This course provides pre-service teachers an opportunity to review concepts and subject matter from geography courses in ways that will enhance their instructional capability in K-12 settings. It is not a course in "how to teach"; it is a course that should bolster your knowledge of geography and make you more able to apply what you learn elsewhere about how to teach. The premise of this class is that teaching requires content knowledge. The course is influenced by the benchmarks for geographic literacy provided in Geography for Life: National Geography Standards (published by the Geography Education Standards Project) and the Michigan Curriculum Framework (published by the Michigan State Board of Education). Geography for Life suggests "the essential subject matter, skills, and perspectives that all students should have in order to attain high levels of competency.” The Michigan Curriculum Framework is intended to guide Michigan schools in designing, implementing, and assessing what they teach in core subject areas, and geography is included among the social studies.

The course will be structured to include:

- The subject matter and concepts of human and physical geography and of representational components of geography (maps, GIS, remote sensing).
- Discussion of key concepts, content, and skills.
- Opportunities to find, develop, and share curriculum materials that allow the teaching of geography-related lessons.

At the end of the course, in addition to some bolstered knowledge of geography, you should have a class notebook with your discussion sheets other course materials; a personal webpage and resources webpage; a lesson plan collection (paper copies) evaluated by you (evaluation sheet) and accompanying materials from which to draw in your teaching, and an original lesson plan (one you have constructed yourself).

Instructor:

Judy M. Olson
211 Geography Bldg
olsonj@msu.edu 517-353-8757
office hours: Mon/Thurs 2:45-3:45 & by appointment (also available after class on Tues & Thurs)

Class “Texts:”


Michigan Geographic Alliance web site. (Watch class webpage for the general link to MGA; their page is under reconstruction. We will especially look at assessment items, which are accessible from the class webpage in reformatted, more readable form. You can read general information about the assessment items at <http://www.wmich.edu/mga/assesment.htm> but links will not work.) [AIs]


Class Attendance etc.
You are expected to be in class every day unless you have a good reason for not being there. Please do not bring food to class (a beverage is acceptable unless we are in the computer lab). Please remove headgear during class unless you have a health or religious reason for wearing it.

Classroom Arrangement
We will be arranging furniture in the classroom for roundtable discussion. Please note how to lock and unlock table wheels and how to change to our setup and back again so you can be helpful at the beginning and end of class.

Grading:
Grades will be based on assignments and daily discussion sheets (which go into your class notebook), your resource webpage, your resource book of evaluated lesson plans and materials, several short quizzes, and attendance and participation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approximate percentages:</th>
<th>Grading scale:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments/class notebook 20% (100 pts)</td>
<td>≥90 -100 4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resources webpage 18% (90 pts)</td>
<td>≥85 - 90 3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resources notebook 22% (110 pts)</td>
<td>≥80 – 85 3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes 25% (125 pts)</td>
<td>≥75 - 80 2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/participation 12% (60 pts) (2/day)</td>
<td>≥70 – 75 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration 3% (15 pts)</td>
<td>etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 100% (500 pts)

Points are taken off from late assignments at a progressive rate. Two absences are allowed without attendance penalty.

Quiz Policy
In fairness to all students in the class, only such events as illness or a death in the family are acceptable as excuses for missing a quiz without prior agreement. The instructor reserves the right for verification (doctor’s excuse,...). In any event, please call (517-353-8757) BEFORE the quiz to indicate the problem if possible. You can drop one quiz (lowest score will automatically be dropped at the end of term.) With prior agreement or an acceptable excuse, a makeup quiz will normally be given if more than one quiz must be missed because of a valid excuse for both; otherwise, missed quizzes are recorded as a zero.
**Tentative Schedule**

Jan 10  **Introduction to the course; first-day “exam”**.

Jan 12  **Guest** (Anna Lutey, Teach For America)  **[Prep Sheet (.doc) (.pdf)]**

**Why geography?**
GL Preface and Ch. 1 “The Geographic View of Our World”
"Geographic Education and Public Policy"<http://geography.about.com/library/misc/bldebial1.htm?terms=de+bial> - an address by Harm de Blij
(optional opportunity: Lecture by de Blij, **8:45 am Thurs 1/12**, 119 Psych Bldg: "The Rise of China")

Jan 17-  (Review “exam”)
**The Nature of Geography**
B&R Ch. 1 “Introduction to Geography”
B&R Appendix I “Map Scale and Projections”

Jan 19  **Geography Standards; Skills and Perspectives.**
MCF/Social Studies/Strand II--Geographic Perspective
GL Ch. 2 “The Components of Geography Education,
GL Ch. 3 “Geographic Skills and Perspectives”
GL Ch. 4 “The Subject Matter of Geography”
Stmts 1, 2, 3 in GL Chs. 5, 6, and 7
H&H Ch. 2 (part) 'The Nat'l Stds & Five Fund. Themes in Geog', pp. 24-28

Jan 24  **Physical Geography: Weather and Climate -- 1**
B&R Ch. 2 (first half, 44-70) “Weather and Climate”

Jan 26  **Physical Geography: Weather and Climate -- 2**
B&R Ch 2 (last half, 71-end)

Jan 31  **Guest**  **[Prep Sheet (.doc) (.pdf)]**

Feb 2  **Physical Geography: Landforms**
B&R Ch 3 “Landforms”

Feb 7  **Environment.**
B&R Ch 4 “Biogeochemical Cycles and the Biosphere”

Feb 9  **Population**
B&R Ch 5 “Population, Population Increase, and Migration”

Feb 14  **Cultural Geography**
B&R Ch 6 “Cultural Geography”

Feb 16  **Geog. Career & Internship Night 4 – 6 pm, Room 244 NS.**
GL Ch 4…(pp. 79-84)

Feb 21  **Geography of Languages.**
B&H Ch 7 (first half, 266-284) “The Geography of Languages and Religions”

Feb 23  **Geography of Religions**
B&R Ch 7 (last half, 284-end) “The Geography of Languages and Religions”

Feb 28  **Geography of Food**
B&R Ch 8 “The Human Food Supply”
Mar 2  Resources and Their Protection  
B&R Ch 9 “Earth’s Resources and Environmental Protection”

Mar 7/9  *Spring Break*

Mar 14  Urban Geography  
B&R Ch 19 “Cities and Urbanization”

Mar 16  Political Geography  
B&R Ch 11 “A World of States”

Mar 21  Guest  [Prep Sheet (.doc) (.pdf)]

Mar 23  Economic Geography  
B&R Ch 12 (first half, 492-517) “National Paths to Economic Growth”

Mar 28  Economic Geography  
B&R Ch 12 (first half, 492-517) “National Paths to Economic Growth”

Mar 30  Economic Geography  
B&R Ch 12 (last half, 517-end) “National Paths to Economic Growth”

Apr 4  Case studies (as examples of geographic teaching material)  
H&H Ch 13 “Geography in Action: Applying Geography Standards, Themes, and Concepts”

Apr 6  Discussion of lesson plans

Apr 11  GPS exercise

Apr 13  Guest  [Prep Sheet (.doc) (.pdf)]

Apr 18  Adult learning in geography.  Parents, teachers, all of us.  
GL pp. 237-241 “The Role of Parents in Geography Education”.

Apr 20  Lecture: Geographic learning and disabilities / styles of learning

Apr 25  Oral presentation of a lesson plan to whole class (and visitors)

Apr 27  Oral presentation of a lesson plan to whole class (and visitors)

**Final Exam Time: Thursday, May 4, 5:45-7:45 pm** (in Regular Classroom unless announced).  
Display of your journal, resource collections, and original lesson plan; others invited.