![Miami Dade College]

Course Description
GEO2420 |Introduction to Cultural Geography | 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to cultural geography and is structured around the five basic themes in geography: location, place, human-environment interaction, movement and regions. The student will be exposed to the differences between places, the dynamic aspects of culture and the physical environment. Lastly, the course will heighten the student's awareness of the visible expressions of culture and landscape.

Competency 1:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of the field of geography by:
- Examining the various areas of geography, including physical, human, regional, and topical geographies
- Describing the academic evolution of the discipline of geography
- Discussing the various functions and jobs performed by geographers

Learning Outcomes:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Social Responsibility
- Ethical Issues

Competency 2:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of the location of populations and of the causes and consequences of migrations by:
- Identifying the current distribution of world populations
- Debating the issue of whether there is a global overpopulation problem
- Listing the causes of migration from a country and within a country

Learning Outcomes:
Communication
Critical Thinking
Information Literacy
Cultural/Global Perspective
Social Responsibility
Ethical Issues

Competency 3:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of language in the development of culture by:
- Explaining how language develops
- Identifying the main type of language families
- Analyzing how language and culture impact on each other

Learning Outcomes:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Social Responsibility
- Ethical Issues

Competency 4:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of religion in society by:
- Examining the origins of religion
- Identifying the types of religion and their distribution globally
- Analyzing the relation of religion to the overall culture and to the physical environment

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- Describing the role of religion in human liberation and oppression, as well as in war and peace.

Learning Outcomes:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Social Responsibility
- Ethical Issues

Competency 5:

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the cultural role played by social customs by:
- Analyzing the impact of climate and other aspects of physical geography on social customs
- Describing how cultural evolution and diffusion take place.
- Identifying the factors which create unique folk regions.
- Examining the variables which influence the distribution of popular customs, and the interaction or convergence of popular culture.

Learning Outcomes:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Social Responsibility
- Ethical Issues

Competency 6:

The student will demonstrate an understanding of political geography by:
- Identifying the many sources of human collective identity, such as families, clans, tribes, cities, empires, religions, states and nations
- Analyzing the differences between states and nations
- Describing the causes of intra and interstate cooperation and conflict
- Discussing the different ways of classifying states, and understanding the efforts to transcend state jurisdiction.
- Examining the causes of state prosperity and poverty

Learning Outcomes:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Social Responsibility
- Ethical Issues

Competency 7:

The student will demonstrate an understanding of culture and political economy by:
- Describing the nature of pre-agricultural and agricultural societies
- Examining the rise of industrial and service societies
- Analyzing the nature of the new information and technology economies and societies

Learning Outcomes:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Cultural/Global Perspective
- Social Responsibility
- Ethical Issues