**Geography [6 ECTS credits]**

## Gr. A-K: Prof. Guido Lucarno; Gr. L-Z: Prof. Raffaela Gabriella Rizzo

*Gr A-K: Prof. Guido Lucarno*

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

*Knowledge and understanding*

The first module aims to familiarise students with the tools and methods of human geography, as applied to human activities and environmental issues, in particular.

*Applying knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to identify and describe, unaided, the distribution of phenomena on Earth’s surface, explain their development and identify appropriate methods for surveying the ways in which this occurs, in relation to surrounding environmental conditions.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course consists of 30 hours lectures and 15 hours of practical classes on geography teaching methods. It is structured as follows:

– Introduction The branches of geography

* Introduction to human geography
* Brief overview of cartographic representations
* Population

– Races, languages and religions

* Development factors
* Productive activities (agriculture, industry, services)
* The environment and its problems
* Theoretical principles of geography teaching; the study of the processes of teaching and learning mediated by the use of technology and graphic and cartographic representations; and the use of technological tools for teaching and learning.

***READING LIST***

H.H. Fouberg - A.B. Murphy - H.J. De Blij, *Geografia Umana.* *Cultura, società, spazio*, Zanichelli, Bologna, 2010.

E. Lavagna - G. Lucarno, *Geocartografia.* *Guida alla lettura delle carte geotopografiche*, second edition, Zanichelli, Bologna, 2014.

The textbook sections to prepare for the final examination will be specified during lectures depending on whether they have been covered or not, and will be posted in detail on Blackboard at the end of the course. The textbooks will be supplemented with additional material provided on Blackboard, which will be considered part of the reading list and syllabus along with lecture notes. Students are invited to get a *username* and *password* to be able to access the Blackboard platform and the supplementary teaching material.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course includes frontal classroom lectures with slide shows and presentation of documentary material.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam consists of an interview on the contents of the course. Assessment will verify students’ general knowledge of the subject, their ability to analyse and interpret the issues and practical cases covered during lectures, the evaluation of the geographical interactions between territory and phenomena, and their ability to apply methods and geographical tools to the case studies examined or related to everyday life. With regard to the topics discussed in the exam, students must be able to explain the characteristics of the phenomenon in question, its regional or geographic distribution and the factors behind its particular spatial distribution and development over time. They must also be able to interpret the means by which this development takes place based on the case studies covered in lectures or detailed in the texts and handouts on the reading list.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The use of a good school atlas is recommended. Students require basic knowledge of the geography of the regions of the world, as provided in standard secondary-school curricula.

The course is intended for students attending both Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees. The course may not be reiterated.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.

*Gr. L-Z: Prof. Raffaela Gabriella Rizzo*

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The aim of the course is for students to acquire the theoretical/methodological tools used in human geography to analyse (including from a diachronic point of view) the processes through which human societies connect environments and available resources on the Earth.

The main skill acquired by the end of the course will be the ability to describe, unaided, the spatial distribution of phenomena on the surface of the planet. Therefore, by using the theory and methods learned during the course, students will be able to: 1) analyse them, identifying the processes underlying the phenomena in a given geographical context; 2) describe them using appropriate and accurate geographical terminology.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Principles and topics of geography with special reference to:

– Main geographical concepts: space, place, territory, landscape, ecosystem

– Cartography and Geographic Information Systems

– Study of population

– Key concepts in urban geography

– The phenomenon of globalization.

– Industrial, services, and transportation geography

– Geography and agriculture

– Cultural and tourism geography

***READING LIST***

Greiner A.L., DematteisG*.,* Lanza C., *Geografia Umana. Un approccio visuale*, UTET, Novara, 2023.

E. Lavagna-G. Lucarno, *Geocartografia.* *Guida alla lettura delle carte geotopografiche,* second edition, Zanichelli, Bologna, 2014.

Additional material related to geographic information systems will be made available on Blackboard.

N.B. The parts of the texts for the exam will be recommended during the lectures. They will also be listed on Blackboard at the beginning of course. Students are invited to create a username and password to access the Blackboard platform and additional educational materials.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures with slide presentations, videos and other educational materials.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final exam consists of an interview on the course topics. The exam is designed to assess:

1) general knowledge of the topics covered;

2) clarity of presentation through the use of specific geographical language;

3) ability to make interdisciplinary connections.

4) ability to interpret geographical phenomena using the methods and techniques presented in lectures by means of case studies. Students must be able to explain the characteristics of the phenomenon, its geographical distribution (regional or global) and the causes thereof.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students require basic knowledge of the geography of the regions of the world covered by standard secondary school curricula. The course is intended for students on undergraduate and specialist degrees. It is not repeatable.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.