

Professor Leichenko  
Spring 2007

## **Economic Geography 309**

Course Web Materials at Sakai: <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

### **Overview**

This course provides an introduction to the field of economic geography. The course explores processes driving spatial patterns of economic activity at the global, national, regional and urban scales. Topic areas include economic globalization, resources and agriculture, industrial location, urban economies, international trade, and regional development. A lecture and discussion format is used in the class. Class attendance and participation in class discussion are mandatory.

### **Times and Places**

Class: MW 3:20-4:40 B266 Lucy Stone Hall

### **Contact Information**

Professor Robin Leichenko

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Office: B-220 Lucy Stone Hall

Office Hours: Wednesday, 1:00- 3:00 or by appointment

### **General Requirements**

Requirements for the course include attendance and participation in class, two exams, and three exercises. We will use the computer facilities in the Geography teaching lab for the course exercises (see below for information on teaching lab computer accounts). Course readings will come from the class text and, occasionally, from additional materials distributed in class or on-line. Exams will be based on the materials presented in lectures, the required readings, and the course exercises.

### **Computer Accounts**

This course requires students to purchase a computer account in the Geography teaching lab. There is a \$20.00 lab fee for this account. This fee provides access to specialized GIS software that is not available in the public computer labs. The fee also includes black and white and color printing. Sign-up forms will be distributed on the first day of class and must be returned with the \$20.00 fee during the second week of class. Students who are enrolled in more than one geography class with a lab in the same semester only need to pay the lab fee for one of the classes.

### **Class Text**

*The World Economy : Resources, Location, Trade and Development*  
by Frederick P. Stutz and Barney Warf. 5th edition (2007).

### **Grading**

The exams will count for 60 percent of the course grade as follows: Midterm 1 (30 percent); Midterm 2 (30 percent). The exercises will count for 30 percent of the course grade: Exercise 1 (10 percent); Exercise 2 (10 percent); Exercise 3 (10 percent). Attendance, class participation, and group presentations will count for the remaining 10 percent of the course grade.

### **Exam Schedule**

Exams must be taken on the scheduled date. In the event of illness (which must be documented in writing) or religious observance, a make-up exam will be given. The format of the make-up exam will be at the discretion of the instructor.

**Midterm 1: March 5**

**Midterm 2: April 18**

### **Exercises and Due Dates**

The first two exercises will require students to work individually. Exercise 3 will entail working in small groups and presenting the results of your group work to the class. Write-ups for all three exercises must be individual and must contain your own words and thoughts. University policies on plagiarism will be strictly adhered to. Exercise write-ups should be brought to class on the due date. Late exercises will not be accepted except in the event of illness or religious observance (which must be documented in writing).

**Exercise 1: Feb 28**

**Exercise 2: April 9**

**Exercise 3: April 31**

**In-class presentations of exercise 3 is also April 31**

### **Classroom Etiquette**

Cell phones (including text messaging) must be turned off while you are in the classroom. Computers are not to be used for non class-related purposes during class time.

## **Economic Geography 309 Geography Lecture Topic Areas and Assigned Readings**

Assigned readings should be read in preparation for the classes in which they are discussed.

*(Chapters refer to Stutz and Warf textbook)*

Week 1 (Jan 17) Economic Geography: An Introduction

Week 2 (Jan 22, Jan 24) Globalization  
*Chapter 1, Chapter 2*

Week 3 (Jan 29, Jan 31) Key Terms: Geography, Economics and Economic Geography  
*Chapter 1 and 2*

Week 4 (Feb 5, Feb 7) Demographics and Resources

*Chapter 3 and 4*

Week 5 (Feb 12, Feb 14) Agriculture  
*Chapter 6*

Week 6 (Feb 19, Feb 21) Location Theory  
*Chapter 5*

Week 7 (Feb 26, **Feb 28**) Location and Transportation  
*Chapter 9*

**February 28 Assignment 1 is due**

Week 8 (**Mar 5**, March 7)

**March 5 Midterm 1**

Spring Break (March 12, March 14)

Week 9 (Mar 19, Mar 21) Manufacturing  
*Chapter 7*

Week 10 (Mar 26, Mar 28) Services  
*Chapter 8*

Week 11 (Apr 2, Apr 4) International Trade  
*Chapter 12 and 13*

Week 12 (**Apr 9**, Apr 11) The urban economy and urban land use  
*Chapter 10*

**April 9 Assignment 2 is due**

Week 13 (Apr 16, **April 18**) Urban Spatial Patterns and Land Use

**April 18 Midterm 2**

Week 14 (Apr 23, Apr 25) Empirical Analysis of Urban Spatial Growth:  
Group Work on Assignment 3

Week 15 (**April 30**) **Group Presentations of Assignment 3**

**April 30. Assignment 3 due**