GEOG 105 | Cultural Geography

Midterm Study Guide

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. What is cultural geography and what makes it unique from other social sciences?
2. Define epistemology, positivism, and phenomenology.
3. Why is power an important aspect to culture? Explain what hegemony and marginalize mean and how this relates to power.
4. What is culture? Be sure to explain every aspect as detailed in class and your readings.
5. Explain folk, popular, and indigenous culture as discussed in your textbook.
6. What were Jane Austen, Johan von Herder, Franz Boas, Carl Sauer, Wilber Zelinsky, James Duncan, and Denis Cosgrove’s contributions to the study of culture(s)?
7. Define topophilia and placelessness.
8. What are the five themes of cultural geography?
9. Define the three types of region and give an example of each.
10. Define independent invention.
11. What is the main difference between the two main types of diffusion?
12. Explain hierarchical, contagious, and stimulus diffusion and give an example of each. Under what main type of diffusion do they fall?
13. What is an absorbing barrier to diffusion? Give an example.
14. Compare and contrast environmental determinism and environmental possibilism. Which is rarely used today and why?
15. What is the difference between the organic and mechanistic views of nature?
16. What is the convergence hypothesis?
17. Explain how the Marlboro Man ad campaign used place to sell cigarettes. Give your own thoughts on how this is still used today.
18. What is forced geographic difference? Give an example.
19. Thoroughly explain how Vancouver’s Chinatown formed, according to Kay Anderson. Use concrete examples from her article. What was the shift that made most Chinatown’s what they are today?
20. As best you can, explain the difference between place and space.
21. What is Lefebvre’s three part framework to understanding space? Give examples of each piece.
22. What is Harvey’s three part framework to understanding space? Give examples of each piece.
23. Define object, constructive, and existential authenticity.
24. How does Goffman’s front and back region concept work? Explain the concepts of decorum, make work, and make no work. How does this relate to staged authenticity?
25. Why is language important when studying culture?
26. Define accent, dialect, pidgin, creole, and lingua franca.
27. What is Esperanto and why do you think more people don’t use it?
28. How are music and place intertwined? Use examples from Ed Jackiewicz’s article.
29. Trace the origins of hip hop and rap. Who were the three grandfathers? What have been the fundamental differences between East and West Coast Rappers? How have social scientists analyzed all of this in a global context?
30. Approximately what is the current world population?
31. Explain population density, birth rate, total fertility rate, and death rate.
32. How does gender affect population patterns?
33. What did Thomas Malthus have to say about population growth? Who disagreed with him and why?
34. What is the map communication model and who created it?
35. What is a choropleth map?
36. Define and explain geographic information systems (GIS).
37. Explain the differences between the 2004 presidential election maps shown in class. How could these maps suggest different election outcomes without changing the data?
38. Define monotheistic, polytheistic, proselytic, ethnic, orthodox, fundamentalist, and syncretic religions.
39. Compare and contrast Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. From where did each originate?
40. How did the concept of race evolve and why do we still care about it today?
41. According to Jared Diamond, can we biologically study race? Give examples from his article.
42. Explain Herrnstein and Murray’s argument in the Bell Curve and give critiques against it.
43. Explain how slavery in America was a geographic issue. What kept slaves from being emancipated sooner and what was the “problem” when they finally were? How did the South deal with this? How did the North?
44. Make sure you are familiar with the countries of Africa. You will be naming some from a blank map on the midterm!