

Rubenstein's The Cultural Landscape *Chapter 1: Thinking Geographically*

Introduction to Note Packets

Reading the textbook and taking notes while reading are NECESSARY steps in processing and retaining the material you will encounter in this course. The first chapter is often a challenge to students as the author attempts to introduce you to a smattering of EVERYTHING you will come into contact with this year. You will be expected to be prepared to discuss the assigned reading in class. Keep up with the assignments to get the most out of our time together.

Key Issue #1 - Why is Geography a Science?

Geography - means “_____” - coined by Greek philosopher **Eratosthenes**

Geographers focus on....	vs.	Historians focus on.....
*		*
*		*
*		*

Big difference: a geographer can visit the place needed for study but a historian cannot go back in time

Introducing Geography

Human geography studies the WHY of WHERE - we will study two main features of human behavior: _____ and _____

The Vocabulary of Human Geography

To explain why every place is unique, we study...	To explain why different places are interrelated, we study....
Place - specific point on Earth, distinguished by particular characteristic how Luxembourg is an example -	Scale - relationship between the portion of Earth being studied and Earth as a whole - global vs local how Luxembourg is an example -
Region - an area of Earth defined by one or more distinctive characteristics how Luxembourg is an example -	Space - refers to physical gap or interval between two objects how Luxembourg is an example -

	<p>Connection - refers to relationships among people and objects across the barrier of space. Geographers are concerned with various means by which connections occur. how Luxembourg is an example -</p>
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Cartography: The Science of Mapmaking

_____ - two-dimensional or flat-scale model of Earth’s surface, or a portion of it

Purpose #1 - REFERENCE TOOL =

Purpose #2 - COMMUNICATIONS TOOL =

Geography in Ancient World	Geography’s Revival
<p>What two ancient geographers do you consider the most important and why?</p>	<p>How did mapmaking change over the centuries?</p>

Contemporary Geographic Tools

Maps are an essential tool for contemporary delivery of online services through smart phones, tablets, and computers.

<p>Pinpointing Locations - GPS</p> <p>Global Positioning System (GPS) - determines precise position of something on Earth</p> <p>Three elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. satellites in predetermined orbits 2. tracking stations to monitor and control satellites 3. 	<p>Analyzing Data: GI-Science</p> <p>Geographic Information Science (GIScience) - analysis of data about Earth acquired through satellite and other electronic information technologies</p> <p>GIS - captures, stores, queries, & displays the geographic data; computer system that allows LAYERS of information</p> <p>Remote Sensing -</p>	<p>Collecting and Sharing Data: VGI</p> <p>Volunteered geographic information - creation and dissemination of geographic data contributed voluntarily & for free by individuals</p> <p>part of broader trend of citizen science -</p> <p>participatory GIS (PGIS) -</p>
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<p>Used commonly for navigation</p> <p>specific examples of use:</p> <p>*</p> <p>*</p> <p>*</p> <p>*</p>	<p>examples of use:</p> <p>*</p> <p>*</p>	<p>examples of use:</p> <p>*OpenStreetMap - OSM -</p> <p>Mashup =</p>
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Interpreting Maps

Two decisions a cartographer must make BEFORE making a map:

<p>MAP SCALE - how much of Earth's surface to depict on the map</p> <p>Map scale determines level of DETAIL and amount of AREA</p> <p>Ratio</p> <p>Written</p> <p>Graphic</p>	<p>PROJECTION - how to transfer a spherical Earth to a flat map</p> <p>Creating a flat map produces DISTORTION - 4 types:</p> <p>1. Shape -</p> <p>2. Distance -</p> <p>3. Relative Size -</p> <p>4. Direction -</p>
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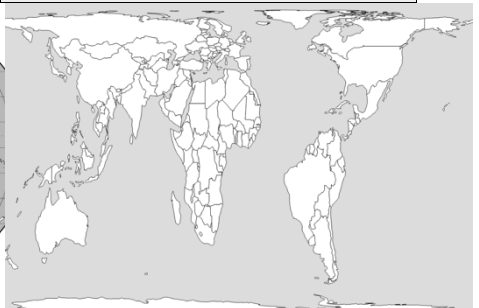
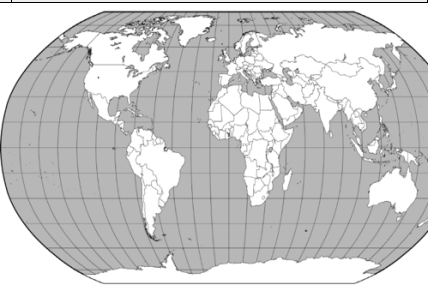
Equal-areas Projection = relative size of landmasses on map are close to same in reality

Distortions that must happen:

- 1.
- 2.

Pros and Cons of Projections (not in text):

Mercator	Robinson	Peters



The Geographic Grid

Meridian/Longitude - arc drawn between North and South poles

Parallel/Latitude - circle drawn around the globe parallel to the equator and at right angles to meridians

Prime Meridian -

Why Greenwich, England? -

Longitude - telling time - 15 degrees = time zones

International Date Line -

How longitude was created?

Key Issue #2 - Why is each point on Earth unique?

Understanding the features of a place allows geographers to explain similarities, differences, and changes across Earth.

Geographers consider **FOUR** ways to identify location: **PLACE NAME, SITE, SITUATION, & MATHEMATICAL LOCATION.**

Place Names	Site	Situation	Mathematical Location
Toponym = name given to a place on Earth Sources of names:	- physical character of a place -characteristics include: ex. Boston =	- the location of a place relative to other places - Two ways it is useful: 1. 2. examples:	aka - latitude & longitude

Region: A Unique Area

Region = area of Earth defined by one or more distinctive characteristics.

Two scales: globally and within a country

Cultural landscape = Carl Sauer - combination of cultural features, economic features and physical features

Formal Region/Uniform Region	Functional Region/Nodal Region	Vernacular/Perceptual Region
Description:	Description:	Description:
Example(s):	Example(s):	Example(s);

Culture Regions

Culture - the body of customary beliefs, material traits, and social forms that together constitute the distinct tradition of a group of people

Culture: What People Care About	Culture: What People Take Care Of
<p>Studying a group’s language, religion and ethnicity help identify location of a culture and principal means by which cultural values become distributed around the world</p> <p>Language -</p> <p>Religion -</p> <p>Ethnicity -</p>	<p>Study the production of material wealth - food, shelter, clothing - but different cultural groups obtain their wealth in different ways</p> <p>world divided into developed and developing countries</p> <p>characteristics of developed =</p> <p>characteristics of developing =</p>

Spatial Association (you will see this term A LOT in the coming year!)

-Occurs within a region if the distribution of one feature is related to distribution of another feature

-Spatial association is strong if 2 features have _____

-Spatial association is weak if 2 features have _____

Example: Baltimore City

Income	Life Expectancy at Birth	Crime	Liquor stores
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How do these 4 features demonstrate spatial association?

Key Issue #3 - Why are different places similar?

Scale, Space, Connections = help explain why similarities among places and regions result from regularities rather than coincidences

Scale: Global and Local

Globalization = _____

-the scale of the world is shrinking BUT groups of people are preserving and reviving distinctive cultural characteristics and implementing distinctive economic practices

Economic Globalization & Local Diversity	Cultural Globalization & Local Diversity
-economic globalization is led by TNCs/MNCs = _____ _____	uniform cultural landscape =
-examples:	-examples:
-Effects	Effects =

Space: Distribution of Features

Spatial thinking - most fundamental skill that geographers possess to understand the arrangement of objects across Earth.

Distribution - the arrangement of a feature in space

Distribution Properties: Density	Distribution Properties: Concentration	Distribution Properties: Pattern
density = frequency with which something occurs in space	concentration = extent of a feature's spread over space	pattern = geometric arrangement of objects in space
density = _____ + _____	clustered =	examples:
examples of density:	dispersed =	
	used to describe changes in distribution	
	examples:	

Space: Cultural Identity

Cultural Identity and Distribution Across Space - geographers study cultural traits to help explain why people sort themselves out in space and move across the landscape in distinctive ways

Distribution by Ethnicity	Distribution by Sexual Orientation	Distribution by Gender

Space: Inequality

Cultural Identity & Contemporary Geographic Thought	Unequal Access
<p>Poststructuralist geography - examines how the powerful in a society dominate, or seek to control, less powerful groups, how the dominant groups occupy space, and confrontation that results from the domination</p> <p>examples -</p>	<p>electronic communication -</p> <p>quality of electronic service -</p>
<p>Humanistic geography - emphasizes the different ways that individuals form ideas about place and give those places symbolic meaning</p> <p>examples -</p>	<p>three core/hearth regions:</p>
<p>Behavioral geography - emphasizes importance of understanding psychological basis for individual human actions in space</p> <p>examples -</p>	<p>uneven development -</p>

Connections: Diffusion

Assimilation	Acculturation	Syncretism
process by which a group's cultural features are altered to resemble those of another group	process of changes in culture that result from the meeting of two groups	combination of elements of two groups into a new cultural feature
examples	examples	examples

Connections: Diffusion

Diffusion = process by which a features spreads across space from one place to another over time

Hearth = a place from which an innovation originates

Relocation Diffusion	Expansion Diffusion
spread of an idea through physical movement of people from one place to another	spread of a feature from one place to another in an additive process
examples -	Hierarchical diffusion - examples - Contagious diffusion - examples - Stimulus diffusion - examples -

Connections: Spatial Interaction

Network - chain of communication that connects places

“hub and spoke” network =

Distance decay =

Space-time compression =

Key Issue #4 - Why are some actions not sustainable?

Geography, Sustainability, and Resources

Resource = a substance in the environment that is useful to people, economically and technologically feasible to access, and socially acceptable to use

Examples - _____

Renewable resource =

Nonrenewable resource =

Two types of misuse of these resources =

Sustainability = use of Earth's renewable and nonrenewable resources in ways that ensure resource availability in the future

Three Pillars of Sustainability

<i>Environment Pillar</i>	<i>Economy Pillar</i>	<i>Society Pillar</i>
Conservation = Preservation =		Consumers can support sustainability when they embrace it as a value Example:

Sustainability's Critics

World Wildlife Fund –

Opposite perspective –

Sustainability and Earth's Physical Systems

Atmosphere	Hydrosphere
Lithosphere	Biosphere

Sustainability and Human Relationships

How has modern technology altered the historic relationship between people and the environment:

Cultural Ecology: Integrating Culture and Environment

Cultural Ecology = geographic study of human-environment relationships

<p><i>Environmental Determinism</i> Define: belief that physical development causes social development Example:</p>	<p><i>Possibilism</i> Define: physical environment may limit some human actions, but people have the ability to adjust to the environment Example:</p>
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Modifying the Environment

The Netherlands: Sustainable Ecosystem	South Florida: Unsustainable Ecosystem

Reflecting on Chapter 1: Introduction to Vocabulary

Can you do the following with the terms introduced in this chapter?

<i>Concept</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Specific Example</i>
Geography		
Map		
Cartography		
Map scale		
Projection		
Population density		
Mercator projection		
Robinson projection		
Peters projection		
Parallels		
Meridians		
Prime Meridian		
Latitude		
Longitude		

Greenwich Mean Time		
International Date Line		
Remote sensing		
GPS		
GIS		
Mashup		
Place		
Toponym		
Site		
Situation		
Region		
Cultural landscape		
Carl Sauer		
Formal/ uniform region		

Functional/ nodal region		
Vernacular/ perceptual region		
Mental map		
Culture		
Agriculture		
Spatial association		
Globalization		
Transnational corporation		
Space		
Density		
Distribution		
Concentration		
Dispersed		
Clustered		
Pattern		

Hearth		
Diffusion		
Relocation diffusion		
Expansion diffusion		
Hierarchical diffusion		
Contagious diffusion		
Stimulus diffusion		
Distance decay		
Space-time compression		
Resource		
Renewable resource		
Nonrenewable resource		
Sustainability		
Conservation		
Preservation		
Atmosphere		

Hydrosphere		
Lithosphere		
Biosphere		
Ecosystem		
Cultural ecology		
Environmental determinism		
Possibilism		
Polder		
Dike		