

# **GEOG. 201 INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN GEOGRAPHY**

## **Course Brief:**

This course introduces Human Geography. The major thrust is on the study of human societies in their relation to the habitat or environment. Dealing with the spatial distribution of societies, human geography covers a very wide field, or its scope is enormous. It embraces the study of human races; the growth, distribution and density of populations of the various parts of the world, their demographic attributes and migration patterns; and physical and cultural differences between human groups and economic activities.

## **Course Learning Objective:**

This course covers the relationship between man and his natural environment, and the way in which his activities are distributed. Human geography also considers the mosaic of culture, language, religion, customs and traditions, types and patterns of rural settlements, the site, size, growth and functions of urban settlements, and the functional classification of towns. The study of spatial distribution of economic activities, industries, trade, and modes of transportations and communications as influenced by the physical environment are also the important topics of human geography.

## **Course Contents:**

### **I. Introduction to Human Geography**

- i. Scope and Status of Human Geography
- ii. Branches of Human Geography

### **II. Basic concepts and Theories**

- iii. Environmental Determinism
- iv. Possibilism
- v. Probabilism and Cognitive Behaviourism

### **III. Population**

- i. Population Distribution, Density, and Growth
- ii. Dynamics including fertility, mortality, and migration
- iii. Population Composition and Structure
- iv. Rural and Urban Population

### **IV. Man, Environment Relations**

### **V. Human Activities**

- i. Primary Activities
- ii. Secondary Activities
- iii. Tertiary Activities
- iv. Quaternary Activities
- v. Quinary Activities

### **VI. Settlements**

- i. Theories of Human Settlement
- ii. Types of Settlements
- iii. Rural Urban Contrast

### **VII. Urbanization**

- i. History and Process of Urbanization
- ii. Factors of Urbanization
- iii. Modern Trends of Urbanization

## VIII. Future Geography

- i. Resources and Development
- ii. New technologies and Spatial Techniques
- iii. Information Technologies

### Books Recommended:

- Rowntree, L. et al (2004) “Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World” Prentice Hall, New York
- Neuwirth, R. (2004) “Shadow Cities: A Billion Squatters, A New Urban World” Routledge, London.
- Harper, H.L. (2003) “Environment and Society: Human Perspectives on Environmental Issues” Prentice Hall; (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition)
- Knox, P.L. & S.A. Marston (2003) “Places and Regions in Global Context: Human Geography” Prentice Hall. (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition)
- Becker, A. & Secker (2002) “Human Geography: Culture, Society, and Space” John Wiley and Sons. (7<sup>th</sup> Edition)
- Blij, H.J.D. (2002) “Human Geography: Culture, Society, and Space” John Wiley and Sons (7<sup>th</sup> Edition)
- Lewis, C.P. Mitchel-Fox & C. Dyer (2001) “Village, Hamlet and Field: Changing Medieval Settlements in Central England” Windgather Press.
- Paull, Knox & Sallie, A Marston. Human Geography: “Places and regions in global context”, Second edition, Prentice Hall, 2001.
- Hagget, P. (1997): “Geography: A Modern Synthesis” Harper International, London.

Assessment			
Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
1.	Midterm Assessment	35%	Written Assessment at the mid-point of the semester.
2.	Formative Assessment	25%	Continuous assessment includes Classroom participation, assignments, presentations, viva voce, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, projects, practical, reflections, readings, quizzes etc.
3.	Final Assessment	40%	Written Examination at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc.