

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
SPRING, GEA 1000: GEOGRAPHY FOR A CHANGING WORLD

COURSE: GEA 1000

SECTION: 2238

INSTRUCTOR: Kofi Adu-Brempong

LOCATION: Williamson 100

LECTURES: MWF 8th period (3.00pm – 3.50pm)

OFFICE: TUR 3122. Office hours: **Mon 4pm – 5pm; Fri 1pm -2:30pm**

CONTACT: kadubre@ufl.edu

WEBSITE: www.clas.ufl.edu/users/kadubrem

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Disciplinary fragmentation and specializations sometimes give the impression that world problems could be packaged neatly and separately to be tackled by the relevant discipline (s). Thus, for example, economic development problems are ‘traditionally’ dissociated from their ecological contexts instead of taking an integrated approach. However, recent world problems such as global warming, climate change and adverse environmental consequences of economic growth, to mention a few; have made it imperative to re-think our ‘business as usual’ attitude regarding nature and humanity. This course seeks to help students understand the complex interrelationships between humans and socioeconomic processes on one hand, and the natural/physical environment on the other hand; from a geographic perspective. The approach emphasizes the ‘cyclical’ nature of the forces affecting the coupled socioeconomic-biophysical environment and how geographical analysis contributes to solving real-world problems resulting from these processes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Specific objectives of the course include:

- To help students gain a basic understanding of both socioeconomic and biophysical processes that interact to impact the earth and how humans respond to these challenges;
- To examine contemporary world problems in the context of their implications on human societies;
- To present the geographic/spatial perspective as a vital input for solving real world problems, irrespective of one’s disciplinary background or training.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Class attendance is critical in this course since your participation in class is important.

Whatever resources I give would be considered supplementary to class lectures and notes would not be made available anywhere else except in class. As a result course pack and /or any other materials do

not substitute for lectures. If obtain material for this class from any other source (s) not based on my recommendation, I will stick to my recommended sources and lecture materials in all eventualities.

EVALUATION/GRADING:

Evaluation for this course comprises of 4 exams. One period of class time will be allotted to an exam. **Note that even though I have all the exams scheduled on the course outline changes may be necessary due to circumstances beyond my control.**

However, should change (s) become necessary students will be notified in class or by e-mail. Scores for the exams will be distributed as follows: **Each exam is worth 25% of your grade.**

**Grades: A = 90% and above; B+ = 86%-89%; B = 80% - 85%; C+ = 76%-79%
C = 70%-75%; D+ = 66%-69%; D = 60%-65%; E = less than 60%**

TEXTBOOK/READING: There is no textbook requirement for this course. Readings will be assigned when deemed necessary and at the appropriate times during the semester.

responsibility to familiarize yourself with the University's *Academic Honesty Guidelines*. For further information please visit:
<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/honestybrochure.php>

COURSE PACK: A supplementary material has been put together as course pack for the class and is available for purchase at **TARGET COPY:** 1412 W. Univ. Ave. OR 3422 SW Archer Rd. Note: **GEA 1000 section 2285**

THINGS TO AVOID:

- **Talking with friends in class**
- **Cheating in an exam**
- **Cell phone ringing during lectures**
- **Absenteeism**
- **Habitual lateness to class**

ACADEMIC HONESTY: As a student of the University of Florida, it is your

COURSE SCHEDULE

Jan.....	7	.....	Class Intro, syllabus, etc.
"	9	.....	Warming Up! What is Geography?
"	11,14,16, 18	.....	Pop. Change & Eenvt. Impact
"	21	.....Mon.....	Dr. Luther King's Day - No class
"	23,25,28, 30	.....	Urbanization & Eenvt. Impact
Feb.....	1	.....	Urb& Review for Exam1
"	4	....Mon....	EXAM 1
"	6,8,11, 13	.....	Globalization & Eenvt. Impact
"	15,18,20,22	.....	Deforestation & Eenvt. Impact
"	25,27,29	.....	Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Man
Mar.....	3	.....	Earthquakes & Review For Exam2
"	5	....Wed....	EXAM 2
"	7	.....	Climate Change and Human
"	10,12,14	.....	Spg. Break - No class
"	17,19,21	.....	Climate Change and Human
"	24,26,28	.....	Desertification
"	31	.....	Des. & Review for Exam 3
Apr.....	2	....Wed....	EXAM 3
"	4,7,9,11	.....	Fresh Water Res.
"	14,16,18	.....	Introduction to GIS & Applications
"	21	.....	IntroGIS &Review for Exam 4
"	23	....Wed...	EXAM 4 - FINAL

Note: While every effort will be made to keep the above schedule circumstances may demand that some changes are made. I reserve the right, therefore, to make changes if deemed necessary. Students will be notified accordingly and on time.