INSTRUCTOR
Dr Grant Saff
Office: Barnard 200B
Phone: 463-5596 (my office), Department: 463-5592
Email: Grant.Saff@hofstra.edu.
Website: http://people.hofstra.edu/faculty/Grant_Saff/
Office Hours: Tues and Thurs: 12:35 – 1:05 PM, 5:15 – 6:15 PM or by appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
In this course, we will explore the multi-faceted subjects that make up the core aspects of human geography. Topics include the spatial relationships between people and places within contemporary economic and political systems; an analysis of why the world’s population keeps growing; issues relating to population migration; the various realms of cultural geography; the spatial distribution of industry and agriculture in a global economy; the role of trade and aid in the world economy; the location and changing nature of cities; nationalism and definitions of the state in a rapidly changing political world; and contemporary problems such as the Aids epidemic, the ending of apartheid, issues over resource use, deforestation and ethnic nationalism.

The desired outcome of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the main features of human geography and hence provide the ability to enable them to interpret geographic information wherever it may be encountered around the globe.

READINGS
The following reading is REQUIRED, and is available for purchase at the Hofstra University Bookstore:


Note: this book has its own website and also comes with a full copy of the text on CD ROM. Very useful information including online quizzes can be bound at: http://www.mhhe.com/earthsci/geography/fellmann7e/
It is strongly suggested that you make use of these online materials, including the very useful chapter quizzes.

I have also assigned various REQUIRED extra readings on important topics which are not adequately covered in the main text. These readings are available on ERES. You can access them on the web via the library or my website. The access password will be provided on the first day of class. Failure to access these readings will not be considered as an excuse for poor performance in exams or assignments.
The Additional Prescribed Readings Are:
David Harvey, "Monument and Myth" (1979) In Stephen Daniels and Roger Lee (eds), Exploring Human Geography.

Other reading maybe put on reserve as the course progresses.
On occasion my lectures may be supplemented with videos, slides or guest lectures. Questions on any material covered in these presentations can be asked in the exams.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students are expected to attend classes and to be on time. **THERE IS UP TO A 5% BONUS GRADE for students who participate** in class by contributing to discussions and raising questions (attending class is not on its own sufficient to receive more than a token bonus point). The importance of this bonus grade should not be underestimated, as 5 bonus points is sufficient to raise a student's grade by one whole category (such as a B- to a B). On the other hand, **more than three absences, chronic lateness, sleeping, making no attempt to answer direct questions, showing disrespect to the instructor or fellow students and/or creating any disturbances in class will result in the forfeiture of the entire bonus grade and could, under certain conditions, warrant further penalties or disciplinary procedures.**

Test material will be based on both the assigned readings and material covered during lectures (which may or may not be covered in the readings). In order to gain a firm grasp of the issues discussed in class, it is imperative that students **complete the required readings before class.** On occasion my lectures may be supplemented with videos, slides or guest lectures. Questions on any material covered in these presentations can be asked in the exams.

a) Exams and tests:
There will be **two exams as part of this course.** Each exam counts 30% towards your final grade. The first exam is during regular class time on **10/23.** The final exam will be held as per the Hofstra final exam schedule on **12/18 at 10:30 am.** *(during the exam week - If you want me to consider any requests for rescheduling due to examination conflicts, I must be warned at least four weeks prior to the final exam).*

While the exact format of each of the exams will be announced closer to the time, it is normally the case that the exams combine multiple choice and longer essay type questions.

b) Written Assignments:
There will be **TWO pieces of written work.** These will take the form of two short (3-4 typed pages) article reviews.

a) **Review 1** - Review of the introductory chapter ("Introduction: Wait Until Evening", pp. 1-21) of "The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York." (Robert Caro. 1975. New York: Vintage Books). What is the author's main contention in this chapter? What does it say about the individuals ability to shape the geographic environment? Do you agree with this position? **Due: 10/14.** (counts 12% of the final grade). **Due: 10/7.** (Counts 15% of the final grade)

b) **Review 2:** This review has two parts:
   1) **Review of Wills 'Conclusion: American Adam.'** What does he say is the central difference between European and US views on the city, and how does he feel that western movies (and John Wayne) fit into this? Do you agree with him?
2) A 1-2 page addendum that looks at how the central themes in the film, "The Man who shot Liberty Valance" relate to the above. (This film will be shown in class). (Counts 15% of the final grade). Due: 11/18.

Each review should first summarize the author’s main arguments (1 page), and then critically review the article, answering the set questions and noting if you agree or disagree with the author’s conclusions. Make sure that you provide me with your OWN opinions, not simply a summary of the article.

BREAKDOWN OF THE FINAL GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION:</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term exam</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Article Reviews</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Class Mark (when applicable)</td>
<td>up to an additional:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grades will be determined by averaging the scores obtained in the five components of the course. An A will be from 95-100 (an A minus is 90-94) and anything below 60 will be an F. An A is considered a reward for exceptional work, and as such will not be awarded lightly.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE POLICIES:

1) Students are required to respect other students and the instructor. Any behavior that may disturb the class or the instructor will be warned only once. A second offense would subject the student to appropriate disciplinary action.

2) Late assignments will be penalized as follows: 20% of the total points for the assignment will be deducted for each day the paper is handed in late (beginning immediately after class on due day). Plagiarism or any other cheating in a paper is a serious offence and will result in: a) The paper receiving a zero grade, b) The student being reported for a breach of academic honesty to the provost and c) if a very serious breach has occurred will receive an F grade for the course.

3) Exam dates will not be changed and make-up exams will not be given except due to a medical emergency on the part of the student. The procedure for getting a makeup examination is as follows: a) the student must contact me (by phone or email) prior to the examination notifying me that s/he will be absent and stating when s/he will return to class. If it is impossible to contact me prior to the exam, you are required to notify me as soon as possible, but before the next meeting of the class. b) On the day that the student first returns, s/he must come and see me in my office prior to class. At this time the student must hand me a note from an MD attesting that s/he was too ill to attend classes on the exam day (A note from a medical officer saying that the student was seen or complained of certain illness will not be accepted as a reason for missing an examination). c) If this note is found to be acceptable I will allow a make-up examination to take place at that time (not at a later date). In other words you should
be prepared to take the examination during the time period of the first class meeting after you return to school. Without proper documentation, a student will receive a zero point for a 'no-show' exam. d) No student who has not met with me prior to the first class after an examination will be given a make-up examination.

4) Anyone caught cheating in an exam (or for a paper) will be reported to the provost in line with the university procedures for a breach of academic honesty (it is important that all students familiarize themselves with Hofstra guidelines on this matter). It is likely that any student who is caught cheating in examination will receive an automatic F grade for the CLASS.

5) You are responsible for everything covered in class (and the readings), including any lectures you may have missed and any handouts. In the event that you may miss a class, you must copy any handouts and lecture notes from your classmates. No incompletes will be granted for this course.

6) It is your duty to check your email for messages from me. These email messages could relate to your specific performance or pertain to important class announcements. I will be using the email address that Hofstra provides to each student (and then gives to the instructor). It is your responsibility to know this address to familiarize yourself with the Hofstra email system (you can for example, automatically forward this email to another address). You should check your email prior to every class for announcements. I am not responsible for teaching you how to use the Hofstra computer system, please contact student computing if you need help.

7) The syllabus and other class documents can be obtained from my website http://people.hofstra.edu/faculty/Grant_Saff/

8) The best way to communicate with me outside of class times and my office hours is via email. I will endeavor to answer all email questions within 24 hours. You may leave voice mail messages for me, but this will be less efficient than emailing me. Please identify yourself in the heading of your email by name and by class. The heading should thus read: "A question from John Brown, Geog 106 sec 1". This will ensure that the message gets opened, rather than being deleted as spam.

9) You will be held accountable for any email that you send me. Make sure that you check for viruses before you send anything electronic submissions to me.

10) If for any reason you are having problems following lectures, cannot cope with the readings, or have any other problems with the course, it is your duty to bring these to my attention. I will be more than willing to help you out if you come to me with any course related problems. Any problems not brought to my attention will not be considered at an excuse for poor performance in the examinations or paper.
## COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic (s)</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction: Basic Concepts in Geographical Analysis</td>
<td>FGG Ch 1, Pattison, Thrift; Harley, FGG Appendix A, Agnew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Reading Maps, Types of Maps, GIS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>Cultural Diffusion: Language, Religion and Social Customs</td>
<td>FGG, Ch 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, Carney; Gordon, Harvey, Vidal de la Blache</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4, 5</td>
<td>Demography: Population and Migration</td>
<td>FGG Ch 4, Weiskel, Livernash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6, 7</td>
<td>Economic Geography:</td>
<td>FGG, Ch.8, 9, 10 Broad and Cavenagh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Economic sectors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Distribution of economic activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- The Global Economy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Patterns of Development/Economic Measures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, 9</td>
<td>Urban Geography and the Urban Challenge:</td>
<td>FGG, Ch.11, Linden, Fishman; Hayden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Urbanization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Urban Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Inside the city</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 11</td>
<td>Political Geography: The Nation, State and Ethnicity; the Colonial and Imperial Legacy</td>
<td>FGG, Ch. 12, Griffiths 7,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>South Africa and Apartheid</td>
<td>The Economist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Contemporary Environmental and Social Issues: The Endangered Ecosystem</td>
<td>FGG, Ch.13, Mabogunje</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Resource Problems/Review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>