

GEOG 363V: Cultural Geography
Fall 2019
Room: Breland 185 // M, W 9:00 am – 10:15 am

Professor: Dr. Eric Magrane

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Office: Breland Hall, Rm 145

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 10:30 am – 11:45 am, or by appointment

Course Website: Canvas

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Office: Breland Hall, Rm 142

Office Hours: Tuesdays 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm, Fridays 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm, or by appointment

Course Description

In this course, we will consider the intersections between geography and culture, and explore key cultural geographic concepts such as landscape, place, nature, and environment. We will consider multiple ways of doing cultural geography, focusing on cultural geography as both a critical and creative practice. Key topics and themes that we will focus on include the cultural geography tradition, critical cultural geographies, and cultural geography and creativity.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to

- Understand critical approaches to the cultural geographic concepts of landscape, place, space, nature, and environment
- Discuss contemporary cultural geographic approaches to topics such as place and capitalism, place and nature, environmental narratives, and the Anthropocene
- Discuss and articulate the connections between geography and artistic/literary practices
- Articulate their own practice of cultural geography through multiple forms of output, such as place journals, visual essays, and traditional essays

Course format

There are two weekly class sessions and participation and attendance are required. These sessions will include a combination of lectures, class discussions, group exercises, in-class writing assignments, viewing of films, and presentation of work completed outside of class. Students taking this class are expected to be willing to ask and answer questions in class and participate actively in discussion and debate on the cultural geography topics at hand.

Course materials

Required text: Anderson, J., 2015. *Understanding cultural geography: places and traces*. Routledge. ISBN: 9780415734509 (Second edition)

Anderson's *Understanding cultural geography: places and traces* (hereafter UCG) gives a great introduction to cultural geography. You will notice that it is written largely from a British context; however, all of the concepts and ideas relate to us here in the U.S. Southwest as well. I will post the first chapter on Canvas; after that, you are responsible for obtaining the book. I will also place a copy of the book on short-term loan at Zuhl library.

In addition to this book, I will provide PDFs or links to other materials on Canvas. These materials will include pdfs of essays and articles, images, maps, videos, and websites.

Grading summary

Place journal	(200 points)
Project Assignment #1	(200 points)
Project Assignment #2	(200 points)
Short Writings & Quizzes	(100 points)
Final Exam	(100 points)
Presentation	(100 points)
Participation/Attendance	(100 points)
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Total	(1000 points)

A = 93-100%	A- = 90-92%	
B+ = 88-89%	B = 83-87%	B- = 80-82%
C+ = 78-79%	C = 73-77%	C- = 70-72%
D+ = 68-69%	D = 63-67%	D- = 60-62%
F = < 60%		

Place journals

As part of this class, you will be asked to keep a “place journal.” You will choose a specific place that you will visit at least once a week, and while there, you will make an entry about what you notice at the place from a cultural geographic perspective. More details on this assignment will be provided in class.

Assignments, Final Presentation, and Final Exam

Students will be responsible for completing two project assignments and giving a final presentation. More detailed instructions for these assignments will be provided in class. We will hold an in-class review session for the final exam.

Short Writings and Quizzes

You will have a number of short writings (either in class or out of class) throughout the semester. Quizzes on assigned readings may be both announced or “pop quizzes.” Short writings and quizzes cannot be made up.

Absence and Late Assignment Policy

Attendance in class is crucial and mandatory, and a percentage of the course’s grade is based on attendance. It is important to come to class on time; tardiness is disruptive to class. Two or more unexcused absences or late arrivals will affect a student’s final grade. Late assignments will be penalized 10% for each day they are late.

Electronic equipment in class (Laptops, phones etc.): Laptops should only be used for note taking or for course-related activities. Cell phones should be on silent and put away during class. Use of electronic equipment for social media, text, etc. is disrespectful and distracting to both the instructor and class peers.

Extra Credit

Occasionally during the semester, I will announce extra credit opportunities to attend geography colloquia or other related events. If you attend one of these events and write a one-page response to the event, you will receive 10 points extra credit. The most extra credit that a student can receive is 30 points total (3% of your final grade). The final day to turn in any extra credit is December 4.

Additional Academic Policies

Academic Misconduct

Academic and non-academic misconduct: The Student Code of Conduct defines academic misconduct, non-academic misconduct and the consequences or penalties for each. The Student Code of Conduct is available in the NMSU Student Handbook online:

<http://studenthandbook.nmsu.edu/>

Academic misconduct is explained here:

<http://studenthandbook.nmsu.edu/student-code-of-conduct/academic-misconduct/>

Discrimination and Disability Accommodation

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADA) covers issues relating to disability and accommodations. If a student has questions or needs an accommodation in the classroom (all medical information is treated confidentially), contact:

Main Campus

Student Accessibility Services (SAS)

Corbett Center Student Union Room 208

Trudy Luken, Director

575-646-6840

sas@nmsu.edu

New Mexico State University, in compliance with applicable laws and in furtherance of its commitment to fostering an environment that welcomes and embraces diversity, does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, spousal affiliation, or protected veteran status in its programs and activities, including employment, admissions, and educational programs and activities. Inquiries may be directed to the Laura Castille, Executive Director, Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator, Office of Institutional Equity, P.O. Box 30001, E. 1130 University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM 88003; 575.646.3635; 575-646-7802 (TTY); equity@nmsu.edu.

Title IX prohibits sex harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking and retaliation. For more information on discrimination or Title IX, or to file a complaint contact:

Laura Castille, Executive Director and Title IX Coordinator

Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) - O'Loughlin House, 1130 University Avenue

Phone: (575) 646-3635 E-mail: equity@nmsu.edu

Website: <http://equity.nmsu.edu/>

Other NMSU Resources:

NMSU Police Department: (575) 646-3311 www.nmsupolice.com

NMSU Police Victim Services: (575) 646-3424

NMSU Counseling Center: (575) 646-2731

NMSU Dean of Students: (575) 646-1722

For Any On-campus emergencies: 911

Withdrawals/Incompletes:

Withdrawals are your responsibility. The instructor will not withdraw or drop students from this class under any circumstances. Incomplete grades will not be given except under extraordinary circumstances related to serious illness, bereavement, etc. Documentation will be required in these limited circumstances.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed.

Statement of Inclusivity

An inclusive and respectful classroom environment is crucial to our success and is a fundamental part of higher education. This course supports elective gender pronoun use and self-identification; rosters indicating such choices will be updated throughout the semester, upon student request. As the course includes group work and in-class discussion, it is vitally important for us to create an educational environment of inclusion and mutual respect.

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the professor.

COURSE OUTLINE OVERVIEW
SUBJECT TO CHANGE: PAY CLOSE ATTENTION IN CLASS

Date	Topic and Readings	Assignments Due
W 8/21	Course Introduction	
M 8/26	What is Cultural Geography?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 3-17 • Read syllabus closely and come to class with any questions
W 8/28	The Cultural Geography Tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 21-47 • Place Journal Proposal DUE
M 9/2	<i>No Class: Labor Day</i>	
W 9/4	Place and Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 49-74 • Begin Place Journal Entries this week.
M 9/9	Meet at Zuhl Library Room 123 for Research & Assignment Workshop	
W 9/11	Sense of Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martinez: “Mornings in New Mexico” • Place Journal #2 by end of this week
M 9/16	Sense of Place, Representations of Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Writing DUE (Sense of Place, Representations of Place) • Wylie: “Landscape Tensions”
W 9/18	Place and Power (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 75-108 • Place Journal #3 by end of this week
M 9/23	Money, Movement, and the More-than-Human	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 109-133
W 9/25	Money, Movement, and the More-than-Human (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 134-150 • Robbins: “Political Ecology Intro” • Place Journal #4 by end of this week
M 9/30	Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 151-169 • Leopold: “Thinking Like a Mountain”
W 10/2	Nature (cont.) and Wilderness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hogan: “Dwellings” • Place Journals Entries 1-5 DUE
M 10/7	Culture and Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 171-216
W 10/9	Culture and Identity (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 217-231 • Savoy: “What’s in a Name?” • Place Journal #6 by end of this week
M 10/14	Place, Space, Language, and Representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savoy: “Placing Washington D.C.” • Kimmerer: “Learning the Grammar of Animacy”
W 10/16	Doing Cultural Geography in Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCG 253-277 • Place Journal #7 by end of this week
M 10/21	UCG Wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Assignment #1 DUE
W 10/23	Cultural Geography & Film	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place Journal #8 by end of this week
M 10/28	Cultural Geography & Film	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lukinbeal and Zimmerman: “Film Geography: A New Subfield”
W 10/30	Cultural Geography & Film	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Writing (Geography of Film) DUE • Additional materials on Canvas • Place Journal #9 by end of this week
M 11/4	Cultural Geography & Creativity: GeoHumanities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hawkins: “Dialogues and Doings”

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magrane: Sonoran Desert Excerpt • Magrane: “Applying the GeoHumanities”
W 11/6	Cultural Geography & Creativity: GeoHumanities (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GeoHumanities online gallery • Magrane: “A Poem is its Own Animal” • Place Journal #10 by end of this week
M 11/11	Cultural Geography & Creativity: The Map as Art & Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Canvas materials
W 11/13	Cultural Geography & Creativity: The Cultural Anthropocene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buckland: “Climate is Culture” • Anthropocene online links (see Canvas) • Place Journal #11 by end of this week
M 11/18	Geographies of Art & Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Canvas for materials including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maya Lin “What is Missing?” ○ 6&6 art-science ○ Curating the Cosmos ○ Subhankar Banerjee • Project Assignment #2 DUE
W 11/20	Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place Journal #12 by end of this week • Final Place Journal DUE
11/25-11/29	<i>No Class: Happy Thanksgiving!</i>	
M 12/2	Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
W 12/4	Presentations & Final Exam Review	
M 12/9	Final Exam: 8:00 am – 10:00 am	

Note: This calendar includes the due dates for the primary assignments for the semester; however, short writings or quizzes may be assigned that are not on this calendar. Again, this schedule is subject to change; stay tuned closely in class for updates!