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## Syllabus: ***GEO 103 – Cultural Geography***

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| <b>Course Information</b>  |   |
| <b>Course Prefix/Number:</b> GEO 103<br><b>Semester:</b> Summer II 2020<br><b>Class Days/Times:</b> ONLINE | <b>Credit Hours:</b> 3 credits<br><b>Course Title:</b> Cultural Geography<br><b>Room:</b> ONLINE* |

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| <b>Instructor Information:</b><br><b>Name:</b> Dr. Jason Post, PhD. | <b>Phone/Voicemail:</b> (520) 383-0073<br><b>E-mail:</b> jpost@tocc.edu<br><b>Office location:</b> ONLINE via Zoom<br><b>Office hours:</b> Virtual Office Hours TBA and also by appointment via Zoom (Zoom.us Personal Meeting ID 523-232-1995) |
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| <p><b>Course Description:</b></p> <p>Examination of the human world from a geographic perspective. Includes an exploration of global issues such as population, food supply, geopolitics, and urbanization. Also includes industrialization as seen in the special combination of cultural, physical, historical, economic, and organizational qualities imprinted on the landscapes of the world.</p> <p>*As an online, summer course, this class will be fast-paced and writing intensive. Falling behind may have a catastrophic effect on your grade. Please ensure you have adequate time and computing resources to complete this course.</p> <p><b>Prerequisite:</b> Assessment at or completion of WRT 101 or signature of instructor.</p> <p><b>Credits:</b> 3 cr. hrs. (3 pds: 3 lec)</p> <p><b>Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC):</b> This course satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement (AGEC A,B,S)</p> |
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### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Define geography and cultural geography
- Explain what culture is, and how cultures develop
- Discuss your culture and the role of your culture in how you perceive the world around you
- Compare and contrast world cultures and their interactions with the environment
- Demonstrate use of an atlas and map reading
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of culture in human-environment interactions
- Explain current trends in human development, urbanization, and natural resource consumption

### **Course Structure:**

The class consists of lectures, discussions, required readings, assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Exams and quizzes test your knowledge and subject mastery. Discussions allow you to interact with your classmates and encounter differing perspectives. Reflections require you to communicate what you have learned, solve practical problems, and apply course material. Additionally, they allow you to develop your opinions and learn about how your own culture, experience, views, and biases affect how you see/interact with the world around you.

This is an online course. Discussion posts, and comments to your classmates are imperative to ensure communication, interaction, and dialogue between students and faculty. Participation is expected and graded/required. Video office hours allow students to interact with their faculty "face-to-face". Video office hours also allow for interactions and discussions between students.

### **Texts and Materials:**

*Goode's World Atlas 23<sup>rd</sup> Ed.* 2016. Pearson Publishing ISBN 978-0133864649

*The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography 13<sup>th</sup> Ed.* 2019. Pearson Publishing ISBN 978-0135116159

**Since this is an online course, you must have access to a computer with a reliable internet connection. Computers are available for your use at the TOCC Library.**

**Evaluation and Grading & Assignments:**

A = 900 - 1000  
B = 800 - 890  
C = 700 - 790  
D = 600 - 690  
F < 600

**Your grade will be determined by the following:**

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Syllabus Quiz                               | 10 pts          |
| Midterm Exam                                | 240 pts         |
| Final Exam                                  | 250 pts         |
| Participation and Weekly Discussion Posts** | 100 pts         |
| Map Quizzes                                 | 100 pts         |
| <u>Reflection Papers (3)</u>                | <u>300 pts</u>  |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                               | <b>1000 pts</b> |

\*\*Participation includes active interaction with other students through course discussions. Participation also includes responding to emails, asking questions, and attending virtual office hours.

***Himdag Cultural Component:***

This course will enhance Tohono O’odham Himdag by improving students’ understanding of the human world around them. This contributes to the Himdag principles of developing respect, honoring your own culture, and working together. World cultures and the human experience are explored. Students will learn about the role that culture plays in determining how and where people interact with their environment. This knowledge will enable students to foster better and stronger relationships with people of other cultures, understanding who they are, and their cultural discourses. Students will be able to engage in dialogue as informed citizens of a global society.

***Policies and Expectations:***

**Grading Policy**

I believe in fair and transparent grading. Student work is evaluated for completeness, accuracy and effort. All work must be submitted on time. You may discuss your grade and any concerns with me at any time. I do not curve grades in my classes. Please let me know of any major issues that may impact your course performance PRIOR to any deadlines. Emergencies happen, please communicate with me AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to discuss fair and reasonable accommodations. You may also discuss emergencies/personal issues affecting (or that may affect) your academic performance with your advisor or the Dean of

Students. I am always flexible and willing to work with you, provided that you have documentation for your absence. If you feel that you have been graded unfairly, please discuss this with me. Your rights to contest a grade are stated in the Student Handbook.

**NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCE.**

**Attendance Policy**

Since this is an online course, attendance is not possible in the same way it is in a face-to-face classroom. You are expected to login to your course Canvas page and check your email at least two times a day. Participation in discussions and virtual office hours is expected and required.

**Incomplete Policy**

Incomplete (I) grades are not awarded automatically. The student must request an "I" from the instructor who can choose to award an Incomplete only if all three of the following conditions are met:

1. The student must be in compliance with the attendance policy.
2. There must be an unavoidable circumstance that would prohibit the student from completing the course.
3. The student must have completed over 75% of the course requirements with at least a "C" grade.

Incompletes are not a substitute for incomplete work due to frequent absences or poor academic performance. Incomplete grades that are not made up by the end of the ninth week of the following semester will be automatically changed to an F if the agreed upon work, as stipulated on the written form signed by the instructor and the student when the I grade is awarded, is not completed.

**Instructor Withdrawals**

Students who have missed four consecutive classes (or the equivalent) not submitted any assignments nor taken any quizzes by the end of the first week, on **10 JULY 2020** are assumed NOT to be participating in the class and may be withdrawn at the faculty member's discretion.

**Student Withdrawals**

Students may withdraw from class at any time during the first **THREE DAYS** of the semester without instructor permission and without incurring any grade penalty. Please be sure to withdraw yourself by **9 JULY 2020** if you do not expect to complete the class, otherwise you may receive an "F" grade.

## Special Withdrawal (Y) Grade

The “Y” grade is an administrative withdrawal given at the instructor’s option when no other grade is deemed appropriate. Your instructor must file a form stating the specific rationale for awarding this grade. “Y” grades are discouraged since they often affect students negatively. Your instructor will not award a "Y" grade without a strong reason.

## Classroom Behavior Policy

All discussions, comments, responses, and interactions in the course are expected to be conducted in a responsible and professional manner. You will encounter differing opinions and perspectives. You will also encounter different cultures, languages, religions, and beliefs in this course. **Disrespectful behavior, bullying, or discriminatory/hate speech of any kind has no place in my classroom and will not be tolerated.**

Violations of the Student Code of Conduct (SEE STUDENT HANDBOOK), will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.

Students are expected to adhere to the **T-so:son** (core values). Students should ensure they:

|                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Are respectful</b>                | <b>T-Pi:k Elida</b>  |
| <b>Are cooperative</b>               | <b>T-I-We:mta</b>    |
| <b>Consider the group well-being</b> | <b>T-Apedag</b>      |
| <b>Honor core beliefs</b>            | <b>T-Wohocudadag</b> |

## Reasonable Disability Accommodations (Americans with Disabilities Act):

### *ADA Compliance:*

Tohono O’odham Community College strives to comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have a learning problem, physical disability, or medical illness that requires you to have any special arrangements, please inform your instructor at the beginning of the semester so your academic performance will not suffer because of the condition, or disability.

### *ADA Statement:*

Reasonable Disability Accommodations: Tohono O'odham Community College seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified individuals with disabilities. The College will comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable

accommodations as required to provide an equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to make known to the instructor his or her specific needs in order to determine reasonable accommodations. We will work together in order to develop an Accommodation Plan specifically designed to meet the individual student's requirements.

## **Title IX**

Tohono O'odham Community College faculty and all staff are dedicated to creating a safe and supportive AND INCLUSIVE campus. Title IX and our school policy prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex- this includes sexual misconduct; harassment, stalking, domestic and dating violence and sexual assault. Sexual discrimination and sexual violence can undermine students' academic success and quality of life on campus and beyond. We encourage students who have experienced any form of sexual misconduct to talk about their experience and seek the support they need. Confidential support and academic advocacy can be found with Alberta Espinoza, Counselor and Title IX Coordinator.

### *Title IX Statement:*

It is the policy of the College to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and its implementing regulations, which prohibit discrimination based on sex in the College's educational programs and activities. Title IX and its implementing regulations also prohibit retaliation for asserting claims of sex discrimination. The College has designated the following Title IX Coordinator to coordinate its compliance with Title IX and to receive inquiries regarding Title IX, including complaints of sex discrimination:

Title IX Coordinator Alberta Espinoza.  
Alberta Espinoza, Counselor and Title IX Coordinator  
Tohono O'odham Community College P.O. Box 3129 Sells, AZ 85634  
Phone: (505) 383-0033 Email: [aespinoza@tocc.edu](mailto:aespinoza@tocc.edu)

A person may also file a complaint of sex discrimination with the United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights regarding an alleged violation of Title IX by visiting [www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html) or by calling 1-800-421-3481

Please bring any instances of harassment, discrimination, bullying, hate speech, violence, or any other concerns that occur in the classroom to my attention immediately. These behaviors are not tolerated.

I have a strong commitment to ensure my classroom is inclusive and safe for everyone. All students in my classroom are welcome regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, creed, nationality, immigration status, gender identity or expression, sexuality, ability/disability, income, employment, veteran's status, age, opinions, or beliefs. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns about inclusivity in my classroom. If you feel concerned or unsafe for any reason, please let me know.

### **Academic Integrity Policy**

Each student must do his or her own homework and case studies. Discussion among students on homework and cases is encouraged for clarification of assignments, technical details of using software, and structuring major steps of solutions - especially on the course's Web site. Students must do their own work on the homework and exam. Cheating and Plagiarism are strictly forbidden. Cheating includes but is not limited to: plagiarism, submission of work that is not the student's own, submission or use of falsified data, unauthorized access to exam or assignment, use of unauthorized material during an exam, supplying or communicating unauthorized information for an assignment or exam. Plagiarism includes the failure to properly citing data or material that you did not collect or create yourself. When in doubt, CITE IT! Any issues of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. A finding that a student violated the student code of conduct or was responsible for an act of plagiarism or cheating, will be given a grade of F for the course. SEE STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY.

### **Disclaimer**

This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.

**Course Outline:**

| <b>Week</b> | <b>Date</b>          | <b>Topics</b>  | <b>Assignments</b>           | <b>Exams</b>   |
|-------------|----------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| 1           | July 6 –<br>July 10  | What is<br>geography? What<br>is culture?<br>The human world   | Discussion 1                 | Map Quiz 1   |
|             | <b>JULY 9</b>        | <b>Last day to drop (with full refund)</b>   |                              |  |
| 2           | July 13 –<br>July 17 | Languages,<br>religions,<br>ethnicities  | Reflection 1<br>Discussion 2 | Map Quiz 2   |
| 3           | July 20 –<br>July 24 | Natural<br>resources,<br>climate, water,<br>agriculture  | Discussion 3                 | <b>MIDTERM<br/>EXAM</b>                              |
| 4           | July 27-<br>July 31  | Urbanization,<br>development, and<br>the human<br>environment  | Reflection 2<br>Discussion 4 | Map Quiz 3   |
| 5           | Aug 3 –<br>Aug 7     | Political<br>geography,<br>colonization,<br>cultural issues<br>Himdag and<br>Tohono O’odham<br>culture | Reflection 3<br>Discussion 5 | Map Quiz 4   |
| 6           | Aug 10 –<br>11       | FINAL EXAMS  |                              | <b>FINAL<br/>EXAM DUE<br/>10 AUG by<br/>Midnight</b> |
|             | <b>Aug 12</b>        | <b>Final Grades Due</b>  |                              |  |

**TOPICS AND SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**