

WORLDINGS: REGIONS, PEOPLES AND STATES

Geography 10

Professor Jake Kosek

Meeting Time: Tues & Thurs 12:30-2:00

Room: Stanley 105

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to transform how you think about, understand and engage in the making and remaking of the worlds we inhabit. Concepts central to Geography pepper the pages of newspapers almost every day – in stories of toxic waste sites, immigration policies, international finance capital, the military industry, genetic engineering, global warming, surveillance, racial profiling, sexuality, poverty and terrorism. Ideas central to the field of geography such as **space, nature, and inequality** animate the histories and politics of each of these issues and many other cases. Our approach will not be to simply learn about the regions of the world, but to think critically and geographically about how regions, peoples and states and other foundational concepts have come into being and how they might be otherwise. The unifying theme of the class is the contested relationships, practices, and processes in the making of these central geographic concepts (space, nature and inequality) that often go unexamined.

Starting with the concept of space, such as the world, the region, and the nation, we will examine the politics and power of space not as an empty stage upon which events happen but as a deeply contested field with specific histories and profound consequences. This course will take the map seriously by learning the empirical order of our day via map quizzes throughout the semester; however, we will also seek to disrupt the maps authority at objectively representing space and to disrespect its seeming fixity by exploring some of the politics of the broader concepts of space, region, territory and nationalism. Next, we will examine the idea of nature, both as a concept of the external environment but also as an internal essence such as human nature. We will look at the work that ideas of nature have in our lives from our understandings of the global environment, to our most intimate formations of race, gender and sexuality. Ultimately, we hope to demonstrate how the concept of nature, that is often presented as the opposite of that which is social and political, is anything but. The third section of the class deals with global inequalities. Here we will discuss modern disparities between and within regions, nations, states and communities. We will begin this section by studying economic globalization starting with its history and component parts such as property, the commodity, and labor and then explore the processes and institutions that have shaped the modern form of global production and exchange and the contemporary consequences of these formations. We will then raise key geographical questions about the politics of indigeneity, race and sexuality and how political economy and identity become intertwined as people make claims to rights, resources and redistribution in powerful and significant ways.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class/section participation:	40%	of final course grade
Map Quizzes:	10%	“
Assignments (x2):	20%	“
Final exam:	30%	“

Course grades will be based on a curve using the total points earned on all assignments, participation and exams.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

Lectures will be complemented by review sections devoted to fuller class discussion of the readings and lecture material. Class assignments on topics related to the class lectures will be given two weeks in advance of their due dates. Attendance in lecture and discussion sections is mandatory and will be factored into your grade. Sections will begin on Tuesday, September 1st, the last day of sections will be Friday, December 4th. If you miss a class you are responsible to find out what material you missed and what announcements were made during your absence.

PLAN FOR LECTURES AND READINGS

Readings are listed in italics under each lecture. You are expected to complete all of the readings *before* the lecture for which they are assigned.

FINAL EXAM

Questions, including ones on the final exam, will be handed out December 3rd to allow you to prepare for the proctored final exam on December 18th 8am-11am. The final exam will consist of some of these questions, other short-answer questions, and key terms. The final exam will comprise 30% of the course grade.

COURSE INFORMATION

Contact Information

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Office Hours

Tues 2:30-4:30

585 McCone

Tues 2:30-3:30

583 McCone

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Course Website

We will use bcourses for posting announcements, distributing readings, maps and list items for map quizzes, and for other purposes. Please go to bcourses and log on using your CalNet ID and passphrase. If you are registered (or waitlisted) for the course, a tab should appear automatically for Geography 10.

Academic Integrity

Any test, paper, report or homework submitted under your name is presumed to be your own original work that has not previously been submitted for credit in another course. All words and ideas written by other people must be properly attributed: fully identified as to source and the extent of your use of their work. Cheating, plagiarism and other academic misconduct will result in a failing grade on the assignment, paper, quiz or exam in question and will be reported to Student Judicial Affairs.

Introduction

August 27th:

Introduction:

I. SPACE

Week 1: The Politics of Space

September 1st: Making Maps

- Harley, J.B. 1989. Deconstructing the Map. *Cartographica* 26:2, pages 1-20.
- Solnit, R. 2010. *The Mission of Butterfly and Fairies* in the Infinite City, Berkeley, University of California Press.
- Optional:*
- Pickles, J. 2004. *A History of Spaces: Cartographic Reason, Mapping and the geo-coded World*. London, Routledge, pages 1-25.
- Turnbull, D. 1989. *Maps are Territories: Science is an Atlas*. Chicago, University of Chicago Press.
- Cosgrove, D. 2003. "Imperial and Poetic Globe" In *Apollo's Eye: A Cartographic Genealogy of the Earth in the Western Imagination*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, pages ix-xii, 1-16.

September 8th: Producing Spaces

- Mitchell, D. 2005. The End of Public Space? People's Park, Definitions of the Public, and Democracy. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Volume 85. Issue no. 1, pages 108-133.
- Optional:*
- Harvey, D. 2006. Space as a Keyword. In *Spaces of Global Capitalism: Towards A Theory of Uneven Geographical Development*. New York, Verso, pages 117-148.
- Low, S & Smith, N. 2006. The Imperative of Public Space. In *The Politics of Public Space*. New York, Routledge, pages 1-17.0

Week 2: State and Territory

September 10th: The Spaces of Sovereignty

Map Quiz #1

- Scott, J. C. 1998. Taming Nature: An Agriculture of Legibility and Simplicity, In *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. New Haven, CT: Yale Univ. Press, pages 11-52.
- Optional:*
- Sparke, Matt 2013. Governance. In *Introducing Globalization: Ties, Tensions and Uneven Integration*. Oxford, Wiley-Blackwell, pages 227-277.

September 11th: Walls, Borders and Flows

Brown, W. 2010. Waning Sovereignty, Walled Democracy, in *Walled States, Waning Sovereignty*. New York, Zone Books, pages 7-42.

Optional:

Weizman, E. 2007. The Wall: Barrier Archipelagos and the Impossible politics of Separation. In *Hollowed Land: Israel's Architecture of Occupation*. New York, Verso Press.

Jones, R. 2011. *Border Walls: The Security and the War on Terror in the United States, India and Israel*. New York, Zed Books, pages 1-26.

Week 3 Nationalism e3 Segregation:

September 15th: Imagined Communities

Assignment #1 due

Anderson, B. 1983. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London, Verso Press, pages 48-58

Winichakul, Thonchai 2000. The Quest for "Siwilai": A Geographical Discourse of Civilizational Thinking in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth-Century Siam. *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 59. No. 3 pages 528-549.

Optional:

Fanon, F. 1963. Concerning Violence, in *The Wretched of the Earth*. New York: Grove Press.

Gilroy, P. 1990. Nationalism, History and Ethnic Absolutism. *History Workshop*, No. 30, Autumn, pages 114-120.

Chatterjee, P. 1993. *The Nation and Its Fragments: Colonial and Postcolonial Studies*. New Jersey Princeton University Press, pages 3-34.

September 17th: Segregation

Coates, TN 2014. The Case for Reparations, *The Atlantic*, May 21 pages 1-37.

Kaplan, A. 2009. Manifest Domesticity. *American Literature* Vol. 70, no. 3, pages 581-606.

Optional:

Mandela, N. 1959. *No Easy Walk to Freedom*, Pages 67-79.

Goldberg, David T. 1993. "Polluting the Body Politic: Race and Urban Location". In *Racist Culture: Philosophy and the Politics of Meaning*, Oxford Blackwell Publishers. Pages 185-205.

Week 4: Region e³ Empire

September 22th: The Orient & The Occident

Map Quiz #2

Said, E. 1994 [1979]. Introduction to *Orientalism*. New York, Vintage, pages 1-30.

September 24th: Regionalisms

Mamdani, M. 2002. Good Muslim, Bad Muslim: A Political Perspective on Culture and Terrorism. *American Anthropologist*, Volume 104, Issue 3, pages 766-775.

Optional:

Huntington, S. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations? The Next Pattern of Conflict," *Foreign Affairs*, Summer 1993.

Said, E. 2001. "The Clash of Ignorance," *The Nation*, October 22, 2001.

II. NATURE

Week 5: Purity and Essence

September 28th: Essence

Williams, R. 1980 [1972]. Ideas of Nature. *In Problems in Materialism and Culture*. London: Verso, pages 67-85.

October 1st: Natural Disasters

Davis, Mike 1998 The Case for Letting Malibu Burn. In *Ecology of Fear*. NY. Metropolitan Books: 93-148.

Optional:

Klein, Naomi 2007. *The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*. New York: Picador, Introduction and part 1 & 7.

Adams, V., et al. 2009. Chronic Disaster Syndrome: Displacement, Disaster, Capitalism and the Eviction of the Poor from New Orleans. *American Ethnologist*, Vol. 36, Issue 4, pages 615-636.

Week 6: Resource Degradation and Extraction

October 6th: The Political Ecology of Oil and Carbon

Assignment # 2 due and Map Quiz # 3

Watts, M. 2011. A Tale of Two Gulfs: Life, Death, and Dispossession along Two Oil Frontiers, *American Quarterly*, Volume 64, No. 3, pages 437-467.

October 8th: The Political Ecology of Oil and Carbon Conintued

Mitchell, T. 2009. Carbon Democracy. *Economy and Society* Vol. 38, issue 3, pages 399-432.

Week 7: The Politics of Climate Change

October 13th: Global Discourses on Climate Change

Pope Francis 2015. *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home*. Our Sunday Visitor. Introduction, Chapter 1 and Chapter 3.

Morales, E. 2008. Save the Planet From Capitalism. November 28th.

October 15th: The Science and Politics of Weather

Parenti, C. 2011. *Tropic of Chaos: Climate Change and the New Geography of Violence*, New York, Nation Books, pages 1-38.

Crutzen, Paul 2006. "The Anthropocene". In *The Anthropocene* Berlin: Springer, pages 13-17.

Optional:

Oreskes, N. 2010. *Merchants of Doubt*. New York, Bloomsbury Press.

Chakrabarty, D. 2012. Postcolonial Studies and the Challenge of Climate Change, *New Literary History*, 43: 1-18.

Week 8: The Politics of Nature Continued'

October 20th: The Nature and Science of Race

Map Quiz # 4

Goldberg, DT 1993. Racialized Discourse and Masks of Race. In *Racist Culture: Philosophy and The Politics of Meaning*. Oxford, Blackwell, pages 41-67.

Optional:

Magubane, Z. 2003. Simians, Savages, Skulls, and Sex: Science and Colonial Militarism in Nineteenth-Century South Africa. In *Race Nature and the Politics of Difference*. Moore et al., pages 99-121.

Stepan, N.L. 2003. Science and Race: Before and After the Genome Project. *The Socialist Register*, vol. 39, no. 1, pages 329-346.

Goldberg, DT 1990. The Social Formation of Racist Discourse. In *The Anatomy of Racism*. Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, pages 295-318.

October 22nd: The Nature and Science of Sex

Bederman, G. 2001. Theodore Roosevelt: Manhood, Nation and "Civilization". In *Manliness & Civilization: A Cultural History of Gender and Race in the United States*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pages 170-215.

Optional:

Fausto-Sterling, A. 2000. *Dueling Dualisms in Sexing the Body*. New York, Basic Books, pages 1-29.

III. INEQUALITY

Week 9: Colonialism & Globalization

October 27th: Making Markets

Hochschild, A. 1998. *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa*. New York, Houghton Mifflin Company, Selections.

October 29th: Neoliberal Intimacies

Lewis, S. J. A So Black People Stay: Bad-mind, Sufferation, and Discourses of Race and Unity in a Jamaican Craft Market. *The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* Vol. 20, No. 2 327-342.

Week 10: The Commodity and Property

November 3rd: On Commodities and Other Objects

Map Quiz # 5

Pachirat, T. 2011. The Kill Floor. In *Every Twelve Seconds: Industrialized Slaughter and the Politics of Sight*. New Haven, Yale University Press, pages 38-85.

Optional:

Marx, K. 1884. [2009] The Fetishism of the Commodity and Its Secret. In *Capital Volume #1*, Penguin Classics, pages 163-178.

Pollan, M. 2002. "Power Steer." *New York Times Magazine*, March 31.

Blanchette, Alex 2015. *Heeding Species: Biosecurity, Posthuman Labor, and the American Industrial Pig. Cultural Anthropology*. Forthcoming

November 5th: The Political Lives of Property

Verdery, K. 1994. The Elasticity of Property: Problems of Property Restitution in Transylvania. *Slavic Review*, Vol. 53. No. 4, pages 1071-1109.

Optional:

Perelman, M. 2000. *Primitive Accumulation and the Game Laws*. Durham, Duke University Press, pages 38-59.

Cronon, W. 1989. Bounding the Land. *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England*, New York, Hill & Wang, pages 54-83.

Week 11: Labor & Value & Uneven Development

November 10th: What Makes Wealth?

Rofel, Lisa 1999. Rethinking Modernity: Space and Factory Discipline. In *Other Modernities: Gendered Yearnings in China After Socialism*, Berkeley, University of California Press, pages 257-284.

Bellamy-Foster, J. 2009. Adam's Fallacy and the Great Recession, *Monthly Review (MRzine)* 1-5.
<http://mrzine.monthlyreview.org/2009/foster200709.html>

Optional:

Arrighi, G. 2007. *Adam Smith in Beijing*. New York, Verso, pages 42-68.

Smith, A. 1982. *Wealth of Nations*. New York, Penguin Classics, Book 1, Sections 1-4
pages 104-130.

November 12th: What Makes Poverty?

Roy, Ananya. 2010. "Small Worlds" In *Poverty Capital: Microfinance and the Making of Development*. Routledge: New York, pages 1-40.

Optional:

Hall, S. 1992. The Rest and the West: Discourse and Power, in *Formations of Modernity*, Polity Press, pages 275–332.

Davis, M. 2004. Planet of Slums, *New Left Review*, *New Left Review* , vol. 11, no. 26,
pages 5–34.

Week 12: Democracy e3 Capitalism

November 17th: Debt

Map Quiz # 6

Graeber, D. 2009. *Debt: the First Five Thousand Years*. The Anarchist Library, pages 1-19.

Optional:

Sparke, Matthew. 2013. "Debt, Inequality, and Global Poverty Management" In *Globalization: Ties, Tensions and Uneven Integration*, Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, pages 165-177.

November 19th: Freedom & Democracy

Paley, J. 2004. Accountable Democracy: Citizens' Impact on Public Decision Making in Postdictatorship Chile. *American Ethnologist*, Vol. 31. No. 4, pages 497-513.

Optional:

Connolly, W. 1997. The Idea of Freedom. In *The Terms of Political Discourse*, New York, Blackwell Publishers page 139-179.

Week 13: Violence and Security

November 24th: War, Poverty and Racism

Gregory, D. 2011. From a View to a Kill: Drones and Late Modern War. *Theory, Culture e3 Society*, Vol. 28, No. 7-8, 188-215.

King, ML 1967. *Speech on Vietnam*. September 29th.

November 26th: No Class Thanksgiving

Week 14: The Geographies of Surveillance
December 1st: The Geographies of Surveillance

Map Quiz # 7

Foucault, M. 1995. The Panopticism. In *Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York, Second Vintage Book Edition, pages 195-230.

Optional:

Galison, P. 2004. Removing Knowledge. *Critical Inquiry* Vol. 31. No. 1, pages 229-243.

December 3rd: Rethinking Politics

TBA Final Exam Review

Final Exam: Friday, December 18th 8am-11am

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 Geography 10

IMPORTANT DATES

Map Quiz	Assignments Due	Exams
1. September 8 th	1. September 15 th	1. December 18 th
2. September 22 nd	2. October 6 th	
3. October 6 th		
4. October 20 nd		
5. November 3 th		
6. November 17 th		
7. December 1 rd		

