

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**GEOG-102**  
**Elements of Cultural Geography**  
3 Semester Hours

**HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Description**

In Cultural Geography the student will be able to demonstrate how the surface of the earth has been changing during the time span of human occupancy and how, in using that surface, humans have grown and prospered by new technologies. The student will understand the differences between traditional and modern societies.

Prerequisite: Eligible to enroll in ENGL-121. (3 hours weekly)

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Describe the relationship existing between humans and society and their environment.
2. Differentiate and evaluate the positive and negative influences of human development on our physical world.
3. Describe the character and nature of the beginning and the eventual spread of humans over the earth.
4. Explain the relationship of environmental factors to the concept of cultural convergence.
5. Identify and explain the relationship and problems that are developing between humans and their environment in the future.
6. Develop an interest in reading and studying about the relationship of humans toward their environment.
7. Express an understanding of the spatial relationships resulting from the global patterns of language and religion.
8. Describe the spatial distributions and interactions of ethnic groups and the landscape evidence of ethnicity.
9. Examine the spatial patterns of industrialization and of production, distribution and consumption of goods and services.
10. Differentiate and evaluate the patterns of economic development seen across the global community.
11. Describe the evolution and impact of urbanization and its impact on the cultural landscape.
12. Evaluate political phenomena in a spatial context and the impact of political actions on society.
13. Demonstrate active listening skills by objectively restating, in his/her own words, material which has been verbally transmitted.
14. Demonstrate the physical ability to speak effectively so that the receiver(s) can understand. This will include diction, pronunciation, enunciation, pace, pitch, and volume.
15. Communicate an abstract or concrete idea so that the receiver(s) clearly perceives the intended message.
16. Effectively deliver a formal oral presentation in front of a group.

17. Demonstrate the ability to communicate using appropriate language.

## **Major Topics**

- I. Human Impact on the Environment
  - A. Spatial Interaction and Spatial Behavior
  - B. Population
  - C. Migration
  
- II. Patterns of Diversity and Unity
  - A. Folk and Popular Cultures
  - B. Language
  - C. Religion
  - D. Ethnicity
  
- III. Livelihood and Economy
  - A. Primary Economic Activities
  - B. Industry and Manufacturing
  - C. Service Industries
  - D. Urbanization

## **Course Requirements**

Grading Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Final grades will be based on unit exams, map identification test and at least two papers.

Writing: Specific writing assignments will be determined by the individual faculty member but will require at least 2500 words of formal writing. The papers required are expected to meet the minimum standard of proficiency. Periodically students will use writing in class as a means to learn, to integrate information, and to review what they have learned.