COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course explores the philosophy, practices, and potential of Geography. We will examine what professional geographers and the public think about the discipline as well as your own geographic thinking. You will be reading, researching, writing, evaluating, listening, discussing, and presenting throughout the semester. At the same time, you will reflect upon what you have learned throughout your ‘journey through geography’ thus far and consider where you will go from here.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION
Global history of geographic thought and geographic thinkers; integrative exploration of geographic thinking in local, regional, and global contexts; overview of geographic methods past and present.

PREREQUISITES
GEOG 103 or GEOG 121; GEOG 106 or GEOG 200; GEOG 210R; GEOG 325; completion of Core Curriculum Objectives 1 through 8; junior or senior standing.

COURSE MEETINGS AND OFFICE HOURS
This course will meet from 11am to 12:15pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Mackay Science room 321. I encourage you to visit about any aspect of the course by stopping by during my office hours Tuesdays & Thursday from 1pm to 2pm or by making an appointment with me. My office is located in Mackay Science Room 302 and I can be reached by phone at 784-6344 or email at kberry@unr.edu

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
In this course students will meet two of the Silver Core Curriculum Objectives: #12 Ethics and #14 Application.

Core Objective 12 (Ethics):
Students will demonstrate understanding of the ethical principles in general or in application of specialized knowledge, results of research, creative expression, or design processes. Students will demonstrate an ability to recognize, articulate, and apply ethical principles in various academic, professional, social, or personal contexts.

Core Objective 14 (Application):
Students will be able to demonstrate their knowledge and skills developed in previous Core and major classes by completing a project or structured experience of practical significance.

More specifically, students in this course will:
- Explore the evolution of geography as an academic discipline among the fields of knowledge, the concepts that motivate geographers, and the ethical concerns that shape geographers’ work.
• Learn about the people who have shaped geographic traditions and those who are shaping its future.
• Evaluate the ways that different groups (professional geographers, the public, and students) think about and act on the significance of space, place, and landscape as well as about global, regional, and local interconnections between society and nature.
• Learn about the ideas, techniques and solutions that geographers have contributed to current global problems and local conflicts.
• Analyze ethical issues facing geographers today and how these are being addressed.
• Apply knowledge of geographic methodologies and theory by developing an original essay and presenting it at a professional conference in the discipline or a similar venue.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**
Students will be able to:
SLO 1: Define geographic thought, philosophy, and practice.
SLO 2: Identify and analyze ethical issues in the discipline of Geography (CO12).
SLO 3: Apply knowledge of geographic methodologies and theory by developing an original essay and presenting it at a professional conference in the discipline or a similar venue (CO14).

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**
Grading for this course will utilize the University's grading policy which allows for letter grades with the possibility of a plus or a minus (for example, it is possible to get a C+ or an A-). Your grade for this course will be based on the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>class attendance and participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>questions &amp; responses to the readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>essays (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>assignments (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250</td>
<td>attend the annual California Geographical Society conference and make a presentation based an original essay you write and attend other presentations</td>
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1000 points cumulative total possible

Points will be deducted for late work.

A plus/minus grading scale will be used:

- A 93-100%
- A- 90-92%
- B+ 87-89%
- B 83-86%
- B- 80-82%
- C+ 77-79%
- C 73-76%
- C- 70-72%
- D+ 67-69%
- D 60-66%
- F less than 60%
**CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION**

Attendance is expected for each scheduled class period. Bear in mind that missing a class period will affect both the attendance and participation component of your grade. If you are absolutely unable to attend class, you may want to contact your fellow classmates to get notes. Please keep me apprised of your situation. Your active involvement in the class is expected. Feedback and discussion are important to understand and assimilate the materials presented in this course.

**READINGS**

All assigned readings for this course are available electronically through this course on Web Campus. Check your access to Web Campus and let me know immediately if are having difficulties getting access to the assigned course readings.

Assigned reading should be done prior to the class assigned. For each of the assigned reading, post a question or comment on the Discussion Board in the course Web Campus no later than **9:30am on the assigned class day**. A posted question for each assigned reading is worth 5 points.

In addition, for each class session one student will be assigned to review all the readings questions posted on the Discussion Board and to present the summarized questions to the class as well as develop ideas about the responses to the questions. This will be worth a maximum of 25 points.

**ESSAYS AND CLASS AssignMENTS**

Throughout the semester you will be assigned three essays, each approximately 5 pages in length and worth up to a maximum of 100 points. The essays will be oriented around the assigned course readings, class lectures, and discussions. Guidelines and instructions will be provided for each essay.

In the first essay you will focus on the background, contributions, and legacy of an individual who was recognized for their contribution to geographic thought during the 20th century. In the second essay you will develop a nuanced argument about the status of a contemporary research framework, theory and/or method within a subfield of geography. In the third essay you will address ethical issues associated with Geographic Information Science or cartography. One of these three essays will be selected as the basis for your presentation at the California Geographical Society conference.

In addition there will be two assignments for this course, each worth up to 100 points. The assignments are designed to deepen your understanding of Geography and apply it to specific situations. The first assignment will focus on geographic fieldwork, distinguishing ethical issues from factual issues and demonstrating an understanding about how individual geography researchers may determine right from wrong from wrong. The second assignment involves developing a professional portfolio. Guidelines and instructions will be provided for each assignment.

**CALIFORNIA GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY (CGS) CONFERENCE & PAPER PRESENTATION**

As mentioned in the footnote in the course schedule, as part of this class you will be attending a conference in May. We will be going to the annual conference of the California Geographical Society at Humboldt State University in Arcata, CA. The plan is to leave Reno **early on the morning of Friday May 1** and to return **late on the night of Sunday May 3**.
At the conference you will make a presentation based on research you’ve done for an essay in this course. After receiving approval for which of the three essays to present, you will develop an abstract and submit this to the conference organizer. You will then prepare a powerpoint presentation. You will practice your presentation in front of the class so you can get feedback from both your peers and the instructor before the conference.

Participating in this conference also gives you the chance to learn more about geographic research and to develop networks in geography. Plan to attend at least three paper or panel presentations and then do a write-up about your conference experience. For the conference presentations you attend, take note of ethical issues associated with GIS, field work, globalization, activism, research frameworks or the environment (per our class lectures, discussions, and activities) so you can address these in your conference write-ups.

The conference write-up is due Thursday May 7 at 8am, the final period for this course. More detailed instructions will be provided about the conference and expectations on the write-up.

If you need a letter for another professor to let them know about your absence from their class, I am happy to provide this, just please let me know well in advance. We will be discussing the logistics and details throughout the semester, so stay tuned for more. If for some reason you cannot join us at the conference, please let me know no later than Thursday January 29.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS**
If you have a disability and will be requiring assistance, please contact me and the Disability Resource Center (Thompson Building Suite 100) as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodations.

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS SERVICES**
Your student fees cover the usage of the Tutoring Center (784-6801 or [www.unr.edu/tutoring/](http://www.unr.edu/tutoring/)), and University Writing Center (784-6030 or [www.unr.edu/writing_center](http://www.unr.edu/writing_center)). These centers can support your classroom learning.

**USE OF ELECTRONICS**
In consideration of your fellow students and the instructor, turn off cell phones, IPODs, and laptop computers during class time unless you have prior permission to use them or have been asked to bring them for work in class.

**AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS**
Surreptitious or covert video-taping of class or unauthorized audio recording of class is prohibited by law and by Board of Regents policy. This class may be videotaped or audio recorded only with the written permission of the instructor. In order to accommodate students with disabilities, some students may have been given permission to record class lectures and discussions. Therefore, students should understand that their comments during class may be recorded.
A NOTE ON PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism (copying all or part of someone else’s work and passing it off as your own) is a serious form of academic misconduct and will not be tolerated in this class. The following definitions and possible courses of action are taken from the Academic Standards section of the university catalog:

Academic dishonesty is defined as: cheating, plagiarism or otherwise obtaining grades under false pretenses. Plagiarism is defined as submitting the language, ideas, thoughts or work of another as one’s own; or assisting in the act of plagiarism by allowing one’s work to be used in this fashion.

Disciplinary procedures for incidents of academic dishonesty may involve both academic action and administrative action for behavior against the campus regulations of student conduct.

Academic action may include: (1) canceling the student’s enrollment in the class without a grade; (2) filing a final grade of “F”; (3) awarding a failing mark on the test or paper in question; (4) requiring the student to retake the test or resubmit the paper.

“The work of another” does not just mean whole papers or articles copied from another source. It includes any information, ideas, sentences, or phrases that came from somewhere other than your own head (i.e. books, articles, internet sites, videos, documents, lecture notes or handouts from other courses, and any other sources used in your paper). These must be properly acknowledged by providing references either in the text or in a footnote, along with a bibliography giving the complete publication information for all sources used in your paper. Even if you paraphrase someone else’s ideas and do not quote them directly, you still must acknowledge your source. Citations should also be given for little-known facts and statistics. Ignorance is not an excuse for plagiarism. If you are not sure whether you need to provide a source for a piece of information or how to cite a source, ask.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Topic</th>
<th>Assigned Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues. January 20</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Thur. January 22</td>
<td>The Geographic Advantage</td>
<td>Hanson 2004</td>
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<td>Thur. January 29</td>
<td>Interdisciplinarity &amp; Theory</td>
<td>Skole 2004; Cresswell 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. February 3</td>
<td>Building Knowledge in Physical Geography</td>
<td>Phillips 2004</td>
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<td>Thur. February 5</td>
<td>Guest lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. February 10</td>
<td>Famous Geographers of the Past</td>
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<td>Thur. February 12</td>
<td>Famous Geographers of the Past</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. February 17</td>
<td>Tobler’s 1st Law &amp; Spatial Analysis</td>
<td>Miller 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur. February 19</td>
<td>Maps &amp; Meaning</td>
<td>Caquard 2008; Pearce 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. February 24</td>
<td>Valuing Cartography</td>
<td>Harvey 2000; Brotton 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur. February 26</td>
<td>Applications of GIS</td>
<td>Goodchild 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. March 3</td>
<td>Guest lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur. March 5</td>
<td>Ethics &amp; GIS</td>
<td>Kwan 2009; Madden 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. March 10</td>
<td>Ethics &amp; Field Work</td>
<td>Porter 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur. March 12</td>
<td>Geography in Higher Education</td>
<td>Murphy 2007; Bauder 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. March 17</td>
<td>Spring Break – No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs. March 19</td>
<td>Spring Break – No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. March 24</td>
<td>Geographers at Work</td>
<td>Gewin 2004; Crosby 2005</td>
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<td>Thur. March 26</td>
<td>Guest lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. March 31</td>
<td>Observing Landscapes</td>
<td>Stilgoe 2005</td>
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<td>Thur. April 2</td>
<td>Integration with Humanities &amp; Arts</td>
<td>Tuan 2004</td>
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<td>Tues. April 7</td>
<td>Globalizing Political Economies</td>
<td>Kolossov 2004; Florida 2009</td>
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<td>Thur. April 9</td>
<td>Globalization &amp; Ethics</td>
<td>Wood 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1 Essay #1 guidelines distributed
2 Essay #1 due
3 Essay #2 guidelines distributed
4 Essay #2 due
5 Essay #3 guidelines distributed
6 Essay #3 due
7 Assignment #1 guidelines distributed
8 Assignment #1 due
9 Assignment #2 guidelines distributed
Tues. April 14  Geography, Ethics & Activism  Maantay 2004; Bello 2008
Thur. April 16\textsuperscript{10}  Research Frameworks & Ethics  Staeheli 2005; Harden 2012

Tues. April 21  Environmental Ethics  Liverman 2004; Schmidt 201
Thur. April 23  No class – AAG conference  ----

Tues. April 28  Practice CGS presentations  ----
Thur. April 30  Practice CGS presentations  ----

Fri. May 1- Sun May 3 CGS conference at Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA

Tues. May 5  Conference Debriefing  ----
Thurs May 7 8-10am  Finals period, CGS write-ups due  ----

\textsuperscript{10} Assignment #2 due
ASSIGNED READINGS


Harvey, Miles. 2000. *The Island of Lost Maps: A True Story of Cartographic Crime* [ch. 4-6, p. 78-133].


