

Geography 2420a
Economic Geography
2012
University of Western Ontario



Dr. M.B. Green Office: 2415 SSC
Phone: 661-2111, ext. 85025 email: mbgreen@uwo.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30
Teaching Assistant: TBA

Lectures Tuesdays, 9:30-12:30 SSC 3028

Text: There is no assigned text.

Course Description: The forces reshaping global economic geography; fundamentals of spatial economics; principles of locational decisions; spatial interaction; growth of spatial economic systems; examples are taken from a variety of countries.

Objectives: This course introduces you to the economic geography of the world economy. A basic understanding of the geography inherent in the concepts of population, transportation, locational decisions and globalization is provided. Course format: The course is lecture based with class discussion. Lecture attendance is vital. 3 lecture hours.

Prerequisite: 1.0 course from Geography 1100, 1300A/B, 1400F/G, 1500F/G or the former 020E, Economics 1020, 1021A/B, 1022A/B; MOS 1021A/B, 1023A/B or the former MOS 1020A/B. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Evaluation

There will be 5 quizzes of about 30 minutes each, and a final exam. I will only use the highest four of the five quizzes. The quizzes may consist of short answer questions, fill in the blank or multiple choice questions or a combination of all three. Computer graded multiple choice is also possible. Quizzes may contain questions on any material covered in the course up to date of the quiz.

Any computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams will be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

You have the option of having your course mark based on your quizzes only or the final exam and quizzes, but not both. The final for the course is a 'resurrection final', that is you can substitute your mark on the final examination for one-half of course mark. So if you do poorly on the quizzes all is not lost, you can take the final and partially 'resurrect' your course mark. I will assign your course mark on which ever of the 2 options gives you the highest course mark. You are not required to take the final if you are satisfied with your course mark based on your quizzes. The quizzes may be given anytime at the instructor's discretion during the 3 hour class period.

- 1) 4 Quizzes at 25% each with no final option
- 2) 20% each with the final option. Final worth 20%.

3) Quizzes missed due to medical illness will be made up during 2 scheduled makeup quiz sessions outside of regular class hours. The first makeup will cover material addressed in quizzes 1 to 3, the second makeup will cover material from quizzes 4 and 5. The makeup quizzes will be short answer.

This course follows the University of Western Ontario grading guidelines, which are as follows (see http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/general/grades_undergrad.pdf):

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work that is clearly above average

B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Quizzes will not be reevaluated after 2 weeks from the day the quiz was given.

4) Final Exam may be a combination of short answer, fill in the blank and multiple choice (2 hours): 20% with the final option

The final exam is cumulative.

In addition you are expected to **attend the lectures**. You can't learn the material if you aren't there.

No electronic devices will be allowed during the course.

You should also note that any marks in the course are considered preliminary until you receive your final mark from the Registrar. Adjustments of marks may be made before final submission to the Registrar.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf> .

No travel or employment plans should be made during the Final Examination time. In accordance with university policy, missed exams cannot be made up except on **written medical grounds** and notification **prior** to exam date.

Accommodation for Medical Illness

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Electronic devices may **not** be used during any portion of this course without the instructor's permission

EXTENSIONS, LATE ASSIGNMENTS, PLAGIARISM, ADDS/DROPS, APPEALS

You are advised to read the course calendar to familiarize yourself with the University's regulations and procedures concerning grades, regulations, penalties and appeals ('relief').

Plagiarism is unacceptable and those who do so will be persecuted to the fullest extent allowed under the University's regulations. Please avoid this experience and do your own work.

The date of the final examination is set by the Office of the Registrar and once confirmed will not be changed. If you consider that you have grounds to write the final examination on an alternate date, you must follow the procedure established by the Dean's Office and complete the appropriate forms. The same holds for dropping the course.

Should you feel that your final grade in the course is biased, inaccurate or unfair, you do have the right to appeal your mark. Be aware that marks may be raised--**as well as lowered**--through an appeal process. Please refer to the Western Calendar 2012, prior to doing so. It is very much in your own interest to seek assistance and adjustments as early as possible, and always in advance of the event.

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Western's commitment to accessibility

The University of Western Ontario is committed to achieving barrier free accessibility for persons studying, visiting and working at Western.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Code of conduct: Students in geography are expected to conduct themselves in a polite and civil manner. Students are reminded of the University Code of Conduct for Students: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf>

If you are having problems, **SPEAK UP!** I am more than happy to help you with difficulties you are having in the course. This help is conditional upon you doing your job. That is, you should read the text and study the slides before you come to see me. The session is much more fruitful if you have tried to understand the material first. I will not redo a class lecture because you didn't attend. Please attend the lectures, it makes everyone's life much easier.

Review and or read any material to be covered in a class **before** class. I assume you have done this when I present material.

Outline (provisional)

Sept 11: Introduction Film: *Credit Where Its Due*

Sept 18: Transportation in the World Economy, readings as assigned

Sept 25: Transportation in the World Economy, **Proficiency Quiz 1**, *Taken for a Ride*, readings as assigned

Oct 2: Transportation in the World Economy, readings as assigned

Oct 9: World Agriculture, readings as assigned, *Food Inc pt 1*

Oct 16: *Food Inc, pt2*, Von Thunen game, World Agriculture, **Proficiency Quiz 2**, readings as assigned

Oct 23: World Agriculture, Manufacturing and Industrial Location,, readings as assigned

Oct 30 Manufacturing and Industrial Location, In class location exercise, bring a copy of the assignment on manufacturing found in the readings section of the website, **Proficiency Quiz 3**, readings as assigned

Nov 6 Manufacturing, readings as assigned

Nov 13 Manufacturing, **Proficiency Quiz 4**, readings as assigned

Nov 20 Manufacturing, ,readings as assigned

Nov 27 Cities as Retail and Service Centers, readings as assigned

Dec 4 Cities as Retail and Service Centers , **Proficiency Quiz 5**, readings as assigned

TBA Final Exam