timely implementation of appropriate accommodations. Faculty has an obligation to respond when they receive official notice of a disability but are under no obligation to provide retroactive accommodations. To receive services, you must submit appropriate documentation and complete an intake process to verify the existence of a qualified disability and identify reasonable accommodations.

### **Office of Equal Opportunity - 408 Whitehurst/405-744-9153**

OSU is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. OSU does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and activities. Examples of sexual misconduct and/or sex discrimination include: sexual violence, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and intimate partner violence, stalking, or gender-based discrimination. OSU encourages any student who thinks that he or she may have been a victim of sexual misconduct or sexual discrimination to immediately report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator (405-744-9153) or Deputy Title IX Coordinator (405-744-5470). Students may also report incidents of sexual misconduct or sex discrimination to a faculty or staff member, who is then required by federal law (Title IX) to notify the Title IX or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. If a reporting student would like to keep the details confidential, the student may speak with staff in the Student Counseling Center (405-744-5472) or the University's Victim Advocate (Suzanne Burks: 405-744-5458). For more information regarding Title IX violations, please go to: <http://1is2many.okstate.edu>.