

GEOG 203 APPALACHIAN GEOGRAPHY

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Loretta Jean LeMay

TEXTS : Hollows, Peepers, and Highlanders. George Constantz, Mountain Press, 1994

People, Politics and Economic Life. Thomas Plaut 1996

Materials are available on WebCT

The Appalachian Geography course is a regional course which covers: the physiography and geology (topography, climate, water, soils, vegetation, mineral resources), settlement patterns, historical development, cultural diffusion, population characteristics, and economy (resources, manufacturing, and transportation).

Although the course is categorized as a lecture course, much of the class time is spent in discussion and debate. Discussion and debate are based on media presentations and assigned readings. Students will leave the class with three different areas of knowledge: an in depth knowledge of Appalachia, an understanding of how geographers perceive the world and organize data, and an understanding of core and periphery relations with regard to developed and developing regions.

GRADING

Assessment of the student's success in the course is based on the grades for two hourly exams, informal writing assignments, quizzes, a journal assignment, a formal paper, and the presentation of the material researched in the formal paper. In class informal writing assignments will be brief and will not be graded for spelling or grammar. The Plaut text is a workbook and these will be considered informal writing assignments and exercises will be graded for completeness, thoughtfulness, and proper English usage. **All assigned readings must be read before the first class meeting under which it is listed** as because we will be using active and cooperative learning techniques. To encourage this, each of the WebCT readings will have an associated quiz. The grades from the quizzes will form part of the informal writing grade. Journal assignments need to be a minimum of 4 double-spaced typed pages and fulfill requirements which will be discussed in class. The topic of the journal is "I am Appalachia."

Formal papers and presentations are to be presented in a professional manner. Papers must be typewritten, double-spaced and must conform to proper English usage with regard to grammar, syntax, organization, etc. The topic of the formal paper will be chosen in class and will be written and presented as a group project. Minimum paper requirements are 15 pages. A letter grade will be deducted for each day that your formal paper is late.

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| Two hourly exams | 40% | 90-100 | A |
| Informal Writing & Class Activities | 25% | 80-89 | B |
| Paper | 20% | 70-79 | C |
| Journal | 15% | 60-69 | D |
| | | less than 60 | F |

The midterm exam will be a combination of essay, short answer, and objective (multiple choice). The format of the final exam will be announced. **No makeup exams will be given and no late informal**

writing assignments will be accepted. Active Learning is an integral part of the course. Therefore, all reading assignments must be completed before class.

Assignments, Lectures, Topics, and Exams

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| 8/19-21 | Introduction, syllabus, etc. Appalachian Region and Toponymy Assignment Select one county in Appalachia and determine derivation of Place names. Film "Hamper McBee, Raw Mash." |
| 8/23 | Cook 124 Plaut Chapter I |
| 8/26-28 | Physical Geography (Physiography and Geology) Fossils and Topographic Transect Reading: Constantz Chapter 2 |
| 8/30 | Cook 124 Plaut Chapter II |
| 9/2-4 | Climate and Water Reading: Constantz Chapter 4 River and Eastern Continental Divide Exercise |
| 9/6 | Cook 124 Plaut Chapter X |
| 9/9-11 | Soils and Vegetation Reading: Constantz Chapters 3, 5,6,&7 (only 13 pages) |
| 9/13 | Cook 124 Plaut IX |
| 9/16-18 | Plants and Animals Reading: Constantz pp. 49 - 132 (sections to be assigned in class on September 13th. |
| 9/20 | Cook 124 Plaut III |
| 9/23-25 | PreContact Settlement, European Settlement Readings: Constantz Chapter 22 Readings: WebCT: Brice, "Westward from Virginia." Quiz Readings: WebCT : Otto and Anderson "The Diffusion of Upland South Folk Culture, 1790 - 1840." Quiz |
| 9/27 | Cook 124 Plaut Chapter III |
| | FALL BREAK |
| 10/2 | Stereotypes : Readings: WebCT: Ellen Churchill Semple "The Anglo-Saxons of the Kentucky Mountains." Quiz |
| 10/4 | Film: Ballad of a Mountain Man VT 1931 (No lab this week) |
| 10/7-9 | Population Characteristics and Migration |
| 10/11 | Cook 124: Plaut IV |
| 10/14 | MIDTERM |
| 10/16 | Agriculture and Economics Readings: WebCT Hart "Land Rotation in Appalachia." Quiz |
| 10/18 | Cook 124 Plaut V |
| 10/21-22 | Agriculture and Economics Readings: WebCT: Newman "Vines, Wines, and Regional Identity in the Finger Lakes Region" Quiz Buckwalter "Effects of Early Nineteenth Century Transportation." Quiz |
| 10/25 | Cook 124 Plaut V |

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| 10/28 | Film: On Our Own Land VT 1884 |
| 10/30 | Recreation and Tourism Reading: WebCT Foresta "Transformation of the Appalachian Trail." Quiz |
| 11/1 | Cook 124 Plaut VI |
| 11/4-6 | Journal Due (Wed.6 th) Manufacturing & Mining Class Exercise - Land Ownership and Environmental Problems Reading: Constantz pp. 189 - 206 |
| 11/8 | Cook 124 Plaut VI |
| 11/11 | Film: Chemical Valley VT1885 |
| 11/13 | Cultural Patterns - Religion, Language and Ethnicity |
| 11/15 | Cook 124 Plaut VIII |
| 11/18 | Cultural Diversity Reading: WebCT Price "The Melungeons: A Mixed Blood Strain of the Southern Appalachians." Quiz |
| 11/20 | Film: Nature's Way VT 705 (Paper due) |
| 11/22 | Film: Carson Springs VT 480 |
| 11/25 | Cook 124 Plaut VII Paper Due |
| 11/27 | Thanksgiving Break |
| 11/29 | Thanksgiving Break |
| 11/30 | Presentations |
| 12/3-7 | Presentations |
| 12/11 | Final Exam 8:00am |

HONOR CODE: By accepting admission to Radford University, each student makes a commitment to understand, support and abide by the University Honor Code without compromise or exception. Violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated. This class will be conducted in strict observance of the Honor Code. Refer to your Student Handbook for details.

Students with Disabilities: If you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the Disability Resource Office (DRO). The DRO is located in Room 32, Tyler Hall, telephone 831-6350. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper DRO forms and meet with the instructor no later than the second week of the semester.