



South Central College

## **GEOG 200 Special Topics in Geography**

### **Course Outcome Summary**

#### **Course Information**

<b>Description</b>	Students will explore a region to learn its unique characteristics and how its physical geography and human geography are closely linked within that region. The focus will be on real-world and hands-on activities that will use an inquiry-driven approach to learning. When applicable, geographic tools, such as GIS (Geographic Information Systems), remote sensing, and map skills, will be presented. This course will have a research component. (MNTC 5: History/Social & Behavioral Sciences)
<b>Total Credits</b>	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	48

#### **Types of Instruction**

<b>Instruction Type</b>	<b>Credits/Hours</b>
Classroom Presentation	3/48

#### **Institutional Core Competencies**

Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility - Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to engage in the social responsibilities expected of a community member.

#### **Course Competencies**

- 1. Evaluate geographical factors in the special topic region which have influenced history, landforms, climate natural resources, agriculture, industry, and human spatial patterns.**

##### **Learning Objectives**

Apply the Five Themes of Geography to understand geographical factors.  
Review the primary sub-topics of physical geography.  
Review the primary sub-topics of human geography.

- 2. Show understanding of the interrelationships and interactions between society and the environment in the special topic area.**

##### **Learning Objectives**

Understand the impact of human activities on the environment.  
Be aware of current resource issues to include depletion of scarce resources and pollution.

- 3. Demonstrate and analyze knowledge of the facts, processes, and methods of Regional Geography.**

##### **Learning Objectives**

Learn the unique physical characteristics of the particular region.  
Identify urban settlements and services to explore the patterns of development in the area.  
Discover the climate of the area to include its impact on those living in the area.

**4. Understand the tools for geography in the special topic area: this includes analysis of maps, charts, and graphs.**

**Learning Objectives**

Use a map to learn the distribution of features of an area.  
Interpret GIS (Geographic Information Systems) documents.  
Understand climatic temperature and precipitation charts.

**5. Evaluate and become more aware of international and cultural diversity in the special topic area.**

**Learning Objectives**

Determine the different cultural groups that live in the area.  
Describe the folk and popular culture behaviors of the region.  
Explore the attitudes of cultural diversity that exist in the area.

**6. Understand the role of field work in geographic inquiry of the special topic area.**

**Learning Objectives**

Know all the difference between qualitative and quantitative.  
Learn the differences of data collection between physical and human geography.

**7. Acquire an understanding of how the special topic may be applied to you, the student, to promote greater self-understanding and self-improvement.**

**Learning Objectives**

Examine the special topic area in terms of your own life.  
Articulate how you might use the knowledge gained in the course to change or improve your own thinking and behavior.

**8. Utilize critical thinking skills.**

**Learning Objectives**

Develop an informed perspective, utilizing, objective and verifiable evidence related to the special topic.  
Formulate logical and well-reasoned explanation of various topics related to the course.

**9. Apply research methods to prepare a formal research project that adheres to the formatting expectations of a style manual, such as the Modern Language Association (MLA) format, selected by the instructor.**

**Learning Objectives**

Explore the literature and develop a research question.  
Analyze and present results and prepare a logical analysis of findings.  
Prepare a written report that includes proper documentation of source material.  
Conduct all work within the ethical parameters of academic scholarship.

**SCC Accessibility Statement**

South Central College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you have a disability and need accommodations for access to this class, contact the Academic Support Center to request and discuss accommodations. North Mankato: Room B-132, (507) 389-7222; Faribault: Room A-116, (507) 332-7222.

Additional information and forms can be found at: [www.southcentral.edu/disability](http://www.southcentral.edu/disability)

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