WORLDINGS: REGIONS, PEOPLES AND STATES
Geography 10
Professor Jake Kosek
Meeting Time: Tues & Thurs 12:30-2pm
Room: F295 Haas

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed to transform how you think about, understand and engage in the making and remaking of the worlds we inhabit. Concepts central to Geography pepper the pages of newspapers almost every day – in stories of toxic waste sites, immigration policies, international finance capital, the military industry, genetic engineering, global warming, surveillance, racial profiling, sexuality, poverty and terrorism. Ideas central to the field of geography such as space, nature, and inequality animate the histories and politics of each of these issues and many other cases. Our approach will not be to simply learn about the regions of the world, but to think critically and geographically about how regions, peoples and states and other foundational concepts have come into being and how they might be otherwise. The unifying theme of the class is the contested relationships, practices, and processes in the making of these central geographic concepts (space, nature and inequality) that often go unexamined.

Starting with the concept of space, such as the world, the region, and the nation, we will examine the politics and power of space not as an empty stage upon which events happen but as a deeply contested field with specific histories and profound consequences. This course will take the map seriously by learning the empirical order of our day via map quizzes throughout the semester; however, we will also seek to disrupt the maps authority at objectively representing space and to disrespect its seeming fixity by exploring some of the politics of the broader concepts of space, region, territory and nation. Next, we will examine the idea of nature, both as a concept of the external environment but also as an internal essence such as human nature. We will look at the work that ideas of nature have in our lives from our understandings of the global environment, to our most intimate formations of race, gender and sexuality. Ultimately, we hope to demonstrate how the concept of nature, that is often presented as the opposite of that which is social and political, is anything but. The third section of the class deals with global inequalities. Here we will discuss modern disparities between and within regions, nations, states and communities. We will begin this section by studying economic globalization starting with its history and component parts such as property, the commodity, and labor and then explore the processes and institutions that have shaped the modern form of global production and exchange and the contemporary consequences of these formations. We will then raise key geographical questions about the politics of indigeneity, race and sexuality and how political economy and identity become intertwined as people make claims to rights, resources and redistribution in powerful and significant ways.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Class/section participation: 40% of final course grade
Map Quizzes: 10% “
Assignments (x2): 20% “
Final exam: 50% “

Course grades will be based on a curve using the total points earned on all assignments, participation and exams.
CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND PARTICIPATION
Lectures will be complemented by review sections devoted to fuller class discussion of the readings and lecture material. Class assignments on topics related to the class lectures will be given two weeks in advance of their due dates. Attendance in lecture and discussion sections is mandatory and will be factored into your grade. Sections will begin on Monday, August 28th, the last day of sections will be Friday, December 8th. If you miss a class you are responsible to find out what material you missed and what announcements were made during your absence.

PLAN FOR LECTURES AND READINGS
Readings are listed in italics under each lecture. You are expected to complete all of the readings before the lecture for which they are assigned.

FINAL EXAM
Questions, including ones on the final exam, will be handed out by December 3rd to allow you to prepare for the proctored final exam on December 14th 3-6pm. The final exam will consist of some of these questions, other short-answer questions, and key terms. The final exam will comprise 30% of the course grade.

COURSE INFORMATION

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Office Hours</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jake Kosek</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jake@berkeley.edu">jake@berkeley.edu</a></td>
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<td>Tues 11-12</td>
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Course Website
We will use CalCentral for posting announcements, distributing readings, maps and list items for map quizzes, and for other purposes. Please go to CalCentral and log on using your CalNet ID and passphrase. If you are registered (or waitlisted) for the course, a tab should appear automatically for Geography 10.

Academic Integrity
Any test, paper, report or homework submitted under your name is presumed to be your own original work that has not previously been submitted for credit in another course. All words and ideas written by other people must be properly attributed: fully identified as to source and the extent of your use of their work. Cheating, plagiarism and other academic misconduct will result in a failing grade on the assignment, paper, quiz or exam in question and will be reported to Student Judicial Affairs.
Introduction

August 24th:
Introduction:

I. SPACE
Week 1: The Politics of Space
August 29th: Making Maps


August 31st: Producing Spaces


Week 2: State e3 Territory
September 5th: The Spaces of Sovereignty

Map Quiz #1


September 7th: Walls, Borders and Flows


Trump, D. TBA

Week 3 Nationalism e3 Segregation:
September 12th: Imagined Communities


September 14th: Segregation


**Week 4: Region & Empire**

**September 19th: The Orient & The Occident**


**II. NATURE**

**Week 5: Purity and Essence**

**September 26th: Essence**

Assignment #1 due

Map Quiz #2


**September 28th: Natural Disasters**


**Week 6: Degradation & Transformation**

**October 3rd: The Political Ecology of Oil and Carbon**

Map Quiz # 3


**October 5th: Mutant Ecologies**


**Week 7: The Politics of Climate Change**

**October 10th: Global Discourses on Climate Change**


**October 12th: The Anthropocene**


**Week 8: The Politics of Nature and Difference**

**October 17th: The Nature and Science of Race**


**October 19th: The Nature and Science of Sex**


**III. INEQUALITY**

**Week 9: Colonialism & Globalization**

**Map Quiz # 4 Europe**

**October 24th: Making Markets**


**October 26th: Neoliberal Intimacies**


**Week 10: The Commodity and Property**

**October 31st: On Commodities and Other Objects**


November 2nd: The Political Lives of Property & Labor


Hong, G K 2014. Property: in Keywords for American Cultural Studies. Edited by Bruce Burgett & Glen Hendler, New York, NYU Press.

Week 11: Labor, Value & Uneven Development

November 7th: What Makes Wealth?

Map Quiz # 5


November 9th: What Makes Poverty?

Assignment # 2 due


Week 12: Democracy & Capitalism

November 14th: Debt

Map Quiz # 6


November 16th: Freedom, Democracy & Capitalism


Week 13: Violence and Security

November 21st: War, Poverty and Racism


**November 25th: No Class Thanksgiving**

**Week 14: Catch-up & Review**

**November 28th: Catch-up & Review**

Map Quiz # 7

**November 30th: Rethinking Politics**

Final Exam Review TBA

*Final Exam: Thursday, December 14th 3-6 pm*

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Geography 10

**IMPORTANT DATES**

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