Unit I. Human Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives 5-10%

1. Geography as a field of inquiry
2. Evolution of key geographical concepts and models associated with notable geographers
3. Key concepts underlying the geographic perspective: location, space, place, pattern, regionalization, and globalization
4. Key geographical skills such as:
   a. How to use and think about maps and spatial data
   b. How to understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places
   c. How to recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes
   d. How to define regions and evaluate the regionalization process
   e. How to characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places
5. New geographic technologies such as GIS and GPS
6. Sources of geographical ideas and data: the field, census data, etc.

Basic Concepts
Changing attributes of place (built landscape, sequent occupancy)
Cultural attributes (cultural landscape)
Density (arithmetic, physiological)
Diffusion (hearth, relocation, expansion, hierarchical, contagious, stimulus)
Direction (absolute, relative)
Dispersion/concentration (dispersed/scattered, clustered/agglomerated)
Distance (absolute, relative)
Distribution
Environmental determinism
Location (absolute, relative, site, situation, place name)
Pattern (linear, centralized, random)
Physical attributes (natural landscape)
Possibilism
Region (formal/uniform, functional/nodal, perceptual/vernacular)
Scale (implied degree of generalization)
Size
Spatial (of or pertaining to space on or near Earth’s surface)
Spatial interaction (accessibility, connectivity, network, distance decay, friction of distance, time-space compression)
Geographic Tools
Distortion
Geographic Information System (GIS)
Global Positioning System (GPS)
Grid (North and South Poles, latitude, parallel, equator, longitude, meridian, prime meridian, international date line)
Map (Maps are the tool most uniquely identified with geography; the ability to use and interpret maps is an essential geographic skill.) Map scale (distance on a map relative to distance on Earth)
Map types (thematic, statistical, cartogram, dot, choropleth, isoline)
Mental map
Model (a simplified abstraction of reality, structured to clarify causal relationships): Geographers use models (e.g., Demographic Transition, Epidemiological Transition, Gravity, Von Thünen, Weber, Stages of Growth [Rostow], Concentric Circle [Burgess], Sector [Hoyt], Multiple Nuclei, Central Place [Christaller], and so on) to explain patterns, make informed decisions, and predict future behaviors.
Projection
Remote sensing
Time zones

Unit II. Population 13-17%

1. Geographical analysis of population
   a. Boundaries, aerial units and densities
   b. Scale and process
2. Population distribution and composition
   a. Factors affecting distribution
   b. Consequences of particular distributions
   c. Patterns of age, sex, race and ethnicity
   d. Responses to natural hazards: past, present, and future

3. Population growth and decline over time and space
   a. Historical trends and projections for the future
   b. Regional variations of demographic transitions
   c. Patterns of fertility, mortality and health
   d. Effects of pro- and anti-natalist policies

4. Population movement
   a. Major voluntary and involuntary migrations at different scales
   b. Short term, local movements and activity space

**Basic Concepts**

Population
Age distribution
Carrying capacity
Cohort
Demographic equation
Demographic momentum
Demographic regions
Demographic Transition model
Dependency ratio
Diffusion of fertility control
Disease diffusion
Doubling time
Ecumene
Epidemiological Transition model
Gendered space
Infant mortality rate
J-curve
Maladaptation
Malthus, Thomas
Mortality
Natality
Neo-Malthusian
Overpopulation
Population densities
Population distributions
Population explosion
Population projection
Population pyramid
Rate of natural increase
S-curve
Sex ratio
Standard of living
Sustainability
Underpopulation
Zero population growth
Migration
Activity space
Chain migration
Cyclic movement
Distance decay
Forced
Gravity model
Internal migration
Intervening opportunity
Migration patterns
   • Intercontinental
   • Interregional
   • Rural-urban

Migratory movement
Periodic movement
Personal space
Place utility
Push-pull factors
III. Cultural Patterns and Processes 13-17%

1. Concepts of culture
   a. Traits and complexes
   b. Diffusion
   c. Acculturation
   d. Cultural regions and realms

2. Cultural differences
   a. Language
   b. Religion
   c. Ethnicity
   d. Gender
   e. Popular and folk culture

3. Environmental impact of cultural attitudes and practices

4. Cultural landscapes and cultural identity
   a. Values and preferences
   b. Symbolic landscapes and sense of place

Basic Vocabulary Concepts of Culture
Acculturation
Assimilation
Cultural adaptation
Cultural core/periphery pattern
Cultural ecology
Cultural identity
Cultural landscape
Cultural realm
Culture
Culture region
   • Formal—core, periphery
   • Functional—node
   • Vernacular (perceptual)—regional self-awareness

Diffusion types
   • Expansion—hierarchical, contagious, stimulus
   • Relocation

Innovation adoption
Maladaptive diffusion
Sequent occupancy

Folk and Popular Culture
Adaptive strategies
Anglo-American landscape characteristics
Architectural form
Built environment
Folk culture
Folk food
Folk house
Folk songs
Folklore
Material culture
Nonmaterial culture
Popular culture
Survey systems
Traditional architecture
Language
Creole
Dialect
Indo-European languages
Isogloss
Language
Language family
Language group
Language subfamily
Lingua franca
Linguistic diversity
Monolingual/multilingual
Official language
Pidgin
Toponymy
Trade language

**Religion**
Animism
Buddhism
Cargo cult pilgrimage
Christianity
Confucianism
Ethnic religion
Exclave/enclave
Fundamentalism
Geomancy (feng shui)
Hadj
Hinduism
Interfaith boundaries
Islam
Jainism
Judaism
Landscapes of the dead
Monotheism/polytheism
Mormonism
Muslim pilgrimage
Muslim population
Proselytic religion
Reincarnation
Religion (groups, places)
Religious architectural styles
Religious conflict
Religious culture hearth
Religious toponym
Sacred space
Secularism
Shamanism
Sharia law
Shintoism
Sikhism
Sunni/Shia
Taoism
Theocracy
Universalizing
Zoroastrianism

**Ethnicity**
Acculturation
Adaptive strategy
Assimilation
Barrio
Chain migration
Cultural adaptation
Cultural shatterbelt
Ethnic cleansing
Ethnic conflict
Ethnic enclave
Ethnic group
Ethnic homeland
Ethnic landscape
Ethnic neighborhood
Ethnicity
Ethnocentrism
Ghetto
Plural society
Race
Segregation
Social distance
Gender
IV. Political Organization of Space 13-17%

1. Territorial dimensions of politics
   a. The concept of territoriality
   b. The nature and meaning of boundaries
   c. Influences of boundaries on identity, interaction, and exchange

2. Evolution of the contemporary political pattern
   a. The nation-state concept
   b. Colonialism and imperialism
   c. Internal political boundaries and arrangements

3. Challenges to inherited political-territorial arrangements
   a. Changing nature of sovereignty
   b. Fragmentation, unification, alliance
   c. Spatial relationships between political patterns and patterns of ethnicity, economy, and environment

Basic Vocabulary and Concepts

Annexation
Antarctica
Apartheid
Balkanization
Border landscape
Boundary, disputes (definitional, locational, operational, allocational)
Boundary, origin (antecedent, subsequent, superimposed, relic)
Boundary, process (definition, delimitation, demarcation)
Boundary, type (natural/physical, ethnographic/cultural, geometric)
Buffer state
Capital
Centrifugal
Centripetal
City-state
Colonialism
Confederation
Conference of Berlin (1884)
Core/periphery
Decolonization
Devolution
Domino theory
EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone)
Electoral regions
Enclave/exclave
Ethnic conflict
European Union
Federal
Forward capital
Frontier
Geopolitics
Gerrymander
Global commons
Heartland/rimland
Immigrant states
International organization
Iron Curtain
Irredentism
Israel/Palestine
Landlocked
Law of the Sea
Lebanon
Mackinder, Halford J.
Manifest destiny
Unit V. Agricultural and Rural Land Use 13-17%

1. Development and diffusion of agriculture
   a. Neolithic Agricultural Revolution
   b. Second Agricultural Revolution

2. Major agricultural production regions
   a. Agricultural systems associated with major bioclimatic zones
   b. Variations within major zones and effects of markets
   c. Linkages and flows among regions of food production and consumption

3. Rural land use and settlement patterns
   a. Models of agricultural land use, including Von Thunen’s model
   b. Settlement patterns associated with major agricultural types

4. Modern commercial agriculture
   a. Third Agricultural Revolution
   b. Green Revolution
   c. Biotechnology
   d. Spatial organization and diffusion of industrial agriculture
   e. Future food supplies and environmental impacts of agriculture

Basic Vocabulary and Concepts

Adaptive strategies
Agrarian
Agribusiness
Agricultural industrialization
Agricultural landscape
Agricultural location model
Agricultural origins
Agriculture
Animal domestication
Aquaculture
Biorevolution
Biotechnology
Collective farm
Commercial agriculture (intensive, extensive)
Core/periphery
Crop rotation
VI. Industrialization and Economic Development 13-17%

1. Growth and diffusion of industrialization
   a. The changing roles of energy and technology
   b. Industrial Revolution
   c. Evolution of economic cores and peripheries
   d. Geographic critiques of models of economic localization (i.e. land rent, comparative costs of transportation), industrial location, economic development, and world systems

2. Contemporary patterns and impacts of industrialization and development
   a. Spatial organization of the world economy
   b. Variations in levels of development
   c. Deindustrialization
   d. Pollution, health, and quality of life
   e. Industrialization, environmental change, and sustainability
   f. Local development initiatives; government policies

Basic Vocabulary and Concepts
Development
Agricultural labor force
Calorie consumption
Core-periphery model
Cultural convergence
Dependency theory
Development
Energy consumption
Foreign direct investment
Gender
Gross domestic product (GDP)
Gross national product (GNP)
Human Development Index
Levels of development
Measures of development
Neocolonialism
Physical Quality of Life Index
Purchasing power parity
Rostow, W. W.
“Stages of Growth” model
Technology gap
Technology transfer
Third World
World Systems Theory
Industrialization
Acid rain
Agglomeration
Agglomeration economies
Air pollution
Aluminum industry (factors of production, location)
Assembly line production/Fordism
Bid rent theory
Break-of-bulk point
Canadian industrial heartland
Carrier efficiency
Comparative advantage
Cumulative causation
Deglomeration
Deindustrialization
Economic sectors
Economies of scale
Ecotourism
Energy resources
Entrepôt
Export processing zone
Fixed costs
Footloose industry
Four Tigers
Greenhouse effect
Growth poles
Heartland/rimland
Industrial location theory
Industrial regions (place, fuel source, characteristics)
Industrial Revolution
Industry (receding, growing)
Infrastructure
International division of labor
Labor-intensive
Least-cost location
Major manufacturing regions
Manufacturing exports
Manufacturing/warehouse location (industrial parks, agglomeration, shared services, zoning, transportation, taxes, environmental considerations)
Maquiladora
Market orientation
Multiplier effect
NAFTA
Outsourcing
Ozone depletion
Plant location (supplies, “just in time” delivery)
Postindustrial
Refrigeration
Resource crisis
Resource orientation
Special economic zones (China)
Specialized economic zones
Substitution principle
Threshold/range
Time-space compression
VII. **Cities and Urban Land Use 13-17%**

1. Definitions of urbanism
2. Origin and evolution of cities
   a. Historical patterns of urbanization
   b. Rural-urban migration and urban growth
   c. Global cities and megacities
   d. Models of urban systems
3. Functional character of contemporary cities
   a. Changing employment mix
   b. Changing demographic and social structures
4. Built environment and social space
   a. Comparative models of internal city structure
   b. Transportation and infrastructure
   c. Political organization of urban areas
   d. Urban planning and design
   e. Patterns of race, ethnicity, gender, and class
   f. Uneven development, ghettoization, and gentrification
   g. Impacts of suburbanization and edge cities

**Basic Vocabulary and Concepts**

Agglomeration  
Barriadas  
Bid-rent theory  
Blockbusting  
CBD (central business district)  
Census tract  
Centrality  
Centralization  
Central-place theory  
Christaller, Walter  
City  
Cityscapes  
Colonial city  
Commercialization  
Commuter zone  
Concentric zone model  
Counterurbanization  
Decentralization  
Deindustrialization  
Early cities  
Economic base (basic/nonbasic)  
Edge city  
Emerging cities  
Employment structure  
Entrepôt  
Ethnic neighborhood  
Favela  
Female-headed household  
Festival landscape  
Gateway city  
Gender  
Gentrification  
Ghetto  
Globalization  
Great cities  
High-tech corridors