

Course Syllabus

GEOG 4359

Transportation Geography

Instructor Information:

Name: Dr. Gang Gong

Office Number: Lee Drain Building - 333

Phone: 294-4564

E-mail: ggong@shsu.edu

* I always try to have an “open-door” policy as regards office hours, so please feel free to call or come by any time that you have a question.

Course Description:

Transportation geography is an important branch of geography. It is mainly concerned with the movement of goods, people, and information as well as the constraints and attributes of all the spatial interactions between places. From day to day commute to international trade, movements of people, goods and information have always been fundamental components of human societies. Contemporary economic processes have been accompanied by a significant increase in mobility and higher levels of accessibility.

This course introduces students the basic concepts, theories, and methods of transportation geography. It covers topics like transportation infrastructure, modes and terminals, transportation and economy and trade, urban transportation, logistics, and transportation planning. In addition, this course also covers various analytical techniques applied in transportation analysis such as network analysis, gravity model, location-allocation modeling, and geographic information system in transportation.

Textbook Information: The Geography of Transport Systems. Jean-Paul Rodrigue, et al. Routledge, 2nd edition, 2009. ISBN: 978-0415483247.

Exams and Grading: There will be six homework assignments with 50 points each.

There will also be one final term paper (200 points). Here is the breakdown of the grades:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Assignments (50*6) | 300 (60.0%) |
| Final term paper | 200 (40.0%) |
| Total | 500 (100%) |

The grades will be assigned as follows:

A (450-500), B (400-449), C (350-399), D (300-349), F (less than 300)

Late Work

Each exercise and the final term paper will have specific due time. Unless with permission of extension from the instructor ahead of the due time, overdue exercise will not be accepted and therefore receive a grade of zero.

Final Project

Each student is required to write a transportation related research paper. The final term paper is due by the last class day according to the Academic Calendar. Please check the Final Term Paper document under Units for a detailed guideline.

Academic Honesty

For all the assignments, substantially presenting someone else's work as your own will result in an F. There is zero tolerance for plagiarism in any form.

Graduate Students

To earn graduate credits from this course, in addition to the requirements above, each graduate student is required to read additional sections (Geographic Information Systems for Transportation (GIS-T), and Symbolization of Transport Features in a GIS) in the Appendix of the textbook and additional journal articles.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly

confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>