

Purpose: Despite our common-sense notions about geography and nature, the spatial arrangement of our world is not the result of natural processes but the outcome of human struggles about the position of borders, the extent of territory, and authority over territories. In this course, we will investigate these struggles and their impact on today's global relations. Special attention will be given to the spatial nature of the state, the role geography has played in the power politics of major states, and future scenarios in a world in which the territorial aspirations of political communities clash with the globalizing flows of economic and cultural activities.

Learning Goals: Understand the social nature of space; comprehend the impact of spatial arrangements on the way human beings act and react; grasp the role of human beings in creating social spaces.

Principles:

- *Integrity* – we will conduct ourselves with authenticity, sincerity and wholeness.
- *Failure Leads to Success* – failures provide us with opportunities for learning, therefore, there are no failures, only outcomes and feedback.
- *Speak with Good Purpose* – we will speak in a positive sense, be responsible for honest and direct communication and avoid gossip and harmful communications.
- *This Is It* – we will focus our attention on the present moment and give each task our best effort.
- *Commitment* – we will follow through on promises and obligations and do whatever it takes to get the job done.
- *Ownership* – we will take responsibility and be accountable for our actions.
- *Flexibility* – we will be open to change and try a new approach if it helps us get to the desired outcome.
- *Balance* – we will keep our mind, body and spirit in alignment.

Policies:

- I expect you to be in class. If you must miss a class for a valid reason, please inform me beforehand either via email or telephone call. You may not miss more than two classes.
- Punctuality is important. Class begins at 9:55am sharp. Please inform me beforehand if you must be late.
- All written assignments must be formatted as follows:
 - 1 “ margin all around
 - Double spaced
 - Times Roman font, 12pt size
 - Parenthetical references with bibliography – (Jones 1999, p. 23).
- Assignments are due at midnight on the designated day.
- Please read the sections regarding intellectual honesty in your student handbook. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense!

Rules: You will complete the following assignments:

Two exams = 50%

One research paper = 30%

Attendance, Preparation and Participation = 20%

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Outline:

Sept. 5-7 Orientation & Introduction
Readings: Barnett

Thinking About Space and Time

Sept. 12 What is Political Geography?
Readings: Jones, ch. 1, O Tuathail, chs. 1-3

Sept. 14 Maps
Readings: Wood, Olson

Sept. 19 Social Space
Readings: Soja

Sept. 21 Time
Readings: Thrift, Pred

The State, Globalization and Space

Sept. 26 What is the State?
Readings: Jones, ch. 2, Tilly

Sept. 28 States and Territoriality
Readings: Agnew, Ó Tuathail, chs. 7,9,10,12,13

Oct. 3 Globalization and the State
Readings: Jones, ch. 3, Ó Tuathail, chs., 15, 17

Oct. 5 Globalization and the State, cont.
Readings: Ellwood (all but ch. 7)

Oct. 12 Open Session

Oct. 17 Changing Roles of the State
Readings: Jones, ch. 4, Harvey

Oct. 19 Changing Roles of the State

Readings: Peck & Tickell, Castells

Oct. 24 Exam!

Spaces of Identity

Oct. 26 The Nation
Readings: Jones, ch. 5, Renan, Anderson

Oct. 31 The Nation, cont.
Readings: Balibar, McClintock

Nov. 2 Places of Identity
Readings: Jones, ch. 6, Massey

Nov. 7 Global Places
Readings: Davis, Ó Tuathail, chs. 21-24

Contemporary Issues

Nov. 9 Post-modern local spaces
Readings: Flusty, Blakeley, Maher

Nov. 14-16 Spaces of Exception
Readings: Gregory

Nov. 21-28 The New Geopolitics
Readings: Project for the New American Century, Dalby

Nov. 30 Anti-Geopolitics
Readings: Ó Tuathail, chs. 34, 36, 38, Ellwood, ch. 7

Dec. 5 Student Presentations
Term Project Due

Dec. 7 Student Presentations

Readings

Books:

Ellwood, W. *The No-Nonsense Guide to Globalization*. London: Verso 2003

Jones, M., et al. *An Introduction to Political Geography*. London: Routledge, 2004

Ó Tuathail, G., et al. *The Geopolitics Reader*. London: Routledge, 1998.

Articles:

Agnew, J. and S. Corbridge. *Mastering Space*. New York: Routledge, 1995, pp. 78-100.

- Anderson, B. "Census, Map, Museum." *Beyond the Nation*, edited by G. Eley and R. G. Suny. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996, 243-58.
- Balibar, E. "The Nation Form: History and Ideology." *Beyond the Nation*, edited by G. Eley and R. G. Suny. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996, 132-49.
- Blakeley, E. and M.S. Snyder. "Divided We Fall." *Architecture of Fear*, edited by Nan Elin. Princeton: Princeton Architectural Press, 1997, 85-99.
- Barnett, L. *The Universe and Dr. Einstein*. Mineola: Dover Publications, 1948, 37-72.
- Castells, M. *The Rise of the Network Society*. Malden: Blackwell Publishers, 1996, pp. 201-79.
- Dalby, S. *Geopolitics, Grand Strategy and the Bush Doctrine*. September 2005.
- Davis, M. "Planet of Slums." *New Left Review* 26, 2004, 5-34.
- Flusty, S. "Building Paranoia." *Architecture of Fear*, edited by Nan Elin. Princeton: Princeton Architectural Press, 1997, 47-59.
- Gregory, D. "The Black Flag." 2006.
- Harvey, D. *The Condition of Postmodernity*. Cambridge: Blackwell Publishers, 1989, pp. 125-72.
- Maher, K. H. "Borders and Social Distinction in the Global Suburb." *American Quarterly* 56, 2004, 781-806.
- Massey, D. "A Global Sense of Place." *Space, Place, and Gender*, edited by D. Massey. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1994, pp. 146-56.
- McClintock, A. "No Longer in a Future Heaven': Nationalism, Gender and Race." *Beyond the Nation*, edited by G. Eley and R. G. Suny. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996, 260-84.
- Olson, J. "Map Projections and the Visual Detective." *Journal of Geography* 105, 2006, 13-32.
- Peck, J. and A. Tickell. "Searching for a New Institutional Fix: the After-Fordist Crisis and the Global-Local Disorder." *Post-Fordism – A Reader*, edited by A. Amin. Cambridge: Blackwell, 1994, 280-315.
- Pred, A. "Power, Everyday Practice and Human Geography." *Space and Time in Geography*, edited by A. Pred. Lund: WIC Gleerup, 1981, 30-55.
- Project for a New American Century. *Rebuilding America's Defenses*. September 2006.
- Renan, E. "What is a Nation?" *Beyond the Nation*, edited by G. Eley and R. G. Suny. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996, 42-55.
- Soja, E. *ThirdSpace. Journeys to Los Angeles and other Real-and-Imagined Places*. Cambridge: Blackwell Publishers, 1996, pp. 53-82.
- Thrift, N. "Owner's Time and Own Time: The Making of a Capitalist Time Consciousness, 1300-1880." *Space and Time In Geography*, edited by A. Pred. Lund: Gleerup 1981, 56-84.
- Tilly, C. "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime." *Bringing the State Back In*, edited by T. Evans et al. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985, pp. 169-91.
- Wood, D. *The Power of Maps*. New York: Guilford Press, 1992, pp. 4-27.