Hi Prospective Geography 102 Students,

I am Jason Burgdorfer and will be your instructor for Human Geography during the Fall 2015 Semester. This course is offered in a 100% online quick five week format starting Monday August 24th and ending Sunday October 18th. The course will be broken up into weekly modules covering material from one or two chapters of your textbook each week. Each week there will be one or two chapters to read, discussion board questions, one activity, one or two chapter practice quizzes, and one test to complete by deadlines posted in the syllabus. There will be no final exam in this class. Also, there will be one writing assignment that will be due by Sunday October 11th during the second to last week of class.

You will need to purchase *Visualizing Human Geography*, 2nd edition (2014) by Alyson Greiner. The book is available for purchase in the COC bookstore on the Valencia Campus. It is very important that you purchase this textbook as soon as possible so that you will have it for the first week of class starting August 24th. We will be using Chapters 1-2 of the textbook during the first week of class so be sure to get a head start on the readings.

To succeed in this class it is recommended that you complete to following in this order for each week. 1. Read the assigned chapters. 2. Review the assigned chapter lecture presentation slides. 3. Take the practice quizzes. 4. Post your answers to the discussion board questions. 5. Post your responses to other student’s posts in the discussion board. 6. Complete the Activity. 7. Review for the test. 8. Take the weekly test.

The course’s Blackboard page will become available to you on Saturday August 22. In the meantime it is recommended that you begin to read chapters 1 and 2 of your textbook. As soon as you have access to Blackboard you are welcome to begin working on the first week’s assignments.

When you login to the courses Blackboard page for the first time please find the START HERE tab in the menu bar to the left and follow the instructions to get started working on the first week’s learning module. Attached to this orientation letter you will find a preliminary syllabus that is subject to change for this class showing class policies, readings schedule, grading, assignments, and test dates.

If you have any questions please feel free to email me at jason.burgdorfer@canyons.edu

Jason Burgdorfer
Geography and Geology Instructor
College of the Canyons
Preliminary Syllabus
Geography 102 Human Geography
Fall 2015

Course and Instructor Information:
Section # 18363  Fall 2015
Instructor: Jason Burgdorfer
Class Meeting Times/Place: Online
Office Hours: Online and by Appointment at the Valencia Campus
Email: jason.burgdorfer@canyons.edu

Course Description
Analyzes the spatial distribution and interaction of human patterns such as population, language, religion, economics, migration, ethnicity, urban and political systems, agriculture, development, and human-environment interactions.

Student Learning Outcome
1. Analyze the distribution and diffusion of human patterns such as population, language, religion, economics, migration, ethnicity, urban and political systems, agriculture, development, and human-environment interactions.

Grading
Introduction 1 X 10 Points = 10 Points
Activities/Assignments 6 X 40 Points = 240 Points
Weekly Discussion Board Posts 8 X 30 = 240 Points
Practice Quizzes 12 X 10 = 120 Points
Weekly Tests 8 X 40 Points = 320 Points
Writing Assignment = 100 Points
Total Points = 1030/1000

Students who earn between 900 and 1000 points will receive an A, 800-899 points will receive a B, 700-799 points will receive a C, 600-699 points will receive a D, and 599 points and below will receive a F.

Weekly Activity: Activities are used to explore class material in more depth and provide more active hands on learning opportunities. Activities are due by 11:59pm on Sunday at the end of that week they are assigned.

Discussion Board Posts: Each week you will be required to answer 3-5 critical thinking questions (1-3 per chapter) pertaining to the week’s topics. The questions will be posted in the class’s Discussion Board at the beginning of each week and your answers will be submitted as a thread in the week’s discussion forum. Your answers to the week’s questions must be posted by 11:59pm Thursday of each week. Each answer is expected to be answered in a paragraph form and all of your answer posts in a week will be graded out of 30 points. To earn a full points you will also be required to provide meaningful academic comments, responses, feedback, and/or discussion on at least one other student’s post. Also, you will not be able to see other students’ posts until you have posted your own answer.
**Practice Quizzes:** On Blackboard you will find quizzes pertaining to each of the 12 chapters of the *Visualizing Human Geography* textbook used in this class. These quizzes are there for practice and self assessment to see if you understand the material as you read through it in the textbook and review each chapter’s PowerPoint presentations. The quizzes will not be scored on accuracy; but you will receive 10 points for completing each week’s chapter practice quizzes. Feel free to take the quizzes several times. **Quizzes for each week will open up on Monday at 12:01 am and be due by 11:59PM on Thursdays. You will not be able to take the quizzes after this point.**

**Weekly Tests:** At the end of each week you will take an online test through Blackboard consisting of ~30 multiple choice, diagram/chart interpretation, and true false questions. Each week’s test will only cover that week’s chapters. Each week’s test will open up on Blackboard each Friday at 12:00am and will be due by 11:59pm on Sunday. You will have **35 minutes** to complete each test.

**Writing Assignment:** For 100 points you will conduct research on a selected human geography topic and write a 1,500 word paper exploring the topic and its connections to key concepts you learned in this class. Due by 11:59pm on Sunday October 11th. See Blackboard for more info.

**Academic Integrity:** Plagiarism as defined in COC Academic Integrity Policy will not be tolerated in this class. Blackboard automatically checks all submissions for plagiarism and any violations will reported to the Dean of Students for appropriate disciplinary action.

**Support for Students Outside the Classroom:**
*Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS):* Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of disability should contact the DSPS office at (661) 362-3341 to establish eligibility and coordinate accommodations. [http://www.canyons.edu/offices/dsps/](http://www.canyons.edu/offices/dsps/)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Textbook Readings Due</th>
<th>Discussion Question Posts and Practice Quizzes Due:</th>
<th>Weekly Test and Activity Due By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week One</td>
<td>What is Human Geography; Globalization and Cultural Geography</td>
<td>Chapters 1, 2</td>
<td>Thursday 8/27 11:59pm Week 1 Discussion Posts Chapters 1, 2 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sun 8/30 11:59pm Activity 1 Week 1 Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Two</td>
<td>Population and Migration;</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>Thursday 9/3 11:59pm Week 2 Discussion Posts Chapter 3, 4, 5 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sun 9/6 11:59pm Activity 2 Week 2 Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Three</td>
<td>Geographies of Language; Geographies of Religion</td>
<td>Chapters 4, 5</td>
<td>Thursday 9/10 11:59pm Week 3 Discussion Posts Chapter 6, 7, 8 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sun 9/13 11:59pm Activity 3 Week 3 Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Four</td>
<td>Geographies of Identity; Political Geography;</td>
<td>Chapters 6, 7</td>
<td>Thursday 9/17 11:59pm Week 4 Discussion Posts Chapter 9, 10 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sun 9/20 11:59pm Activity 4 Week 4 Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Five</td>
<td>Urban Geography Geographies of Development;</td>
<td>Chapters 8, 9</td>
<td>Thursday 9/24 11:59pm Week 5 Discussion Posts Chapter 11, 12 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sun 9/27 11:59pm Activity 5 Week 5 Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Six</td>
<td>Geographies of Industry and Services</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
<td>Thursday 10/1 11:59pm Week 6 Discussion Posts</td>
<td>Sun 10/4 11:59pm Week 6 Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Seven</td>
<td>Agricultural Geographies</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
<td>Thursday 10/8 11:59pm Week 7 Discussion Posts</td>
<td>Sun 10/11 11:59pm Writing Assignment Week 7 Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Eight</td>
<td>Environmental Challenges</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
<td>Thursday 10/15 11:59pm Week 8 Discussion Posts</td>
<td>Sun 10/18 11:59pm Activity 6 Week 8 Test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>