Programme	BS in Sociology	Course Code		Credit hours	3
Course Title	Fundamentals of Geography (Natural Sciences)				

Course Introduction

This course provides an essential foundation in geography for students, emphasizing the spatial dimensions of human society and the interaction between people and their environments. It explores key geographic concepts, population distribution, human economic activities, settlement patterns, and the global divides between developed and developing regions. Through practical engagement with maps and spatial analysis tools, students will gain the skills to interpret geographic data. The course also introduces contemporary challenges such as global inequality, resource distribution, and technological advancements shaping the future of geography in a rapidly changing world.

Learning Outcomes

On the completion of the course, the students will:

1. To familiarize students with fundamental concepts, tools, and branches of geography.
2. To provide students with an understanding of the various theories and paradigms of the subject.
3. To develop students' ability to interpret maps and spatial data, and to understand global development dynamics through a geographical lens.

	Course Content	Assignments/Readings
Week 1	• Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 1 (Geography Matters). Assignment: Short written reflection: "Why does Geography matter to Sociology?"	Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 1 (Geography Matters). Assignment: Short written reflection: "Why does Geography matter to Sociology?"
	• Reading: Rowntree et al (2004), Introduction & Tools section. Assignment: Lab Activity: Introduction to Google Earth Pro. Locate and mark key geographical features.	Reading: Rowntree et al (2004), Introduction & Tools section. Assignment: Lab Activity: Introduction
		to Google Earth Pro. Locate and mark key geographical features.
Week 2	• Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 3 (Population). Assignment: Analyze a population pyramid of Pakistan and discuss its social implications.	Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 3 (Population). Assignment: Analyze a population pyramid of Pakistan and discuss its social implications.

	• Reading: Blij, H.J.D. (2002), Chapter on Economic Geography. Assignment: Map the distribution of major agricultural zones in Pakistan.	Reading: Blij, H.J.D. (2002), Chapter on Economic Geography. Assignment: Map the distribution of major agricultural zones in Pakistan.
Week 3	• Reading: Review Units 1-3. Assignment: Quiz 1: Multiple choice and short questions on concepts covered.	Reading: Review Units 1-3. Assignment: Quiz 1: Multiple choice and short questions on concepts covered.
	• Reading: Hagget, P. (1997), Chapter on Maps and Mapping. Assignment: Practical: Identify features on a Topographic map using legends and scales.	Reading: Hagget, P. (1997), Chapter on Maps and Mapping. Assignment: Practical: Identify features on a Topographic map using legends and scales.
Week 4	• Reading: Becker & Secker (2002), Chapter on Spatial Analysis. Assignment: Group Work: Mapping social inequality (identify slums vs. planned areas on a city map).	Reading: Becker & Secker (2002), Chapter on Spatial Analysis. Assignment: Group Work: Mapping social inequality (identify slums vs. planned areas on a city map).
	• Assignment: Preparation for Midterm Examination.	Assignment: Preparation for Midterm Examination.
Week 5	• Reading: Lewis et al (2001), Chapter on Settlement Patterns.	Reading: Lewis et al (2001), Chapter on Settlement Patterns. Assignment: Compare Burgess Concentric
	Assignment: Compare Burgess Concentric Zone Model with a map of Lahore.	Zone Model with a map of Lahore.
	Reading: Neuwirth, R. (2004), "Shadow Cities" (Introduction). Assignment: Case Study Analysis: Rural-urban migration trends in Pakistan.	Reading: Neuwirth, R. (2004), "Shadow Cities" (Introduction). Assignment: Case Study Analysis: Rural-urban migration trends in Pakistan.

Week 6	• Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 9 (Development). Assignment: Debate preparation: Is the "Global South" a valid geographic concept?	Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 9 (Development). Assignment: Debate preparation: Is the "Global South" a valid geographic concept?
	Reading: Harper, H.L. (2003), Chapter on Resource Distribution. Assignment: Write a short critique on resource distribution in developing countries.	Reading: Harper, H.L. (2003), Chapter on Resource Distribution. Assignment: Write a short critique on resource distribution in developing countries.
Week 7	Reading: Rowntree et al (2004), Chapter on Future Challenges. Assignment: Presentation on SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) and their spatial relevance.	Reading: Rowntree et al (2004), Chapter on Future Challenges. Assignment: Presentation on SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) and their spatial relevance.
	Reading: Selected article on GIS applications in Disaster Management. Assignment: Practical: Use an online GIS portal to analyze flood risk data.	Reading: Selected article on GIS applications in Disaster Management. Assignment: Practical: Use an online GIS portal to analyze flood risk data.
Week 8	Reading: Knox & Marston, Epilogue. Assignment: Submit final term paper (Topic: Spatial analysis of a social issue).	Reading: Knox & Marston, Epilogue. Assignment: Submit final term paper (Topic: Spatial analysis of a social issue).
Week 9	• Assignment: Review of key concepts and maps.	Assignment: Review of key concepts and maps.
	• Assignments/Readings	Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 1 (Geography Matters). Assignment: Short written reflection: "Why does Geography matter to Sociology?"

Week 10	• Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 1 (Geography Matters). Assignment: Short written reflection: "Why does Geography matter to Sociology?"	Reading: Rowntree et al (2004), Introduction & Tools section. Assignment: Lab Activity: Introduction to Google Earth Pro. Locate and mark key geographical features.
	• Reading: Rowntree et al (2004), Introduction & Tools section. Assignment: Lab Activity: Introduction to Google Earth Pro. Locate and mark key geographical features.	Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 3 (Population). Assignment: Analyze a population pyramid of Pakistan and discuss its social implications.
Week 11	• Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 3 (Population). Assignment: Analyze a population pyramid of Pakistan and discuss its social implications.	Reading: Blij, H.J.D. (2002), Chapter on Economic Geography. Assignment: Map the distribution of major agricultural zones in Pakistan.
	• Reading: Blij, H.J.D. (2002), Chapter on Economic Geography. Assignment: Map the distribution of major agricultural zones in Pakistan.	Reading: Review Units 1-3. Assignment: Quiz 1: Multiple choice and short questions on concepts covered.
Week 12	• Reading: Review Units 1-3. Assignment: Quiz 1: Multiple choice and short questions on concepts covered.	Reading: Hagget, P. (1997), Chapter on Maps and Mapping. Assignment: Practical: Identify features on a Topographic map using legends and scales.
	Reading: Hagget, P. (1997), Chapter on Maps and Mapping.	Reading: Becker & Secker (2002), Chapter on Spatial Analysis.
	Assignment: Practical: Identify features on a Topographic map using legends and scales.	Assignment: Group Work: Mapping social inequality (identify slums vs. planned areas on a city map).
Week 13	• Reading: Becker & Secker (2002), Chapter on Spatial Analysis. Assignment: Group Work: Mapping social inequality (identify slums vs. planned areas on a city map).	Assignment: Preparation for Midterm Examination.

	Assignment: Preparation for Midterm Examination.	Reading: Lewis et al (2001), Chapter on Settlement Patterns. Assignment: Compare Burgess Concentric Zone Model with a map of Lahore.
Week 14	• Reading: Lewis et al (2001), Chapter on Settlement Patterns. Assignment: Compare Burgess Concentric Zone Model with a map of Lahore.	Reading: Neuwirth, R. (2004), "Shadow Cities" (Introduction). Assignment: Case Study Analysis: Rural-urban migration trends in Pakistan.
	Reading: Neuwirth, R. (2004), "Shadow Cities" (Introduction). Assignment: Case Study Analysis: Rural-urban migration trends in Pakistan.	Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 9 (Development). Assignment: Debate preparation: Is the "Global South" a valid geographic concept?
Week 15	• Reading: Knox & Marston (2003), Chapter 9 (Development). Assignment: Debate preparation: Is the "Global South" a valid geographic concept?	Reading: Harper, H.L. (2003), Chapter on Resource Distribution. Assignment: Write a short critique on resource distribution in developing countries.
	Reading: Harper, H.L. (2003), Chapter on Resource Distribution. Assignment: Write a short critique on resource distribution in developing countries.	Reading: Rowntree et al (2004), Chapter on Future Challenges. Assignment: Presentation on SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) and their spatial relevance.
		Reading: Selected article on GIS applications in Disaster Management. Assignment: Practical: Use an online GIS portal to analyze flood risk data.
Week 16	Reading: Rowntree et al (2004), Chapter on Future Challenges. Assignment: Presentation on SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) and their spatial relevance. Reading: Selected article on GIS applications in Disaster Management. Assignment: Practical: Use an online GIS portal to analyze flood risk data.	Reading: Knox & Marston, Epilogue. Assignment: Submit final term paper (Topic: Spatial analysis of a social issue).

Textbooks and Reading Material

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 Edition)

Knox, P.L. & S.A. Marston (2003) "Places and Regions in Global Context: Human Geography" Prentice Hall. (3rd Edition)

Becker, A. & Secker (2002) "Human Geography: Culture, Society, and Space" John Wiley and Sons. (7th Edition)

Blij, H.J.D. (2002) "Human Geography: Culture, Society, and Space" John Wiley and Sons (7th 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.

Teaching Learning Strategies

1. Interactive lectures to introduce and explain key concepts
2. Guided class discussions to foster critical thinking and deeper understanding
3. Collaborative group work to encourage peer learning and practical application of concepts
4. Emphasis on active student engagement throughout the course.

Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar

The sessional work will be a combination of written assignments, class quizzes, presentations, and class participation/attendance.