

**GEOG 363V: Cultural Geography**  
**Fall 2018**  
**Online**

**Professor:** Dr. Eric Magrane

**Email:** magrane@nmsu.edu

**Office:** Breland Hall, Rm 145

**Office Hours:** August and September: by appointment; October-December: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, or by appointment

**Course Website:** Canvas (This course is fully online in Canvas.)

**Graduate Assistant:** Abby Boylan

**Email:** abby12@nmsu.edu

**Office:** Breland Hall, Rm 142

**Office Hours:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 am to 12:00 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, story maps, or visual essays.

### **Course format**

This class is completely online. Instructor or TA will respond to student emails as soon as possible; expect a response time within 24-48 hours (not including weekends/holidays).

### **Course materials**

The following book is required:

Anderson, J., 2015. *Understanding cultural geography: places and traces*. Routledge. ISBN: 9780415734509

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. In addition to this book, I will provide PDFs or links to other materials through which we will explore cultural geography. These materials will include pdfs of essays and articles, images, maps, videos, and websites.

## Grading summary

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Discussion Posts & Quizzes (12 at 40 pts)	(480 points)
Place journal	(200 points)
Project Assignment #1	(160 points)
Project Assignment #2	(160 points)

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Total	(1000 points)
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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%		

### Discussion Posts and Quizzes

Each week of the semester, you will have either a discussion post or a quiz due. Specific prompts will be given for the discussion posts. Posts should be about 300-500 words and will relate to the readings and cultural geographic concepts that we are learning. Students will also be responsible for responding to at least one of the other posts in their discussion group for that week. The posts will be located under “Discussions” on the course Canvas site and also accessible in each module. The first introductory discussion post will be due on Friday 8/17, with a response due by Monday 8/20. After that, initial posts will due by 11:59 pm on Wednesdays. Responses will be due by 11:59 pm on Fridays. Quizzes will relate to the reading or materials and will be “open book.” For the weeks that you have quizzes, they will be due by Friday at 11:59 pm. ***Discussion posts and quizzes cannot be made up.***

### 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 sense-of-place and cultural geographic perspective. More details on this assignment will be provided in Canvas.

### Project assignments

You will have two “project assignments” this semester. More specific details for each of these will be provided on Canvas.

### 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 (ADAAA) 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:

Trudy Luken, Director  
Student Accessibility Services (SAS)  
Corbett Center Student Union, Rm. 208  
Phone: (575) 646-6840  
E-mail: [sas@nmsu.edu](mailto:sas@nmsu.edu)  
Website: <http://sas.nmsu.edu/>

NMSU policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status.

Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation.

For more information on discrimination issues, Title IX, Campus SaVE Act, NMSU Policy Chapter 3.25, NMSU's complaint process, or to file a complaint contact:

**Lauri Millot**  
Title IX Coordinator

**Agustin Diaz**  
Title IX Deputy Coordinator  
Office of Institutional Equity (OIE)  
O'Loughlin House, 1130 University Avenue  
Phone: (575) 646-3635  
E-mail: [equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu)  
Website: <http://eio.nmsu.edu/>

#### **Other NMSU Resources:**

NMSU Police Department: (575) 646-3311 [www.nmsupolice.com](http://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

#### **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. Canvas discussion posts will not be accepted 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.

#### **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.

### **Extra Credit**

Occasionally during the semester, I will announce extra credit opportunities to attend geography colloquia at NMSU's Las Cruces campus or other related events. If you attend one of these events for extra credit 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). As this is an online course, I also know that not everyone will be able to attend colloquia in Las Cruces; alternate opportunities for extra credit will be provided in these cases if you contact me. The final day to turn in any extra credit is December 5.

**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 instructor.**

**COURSE OUTLINE OVERVIEW**  
**EACH WEEK'S MODULE WILL BE POSTED ON CANVAS THE WEEKEND BEFORE**  
**SUBJECT TO CHANGE: PAY CLOSE ATTENTION ON CANVAS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic and Readings</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
Week 1 (8/15-8/17)	Course Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductory Discussion Post</li> <li>• Syllabus Quiz</li> <li>• Obtain book</li> </ul>
Week 2 (8/20-8/24)	The Cultural Geography Tradition <i>UCG</i> 3-17, 21-47	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #1</li> <li>• Place Journal Proposal</li> </ul>
Week 3 (8/27-8/31)	Place and Power <i>UCG</i> 49-108	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #2</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #1</li> </ul>
Week 4 (9/4-9/7)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #3</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #2</li> </ul>
Week 5 (9/10-9/14)	Sense of Place -Martinez: "Mornings in New Mexico" -Additional materials on Canvas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #4</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #3</li> </ul>
Week 6 (9/17-9/21)	Money, Movement, and the More-than-Human <i>UCG</i> 109-170	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #5</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #4</li> </ul>
Week 7 (9/24-9/28)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #6</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #5</li> </ul>
Week 8 (10/1-10/5)	Nature, Wilderness, Political Ecology -Leopold: "Thinking like a Mountain" -Robbins: "Political Ecology Intro" -Hogan: "Dwellings"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #7</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #6</li> </ul>
Week 9 (10/8-10/12)	Culture and Identity <i>UCG</i> 171-250	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #8</li> <li>• Turn in Place Journal Entries 1-6</li> </ul>
Week 10 (10/15-10/19)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #9</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #7</li> </ul>
Week 11 (10/22-10/26)	Place, Space, and Representation -Savoy: "Placing Washington D.C." -Savoy: "What's in a Name" -Kimmerer: "Learning the Grammar of Animacy"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #10</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #8</li> <li>• Project Assignment #1 Due 10/26</li> </ul>
Week 12 (10/29-11/2)	Doing cultural geographies & conclusions <i>UCG</i> 251-277	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #11</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #9</li> </ul>
Week 13 (11/5-11/9)	Cultural Geography & Creativity // Geohumanities -Hawkins: "Dialogues and Doings" -Magrane: Sonoran Desert Excerpt -Magrane: "A Poem is its Own Animal" - <i>GeoHumanities</i> online gallery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #12</li> <li>• Place Journal Entry #10</li> </ul>
Week 14 (11/12-11/16)	The Cultural Anthropocene -"Welcome to the Anthropocene" website and video -Additional materials on Canvas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #13</li> <li>• Place Journal DUE</li> </ul>
Thanksgiving (11/19-11/23)	NO CLASS. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	
Week 15 (11/26-11/30)	No additional readings: Work on Project Assignment 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz/Discussion #14</li> </ul>
Week 16 (12/3-12/7)	Project Assignment 2 & Wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Assignment #2 DUE 12/5</li> </ul>