

GEOGRAPHY 1125 Resources and the environment

Discussion section, Autumn 2003
Syllabus, August 28, 2003

host: Robert Liebermann, PhD candidate in geography. My speciality is conservation and geography of the former USSR. Contact me at rjl@uga.edu

class info: <http://rjl.us/uga/1125/>

times: Thursday 10:15-10:45, 212 Geography Building

objectives: To stimulate discussion and thought on topics of environmental importance, and to broaden students' perspectives on local, national, and global environmental issues.

readings: There is no required text to buy for this discussion; all readings are placed on the UGA Library's website as downloadable pdf files. The password to open the pdf files is: **geog1125**

participation: You are expected to participate in class discussion and will be evaluated on the cogency of your comments, questions, and arguments. The idea is to enable you to be conversant on the issues, and to logically present and uphold your point of view.

grading: Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class and will be based on that week's reading. Each quiz will have 4 multiple choice questions. There will also be a discussion final exam. This will be in take-home essay format, and will be given during the final discussion meeting, and due the following week.

The grading will be done like this: Attendance and participation: 15 points, Quizzes (8): 32 pts. total, Current event article: 8 pts., Discussion exam: 20 pts. This makes a total of 75 points, and your percentage of this 75 points will be given to the lecture professor at the end of the semester to be calculated into your final overall course grade.

current events: Each student is required to turn in one current media article during the semester. Accompanying the article will be a 1-2 page summary and analysis of the article and its relation to one or more of the class discussions. The article should be from a major media source.

attendance: Mandatory; I will occasionally send around an attendance sheet to sign. If you have missed a class for any reason it's your job to find out about any announcements made or assignments given. If, for some reason, you miss a class for an unavoidable reason: please provide me with some type of documentable valid proof for your absence. If you have a conflict with the test dates (though I advise against it) you need to tell me well in advance of the date, and you will also need to contact the Office of Academic Assistance (542 3564) to clear a makeup time for the test.

conduct: Be attentive and civilized in class. Drinks are ok, but food is not. No newspaper reading, etc., is appropriate during class, and this includes the beginning of class. I encourage you to debate other students' discussion, or simply give your opinion. Remember, the grade depends on your involvement, so read the articles and come prepared to add intelligent discussion to the class discourse! There are no right or wrong ideas, but one should avoid "fluffy" dialogue intended to disguise the student's lack of preparation. Needless to say, there will be no cheating (as defined in UGA Scholastic [Dis]honesty Code)! I expect regular, on time attendance, since to arrive late will be a distraction for everyone. This course should be a lot of fun!

Schedule for Geography 1125 discussion, Autumn 2003:

This schedule is might change; if it does, I will make an announcement during class at least one week in advance.

Date	topic
Aug 28	Introduction to discussion and syllabus
Sep 04	Quiz 1, discuss issue 1
Sep 11	Quiz 2, discuss issue 4
Sep 18	No discussion - lecture exam 1
Sep 25	Quiz 3, discuss issue 7
Oct 02	Quiz 4, discuss issue 10
Oct 09	Quiz 5, discuss issue 16
Oct 16	Quiz 6, discuss issue 3
Oct 23	No discussion - lecture exam 2; current event assignment due!
Sep 30	No class - fall break
Nov 06	Quiz 4, discuss issue 18
Nov 13	Film and quiz: Water is worth fighting for"
Nov 20	Discussion final exam