

**WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER COLLEGE**  
**BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION**  
**GENERAL COURSE OUTLINE**

GEG	210	Economic Geography	(3-0)	3
Course Prefix	Course Number	Course Title	Lec-Lab	Credit Hours

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Studies the spatial distribution and interaction of economic activities. Emphasis is on land use patterns, population movement, the principles governing the location of agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial centers, and the impact of economic activity on the environment.

**TOPICAL OUTLINE**

- I. An Introduction to Economic Geography
  - A. The Field of Economic Geography
  - B. Alternative World Views/Alternative Solutions
  - C. Resources
    1. population and the world economy
    2. resources and the environment
    3. technology and development
- II. Spatial Interaction
  - A. Principles of Spatial Interaction
  - B. Transportation and Transport Costs
- III. The City in Economic Activity (Tertiary Activities)
  - A. Urban Land Use
  - B. The Location of Tertiary Activities
- IV. Industrial Location (Secondary Activities)
  - A. Industrial Location: Firms
  - B. Industrial Location: Regional Patterns
- V. The Geography of Agriculture (Primary Activities)
  - A. World Agricultural Patterns
  - B. Agricultural Location Theory
- VI. International Trade
  - A. International Trade Theory
  - B. International Trade Patterns

**METHOD OF PRESENTATION**

1. Lecture
2. Audio-visual presentations
3. Cooperative learning groups
4. Small group discussions

**STUDENT OUTCOMES** (The student should . . . )

1. Describe the issues studied and the approaches used in the study of economic geography.
2. Understand how different ideological views of the world result in different explanations of reality.
3. Examine the causes and effects of world population patterns, growth, and migration.
4. Describe the nature, distribution, and limits of the world's resources, and analyze the causes and consequences of world food problems, the "energy crisis," and environmental degradation.
5. Explain the nature and distribution of technology, the attributes of development and underdevelopment, and the major development theories.
6. Utilize the principles of spatial interaction to explain the spatial structure of an area.
7. Utilize cost/distance graphs and maps to illustrate locational choices.
8. Describe and explain urban and land use patterns.

9. Understand and apply central-place theory, and identify modifications of the theory.
10. Describe the general location factors and utilize the theories of plant location to explain industrial location.
11. Locate the world's major manufacturing regions; describe and explain changes in the location of major industrial regions; and examine problems associated with industrialization.
12. Characterize and explain world agricultural patterns.
13. Explain Von Thünen's location theory for commercial agricultural systems and apply the theory at the local, regional, national, and international scales.
14. Explain the bases for international trade, examine the effects of barriers to such trade, and identify current trends in international trade policy.
15. Describe the evolving pattern of international commerce.

### **METHOD OF EVALUATION**

1. Quizzes and exams
2. Written reports relating to individual assignments and cooperative learning activities
3. Problem sets/assignments
4. Map interpretation and map construction exercises
5. Final exam

### **TEXTBOOK**

Stutz/deSouza, The World Economy: Resources, Location, Trade and Development, 3rd edition, Prentice Hall, 1998.

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Fall, 2007