



(A Constituent College of Moi University)

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES EDUCATION

SECOND YEAR

SEMESTER: 1

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2018/2019

Course Title: SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

Course Code: BGS 212

Credit Hours: 3

Course Purpose

To explain organization of Geographical space and discuss importance of environmental conservation and management

Objectives

The objective of this course is

- i. To enable the learner know the fundamentals of spatial organisation in geography
- ii. To enable the learner to comprehend theories, models and concepts used in geography as a Spatial science
- iii. To enable the learner gain skills of spatial data analysis

Expected learning outcomes

At the end of this course, the learner should be able to:

- i. Comprehension of the fundamental principles of spatial organisation
- ii. Basic comprehension of theories, models and concepts used in geographic studies
- iii. Skills on geospatial data analysis

Course Content

Concept of human/cultural ecology; Political regional human ecology; The evolution of human; Environmental; environmental determinism; human ecology, culture and cultural hearths; land studies; possibilism; positivism. perception and behavioral geography spatial organization. spatial organization; the concept and scope; spatial distribution, spatial location, spatial structure, the concept of region; spatial interaction; transport development; spatially restricted and integrated societies; spatial diffusion; population dynamics in spatial organization; spatial structure of human settlement and activities: types, functions and evolution of settlements, location of industries with special reference to Kenya; spatial structure of urban centre and land use pattern: the evolution of small service centers, roles of small centers and their hinterland; model building in spatial organization; models: in agricultural location; Von Thunen etc.; modeling in urban systems and industrial location theories – central places theory and the functional hierarchies of settlements, and specialized centers with the hierarchy – Walter Christaller, Alfred Weber, D. Waught, Edgar, Hoover etc. urbanization – esp. spatial patterns of urbanization in both developed and developing countries. human's roles in the environmental change; spatial consequences of human activities on the environment, need for conservation and the concept of sustainable development

Course Outline

1. Introduction
 - a) Definitions of human/cultural ecology
 - b) Political and regional ecology
2. Concepts in human/cultural ecology
 - a) Culture and cultural hearths
 - b) Environmental determinism and possibilism
 - c) Positivism and behavioural geography

3. Spatial interaction
 - a) Conceptualization and perception of space
 - b) Concept of region
4. Spatial diffusion
 - a) Population dynamics and spatial organization
 - b) Spatial structure of human settlement
5. Spatial location of industries
 - a) Location of industries in Kenya
 - b) Alfred Weber's industrial location theory
6. Spatial structure of urban centres
 - a) Burges model of urban zoning
 - b) Central place theory
7. Spatial location of agricultural activities
 - a) Von Thunen theory
8. Man-environment relationship
 - a) Human activities and environmental change
 - b) Conservation of environment for sustainable development

Learning and Learning Methods

Lecture, Guided field visits, Guided library reading, E- learning platform, Discussion, Explanation, Observation

Instructional Materials/Equipment


Lecture notes, whiteboard, text books, LCD.

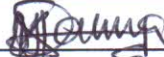
Course assessment

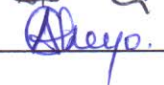
Type		Weighting
Continuous Assessment Test (1)	Week 5/6	15%
Continuous Assessment Test (2)	Week 9/10	15%
End of Semester Examination	Week 15/16	70%
Total		100%

Course Texts/References

1. Abler, R. F. (1971) Spatial Organization: The Geographer's View of the World.
2. Anubha Kaushik (2009). *Perspectives in Environmental Studies*. (3rded).
3. Harm De Blij (2009). *The Power of Space*. Oliver and Boyd
4. Knox, P.L., and Marson, S.A. (2001) Places and Regions in Global Context: Human Geography. 2nd Edition. Prentice-Hall Upper Saddle NJ 07458.

Course Lecturer MORRIS M. MWATU Sign  Date 6-8-2018

COD DR. MANYA W. SIEATHEN Sign  Date 7/8/2018

Dean Prof. Carlyne Omulando Sign  Date 7/8/2018