

Geography 4358
Geography of Texas (Online)
Credit Hours: 3

1. **Course Description:** **Texas.** A survey of the regional geography of Texas. Consideration is given to the significance of primary and secondary activity within the state, urbanization and potential for development. Credit 3. No prerequisites.

2. **Class Meeting Times:** Online, there are **NO** class meeting times scheduled.

3. **Method of Instruction:** Online

4. **Class Instructor:** Jim Tiller

5. **Office Information**

Online Class, No Office Location: If you have a question, email me at the address below

Online Class, No Office Hours: If you have a question, email me at the address below

Online Class, No Office Phone: If you have a question, email me at the address below

Office Email: JimTiller@shsu.edu

6. **Course Objectives**

The student will have a basic knowledge of the location and significance of major physical, cultural and economic sites in the state.

The student will be able to identify the landscapes and vegetation of each of the 12 geographic regions in the state.

The student will have a basic knowledge of the primary, secondary and tertiary activities within the state and the resultant urban pattern.

The student will have a basic knowledge of the influence of geography of the development of the state.

7. **Class Textbook:** There is no current academic textbook for this class. You will, however, need to acquire/make use of the following items.

(A) A copy of ***The Official Travel Map of Texas*** (if you can get one); otherwise, just have access to a good highway map (fold-out or road atlas).

(B) The ***Texas Monthly*** magazine archives found at: <http://www.texasmonthly.com/archives>

(C) While not required, you might find an **OLD** edition of the ***Texas Almanac*** to be helpful. **DO NOT** purchase a new copy (that will be a waste of money for our purposes). Older editions are probably readily available at bookstores dealing in used books. If you have an interest in this text, you are encouraged to secure a copy that has been published within the last three years.

8. **Course Outline:**

I. Material for Exam #1 -- see the Section Outline link under Exam 1 in the menu and especially the material under the section entitled: Material for Section 1.

II. Material for Exam #2 -- see the Section Outline link under Exam 2 in the menu and especially the material under the section entitled: Material for Section 2.

III. Material for Exam #3 -- see the Section Outline link under Exam 3 in the menu and especially the material under the section entitled: Material for Section 3.

9. **Course Requirements:**

Exams. There will be three exams given in this class. A description of each exam follows:

Exam #1: (see Section Outline for Exam I). Two Parts. **Part 1:** True-False segment; **75 percent** of the exam grade. The True-False segment of the exam, to be taken on Blackboard, will include material from the assigned readings (see the Course Material button > Section Outline). **Part 2:** Map Location Segment; **25 percent** of the exam grade. The Map Location segment of the exam, to be taken on Blackboard, will be drawn from the list of Basic Place Locations provided for this exam. This exam will account for **33.33 percent** of your course grade.

Exam #2: (see Section Outline for Exam 2). Two Parts. **Part 1:** True-False segment; **75 percent** of the exam grade. The True-False segment of the exam, to be taken on Blackboard, will include material from the assigned readings (see the Course Material button > Section Outline). **Part 2:** Map Location Segment; **25 percent** of the exam grade. The Map Location segment of the exam, to be taken on Blackboard, will be drawn from the list of Basic Place Locations provided for this exam. This exam will account for **33.33 percent** of your course grade.

Exam #3: (see Section Outline for Exam 3). Two Parts. **Part 1:** True-False segment; **75 percent** of the exam grade. The True-False segment of the exam, to be taken on Blackboard, will include material from the assigned readings (see the Course Material button > Section Outline). **Part 2:** Map Location Segment; **25 percent** of the exam grade. The Map Location segment of the exam, to be taken on Blackboard, will be drawn from the list of Basic Place Locations provided for this exam. This exam will account for **33.33 percent** of your course grade.

Grading Curves. No grading "curves," (except for the 5 point Bad Question credit) either upward or downward, should be expected.

Extra Credit. There are **NO** extra credit opportunities in this course.

Unable to Complete the Course. If you are not able to complete the course requirements, you should contact the Registrar's Office.

Re-Grading Privileges. There is no re-grading privilege. This is not elementary or high school. You have one shot to make a grade on an exam. If you take the exam, you will receive the grade you make. If you are not prepared to take the exam - **DO NOT TAKE THE EXAM.**

Posting of Grades. Grades will be submitted to the University for posting on your unofficial transcript.

10. **Letter Grade Scale.** Your final course grade will be based on the class Exams as described above.

- A** - Final Class Average of **90 to 100**
- B** - Final Class Average of **80 to 89.99**
- C** - Final Class Average of **70 to 79.99**
- D** - Final Class Average of **60 to 69.99**
- F** - Final Class Average of **59.99 or less**

11. **Academic Honesty.** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on examinations or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Cheating includes:

Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs.

Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.

Collaborating, without authorization, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work.

Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test.

Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, to take a test.

Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.

Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of the rough and/or final versions of an assignment by a professional typist.

Plagiarism means the appropriation of another's work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one's own work offered for credit. Collusion means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.

Abuse of resource materials means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.

In a word or two: If I catch you engaged in any form of academic dishonesty, I will pursue the matter to the bloody end and do all in my power to not only remove you from the class, and give you the grade of "F" that you so richly deserve. I will also do all that I can to have you removed from the University.

12. **Graduate Credit.** All students taking Geography 4358 for graduate credit will be required, in consultation with the instructor, to complete a paper on a topic of mutual interest. Such students should get in touch with the instructor at their earliest convenience.