

**DILLA UNIVERSITY**

**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND THE HUMANITIES**

**Department of Geography and Environmental studies**

**Course Module for the Course of Seminar on Contemporary  
Geographic Issues (GeEs 2073)**

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# CHAPTER ONE

## 1. Introduction

### Unit description:

This unit assesses the Concept, aims, importance, types and guidelines to prepare a seminar in contemporary geographic issues. To deliver these contents, active learning methods such as brainstorming, interactive lecture, peer learning, and group discussion will be used. And also to assess students' achievement, continuous assessments such as quiz, test, class activities, assignments and others will be used.

### Objectives

At the end of this unit, the students will be able to:

- Define the term Seminar; K,L1
- Describe the advantage of seminar method ; K,L1
- Point out the types of seminars K,L1
- use the guide lines for preparing seminars; A,L5

**Teaching methods;** Brain storming, interactive lecture, peer and group discussion.

### 1.1. CONCEPT and DEFINITION OF SEMINAR

#### Brain storming

**Q.** what is a seminar? Why we use seminar method? Describe the aim and objective of seminar method.

A seminar can take various forms but it usually means that a large group of students (perhaps the whole class or a third or half of them) meets for an hour or two to listen to one or more students giving a presentation on some aspect of a course.

#### Interactive lecture

*Q. what differences a seminar has with research, presentation, symposium, conference, workshop,*

### **Difference between Seminar and Presentation**

Seminar is constructed on a theme whereas presentation is based on any topic. There can be a lot of presentations in a seminar. A seminar can be whole day event while a presentation is short and on specific topic. In brief, a presentation can be a subcategory of a seminar.

### **Differences between a Research and a Seminar Paper**

The thesis/dissertation is also different from a seminar or course paper, in that it is intended for a broader audience of potential readers. Whereas the audience for a seminar paper is usually defined in terms of a specific professor whose approach to a topic has been expounded over the course of a semester, writing a thesis/dissertation involves addressing a wider and, to some extent, unfamiliar audience. An advisor may be the first person to read your work, but members of a thesis/dissertation committee at your university also will read it. In addition, and of paramount importance, a thesis/dissertation is written for a wider audience of scholars in a discipline who have published books and articles on the proposed topic.

### **Difference between Conference, Seminar, Workshop and Symposium**

Conference is a meeting expert for discussion. Symposium is a meeting to discuss a particular subject and collection of papers for this purpose. It is a philosophical discussion of the subject concerned. A workshop is a meeting for discussion and activity on a particular subject or project. In the workshop usually experts deliver lectures and the practical's are arranged to train up the participants. A seminar is a type of short intensive course.

*Q. what are the aims and objectives of seminar method in teaching? Discuss for a few minutes.*

### **Aim & Objectives of Seminar Method**

This seminar method is utilized to realize the higher objectives of cognitive and affective domains.

Cognitive objectives

- i. To develop higher cognitive abilities.
- ii. To develop the ability of responding in this manner would involve higher cognitive actions.
- iii. To develop the ability of keen observation of experience, feelings and
- iv. To develop the ability to seek clarification and defend the ideas of others effectively.

Affective objectives

- ✓ To develop the feeling of tolerance to the opposite ideas of others.
- ✓ To develop the feelings of co-operation with other colleagues and respect of the ideas and feelings of others.
- ✓ To develop the emotional ability among the participants of the seminar.
- ✓ To acquire the good manners of putting questions and answering the questions of others effectively.

## 1.2. Importance of seminar Method

### Group discussion:

Q. Take a few minutes and Discuss the merits and demerits of seminar method

**Merits of Seminar method:** Here are some merits of a seminar method.

- Seminar is usually learner centered.
- Information seeking and retrieval behavior is encouraged very much in this method.
- The learner himself prepares and compiles his own paper for the seminar gives readiness of mind and learning becomes structured.
- Learning by doing is encouraged in this method.
- Learning experiences is highly structured by the learner himself.
- The teacher or chair person of technical session only plays the Guidance and instructional role.
- Develops cognitive, affective domains based learning.
- Develops open mindedness, suppress the subjective ideas from the learners.
- The data processing skills, compilation skills, communication skill are easily inculcated in this method.

- Learner gets in-depth knowledge of the subject he presented.
- This method built better social values and fault tolerance levels in the minds of learner.

### **Limitations of Seminar method**

- ✓ Setting up of a seminar for every topic in theText is not feasible.
- ✓ The subject area to be taught must be relevant to the theme of the seminar.
- ✓ This method found fit for higher learning only.
- ✓ Implementation of this method for lower classes is cumbersome.
- ✓ Only matured and balanced minded teachers can make this method successful.
- ✓ The teacher must be resourceful (both in academic and administrative) in nature.
- ✓ Time management is somewhat difficult.

## **1.3. Types of Seminars**

### **Peer Discussion;**

*Q. Take a few minutes and Discuss the types of seminars that you know before.*

Seminars are conducted in various stages. Based on the size and organizational aspects the seminars can be classified in to four types.

1. Mini seminar- an organized way within a class room.
2. Major seminar- an organized at department level for every month
3. National seminar- National level
4. International seminar- an international organization or agency

## **1.4. Guide Line in Preparing Seminars**

### **Group discussion;**

*Q. Discuss the steps involve in preparing seminars. Explain the structure of Seminars.*

### **Steps involved in Seminar:**

The seminar is a process which allows the persons to discuss a theme in a peer group with subject experts in an objective method. The steps of the seminar method are classified in to following three steps:

- Before seminar (pre seminar phase)
- At the course of seminar (seminar phase)
- After the seminar (post seminar phase)

### **General Structure of a Seminar Paper**

A seminar paper should start with a title page and a table of contents, and it should end with a literature list. Additionally, there are some raw guidelines how to structure the content itself. The general structure of the contents is like follows:

2. **Introduction:** General motivation, goal of the paper, overview of the following contents
3. **Related Work:** Overview about works related to the presented topics; to be discovered by the writer in a literature study
4. **New/Presented Work:** Detailed presentation of the assigned topic
5. **Evaluation Results:** An evaluation of the usefulness of the presented topic
6. **Conclusions and Outlook:** Short conclusion on the presented work as well as open questions

### **Contemporary geographical issues**

The study of geography, by its very nature, covers a range of contemporary issues and events. These are the issues and events that are 'in the news'. They are issues and events that are discussed and debated widely in the community. Contemporary geographical issues and events have both a spatial and temporal dimension. This means that they occur in a particular context and timeframe. They might, for example, be a local community-based issue (such as a development proposal) that is a focus of peoples' attention for just a short period of time, or an environmental issue that affects the whole planet (for example, global climate change) which may be of concern for generations. Because people have different perspectives or points of view on issues, they will often disagree on how they should be addressed. Disagreement is often healthy as long as we respect the rights of others to express views that we might not necessarily

agree with. Being able to identify and evaluate such points of view greatly enhances our own decision-making processes. This is what makes the study of geography so interesting.

As their geographical awareness develops, students are better placed to:

- Appreciate the ever-changing nature of the world in which we live
- Empathize with the experiences and circumstances of other people
- Form opinions
- Evaluate alternative responses
- Develop as global citizens.

### **Sample questions**

1. What is a seminar?
2. How many types of seminars do you know?
3. Explain the guidelines for seminar preparation.
4. Why we prepare a seminar?
5. List and explain at least 5 contemporary geographic issues.

### **References**

- Hardwick, S. and Holtgrieve, D. (1996) **Geography for Educators: Standards, themes and Concepts** New Jersey: Prentice Hall.
- Haput, A. and Thomas (2004) **Population Handbook** .5<sup>th</sup> edition. Washington: PRB
- Knowles, R & Wareing, J. (1990). *Economic and Social Geography*, London,
- Getis, A & Fellman, J. (1998). *Introduction to Geography* (6<sup>th</sup> ed), McGraw-Hill companies. (Page 446-464)
- Waugh, D. (1990) *Geography: An Integrated Approach* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.), Nelson London, (Page 420-431)

## CHAPTER TWO

### 2. Prelude to Geography

#### Unit Description

This unit assesses concept of geography, geography in ancient, middle, modern world, core concepts in geography and paradigm in geography. To deliver these contents, active learning methods such as brainstorming, interactive lecture, self-learning and group discussion will be used. And also to assess students' achievement, continuous assessments such as quiz, test, class activities, assignments and others will be used.

#### Objectives

At the end of this unit, the students will be able to:

- Define the meaning of Geography; K, L1
- Compare the status of geography in ancient, middle and modern world; A, L4
- Identify the core concepts in geography; A, L1
- Revise the different paradigms in geography; A, L5

**Teaching methods;** brain storming, self-learning, interactive lecture, wind up and group discussion.

#### 2.1. Foundation of Geography

#### Brain Storming;

*Q.* Are you a geographer? What qualifies you to be a geographer?

#### Definition of Geography



The term geography have been given Different definitions by different scholars in different time.

**Hartshorne** (1959);Geography is concerned to provide accurate, orderly and rational description and interpretation of the variable character of the earth surface

**The Concise Oxford Dictionary** (1964);Geography is the science of the earth's surface, form, physical features, natural and political divisions, climate, production, population, etc.

**Yeates** (1968);Geography can be regarded as a science concerned with the rational development of and testing of theories that explain and predict the spatial distribution and location of various characteristics of the surface of the earth

**Dunford** (1981);Geography is the study of special forms and structures produced historically and specified by mode of production

**Haggett**(1990);Geographers are concerned with three kinds of analysis. These are:

**Spatial** (Location): characteristics, activities and distributions

**Ecological**: the relationship between humans and environment

**Regional**: the combination of the first two themes in areal differentiation

Geography Working group's interim report (1990);Geography explores the relationship between the earth and its people through the study of place, space environment. Geographers ask questions such as where, what, how and why.

**Gale** (1992);Geography for me is about how we view the world, how we see people in places

**Peet** (1998);Geography is the study of relations between society and the natural environment.

## **Peer Discussion;**

**Q.** When time did introduced to describe geography? How? By whom?

Many agree that geography holds a puzzling position within the organization of knowledge straddling both the social and natural sciences.

By the time geography became an established university subject, in the late 19th century, academic studies had already been divided into the natural and physical Geography with its social and natural constituents had to be slotted into this existing structure. Although the bridging role between natural and social sciences seen as the unique and vital strength of geography, it is also an impediment for the subject. Sciences on one hand and the humanities and social sciences on the other.

Writing about and describing geographical phenomenon started long before the introduction of the subject geography to the university. Geographical thought actually started when people begun realizing that different places have different characteristics. Geography has gone through more intellectual changes than other discipline particularly during the 20th centuries. So, let we revise the pathway of geography in different era.

## 2.2. Geography in Ancient World

### Group Discussion;

Q. Discuss the status of geography during ancient, middle and modern world?

<u>Name scholars</u>	<u>Origin</u>	<u>Major contribution</u>
Herodotus (485-425)	Greeks	As a father of history he recorded historical events in geographical settings
Eratosthenes (276-194)	Alexandria	Able to calculate the circumference of the earth  He developed coordinate systems for the world based on latitude and longitude which enabled him to make the first possibly accurate map
Ptolemy (90-168 AD)	Alexandria	Improved the work of Eratosthenes  Wrote the principles of divisions of latitude and longitude in to degrees and the calculation of distances  Discussed map projections made maps of the world. However his longitudinal measurement was full of errors due to rejecting Eratosthenes accurate estimation
Starbo (64 BC-20 AD)	Romans	In his work of 17 volume geographica he explained and discussed different human and physical phenomenon.  Cultural differences over space  Description of world known places  Discussed government, society, cultural development and the

significance of natural conditions

### 2.3. Geography in Middle World

<u>Nam of scholars</u>	<u>Origin</u>	<u>Major contribution</u>
Ibn Batuta (1304-68)	Middle East	Travelled as far as China and south of the equator along the east coast disproving the claim that this part of the earth is too hot for human habitation
Al Idrisi (1099-1180)		Wrote a descriptive geography and introduced a more sophisticated world climatic zones that what the Greeks suggested (two cold zones, two temperate zone and on torrid zone)
Al Muqaddasi (945-88)	Middle East	He made extensive travel and observation in the Arab land and most of his documents were first hand information unlike his predecessors
Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406)	Arab	He was interested in historical geography and wrote about the rise and fall of states in their geographical settings

During the time of renaissance, geography was revived and major travellers of the time were used Ptolemy's map this led to the new improvements of cartography which resulted from new discoveries and filling the information gap between the middle age and the renaissance .

### 2.4. Geography In The Modern World

In the early period of modern geographical thought (classical Period there were prominent thinkers who provided philosophical foundation for the belief that the subject geography has a significant scientific contribution.

**Immanuel Kant** ; In his popular lecture on physical geography Kant provided two ways of classification of empirical phenomena for the purpose of studying them based on their nature and in accordance with their position on space and time. Classification of phenomenon based on their nature is call logical classification and the other one is physical classification. Logical

classification lays the foundation for the systematic sciences. Whereas physical classification gives scientific basis for history and geography which studies phenomenon that follow one after the other in time (chronological science) and all phenomenon belonging to the same place (chorological science) respectively. Kant gave a theoretical justification for geography while Alexander von Humboldt and Carl Ritter laid the scientific foundation of Geography as a branch of knowledge

**Humboldt;** was mainly considered as cosmographer (the study of the universe) rather than seen as a geographer. Humboldt is mainly interested in natural sciences dealing with the underpinning relationship between plants, animals, and human kinds with climate, topography and altitude. Hence Humboldt's greatest contribution was in systematic physical geography

**Karl Ritter;** Unlike Humboldt Ritter was mainly concerned with human geography. Like Immanuel Kant, Ritter's view of the world is teleological which means understanding events in relation to their underlying purposes designed for. Ritter started to study the working of nature in order to understand the purpose behind its order. He regarded the earth as an educational model for humanity, where nature had a God given purpose which was to show humanity development. According to Ritter the shape of continents are not accidental but designed by God and this design and their relative location enabled them to play the role for which they are designed for. Carl Ritter's main contribution is on regional geography.

## 2.5. Core Concepts in Geography

### Group Discussion;

**Q. Explain the 4 major concepts of Geography? (Space, place, nature & landscape)**

**1. Space;** Space is not an objective structure but is a social experience which is constituted through social relations and material social practices (Massey, 1994). In general space is a highly complex term that is used and understood in a variety of ways.

**2. Place;** To her places are constituted of, and the outcome of multiple interacting social, political and economic relation, giving rise to a myriad of spatiality's.

**3. Landscape;** may be defined as an area made up of a distinct association of forms, both physical and cultural.

**4. Nature;** is a social construction and instrument of social power (means employed politically). Barnes and Gregory (1996), argue that there is nothing natural about nature at all.

## 2.6. Paradigms in Geography

### Interactive lecture;

Q. What is paradigm? Describe the paradigm shifts of Geography that are listed below .

Paradigms refer to the idea that academic disciplines move through phases of development characterized by different assumptions about how work should proceed.

Moving from one paradigm to another demands a fundamental re-conceptualization of the world by academics and there is a need to look the world in a new way and learn a new language for talking about it.

- Exploration
- Environmental Determinism
- Regionalism
- Quantitative Revolution
- Behaviouralism
- Humanism
- Structuration theory
- Political Economy theory
- Livelihood approach
- Practical Geography

### Sample questions

1. What is geography?
2. What are the core concepts in geography?
3. Explain the status of geography in ancient, middle and modern world.
4. Briefly explain the different paradigms in geography.

### References

- Hardwick, S. and Holtgrieve, D.(1996) **Geography for Educators: Standards, themes and Concepts** New Jersey: Prentice Hall.
- Haput, A. and Thomas (2004) *Population Handbook* .5<sup>th</sup>edition. Washington: PRB
- Todaro, M.and Stephen C. Smith (2009) *Economic Development*. 8<sup>th</sup>edition. New Delhi: Pearson.
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- Waugh, D. (1990) *Geography: An Integrated Approach* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.), Nelson London, (Page 420-431)

## CHAPTER THREE

### 3. Geographical Themes and Standards

**Unit description:** This unit assesses with the key geographic themes; population, environment, development, geopolitics and natural resources. To deliver these contents, active learning methods such as, self-learning, seminar method, group discussion will be used. And also to assess students' achievement, continuous assessments such as quiz, test, class activities, assignments and others will be used.

#### Objective

At the end of this unit, the students will be able to:

- Prepare a seminar on key geographic themes and standards; A,L3
- Develop skills of arguments and debates based on tangible evidences; S,L3

**Teaching methods:** Self-learning, interactive lecture, seminar method and group discussion.

#### 3.1. POPULATION

##### Seminar Method;

**Q. Prepare a seminar related to population.**

Population; is a collective term referring to the total number or specified group of **people** or of **animals** or of **plants** living in an area at a particular time. Our focus in this course is on **human population**. Basically all we belong to the human population, hence by studying population geography you must feel like studying ourselves. Any change occurring in human population affects all aspects of human life.

#### 3.2.Environment

##### Seminar Method;

**Q. Prepare a seminar related to our Environment.**

The environment is everything surrounding the organism including living and non-living things and the human-made things as well as concrete and abstract things; those things can affect directly and indirectly the organism.

### **3.3. Development**

#### **Seminar Method;**

**Q. Prepare a seminar related to Development and its Sustainability.**

There is no a single agreed up on definition for the term “development”. Many scholars defined and conceptualize development differently depending on their understanding. However, there are some popular definitions which have been accepted by many peoples and scholars. Some of these definitions include the following.

- Development is the extent to which resources of a country is brought in to a productive manner to raise the quality of life of the people.
- Development is a process by which members of a society increase their personal and institutional capabilities to mobilize and manage resources to produce sustainable improvement in their quality of life.
- Development is the full and more productive use of one’s resource by using advanced technology and there by improve the life condition and well-being of the society.

From the above definitions you can generalize that the end result of any development is to improve the quality of life of majority of the population. Any change that benefits a few section of a society may not be considered as ‘development’.

#### **The Concept of Sustainable Development**

The term “sustainability” derived from the Latin root, *sus-tinere*, which means to “under-hold” or hold up from underneath, implying robustness and durability over time. Accordingly, sustainability depicts a paradigm that seeks to protect the planet’s life support systems to ensure longevity for humans and other species.



**Focus:** Sustainable development can be defined as the ability to make development to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs”.

### **3.4. Geopolitical**

#### **Seminar Method;**

**Q. Prepare a seminar related to Geopolitical issues.**

Political geography is a systematic field, one of the oldest in geography, focuses on the spatial expressions of political behavior. Boundaries on land, and on the oceans, the role of capital cities, power relationships among states, administrative systems, voter behavior, conflicts over resources and even matters involving outer space have politico-geographical dimensions. Modern political geography also focuses on political behavior and the way this varies across the cultural landscape. Political geography is a legitimate child of human geography; both are concerned with the interplay between men and the physical environment, or branch of human geography which is concerned with humans and their activities, especially those activities that are political in nature.

Political geography recognizes six entities - power, politics and policy, space, place and territory are intrinsically linked, but a piece of political geographical research does not need to explicitly address them all.

### **3.5. Natural resource**

#### **Seminar Method;**

**Q. Prepare a seminar related to natural resources.**

#### **Definition of Natural Resources**

A natural resource is anything we get from the physical environment to meet our needs and wants. Natural

resources are resources that are derived from the earth and/or biosphere or atmosphere or hydrosphere and exist independently of human activity. They are the things that Earth provides us that we can use, but which must be managed to maintain their viability. Natural resources (economically referred to as land or raw materials) occur naturally within environments that exist relatively undisturbed by mankind, in a natural form.

### **Sample question**

1. Prepare a seminar paper on the 5 key themes and standards in geography such as population, environment, development, geopolitical and natural resources.

### **References**

- Felix et al (2006) *Contemporary Development Economics*. New Delhi.
- Harris, M. (2000) *Basics Principles of sustainable Development*. Medford: GDEI.
- Haput, A. and Thomas (2004) *Population Handbook* .5<sup>th</sup> edition. Washington: PRB
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- Daniel, P. and Hopkinson, M. (1995). *The Geography of Settlement: Conceptual Framework in Geography* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed). (page 56-73)
- John Agnew, 2003, *Geopolitics*, second edition, Routledge, New York.

## UNIT FOUR

### 4. KEY CONCEPTS RELATED TO TERM PAPER THEMATIC ISSUES

**Unit description:** This unit focuses on how to prepare a term paper using contemporary geographic issues. To deliver these contents, active learning methods such as brainstorming, case study, self-learning, group and peer discussion will be used. And also to assess students' achievement, continuous assessments such as quiz, test, class activities, assignments and others will be used.

#### Objective

At the end of this unit, the students will be able to:

- **Prepare a term paper on key geographic themes ;A,L3**
- **Evaluate the guidelines in the preparation of term papers; K,L6**

**Teaching methods;**Brain storming, self-learning, case study, peer and group discussion

#### 4.1. How to Write a Term Paper

##### Peer Discussion;

**Q. Take a few minutes and discuss about how we prepare a term paper?**

Writing term paper is not easy. It requires a lot of hard work, extensive reading and thinking. Below are some guidelines to help you to write a term paper.

- 1) Identify an interesting topic:** Select a topic that you are interested so that you will enjoy the process of term paper writing.
- 2) Gather information:** Take support of available sources of information such as internet, libraries, abstracts from Pub Med and review articles. Read papers that are already written on a similar topic of your term paper so that you can formulate a direction.
- 3) Recognize the problem(s):** Identify the problem(s) that are still unsolved and unanswered. In your term paper, you should identify and list out the problem(s), give a literature review and an

updated summary, give conclusion and recommendations by which the problem(s) can be solved. You should provide a comprehensive essay that demonstrates your understanding of the topic.

**4) Provide quotations:** Provide references to support your ideas. Giving proper reference is important for term paper writing because without it readers will cast doubt on the accuracy of the information you provide and you will be blamed of plagiarism or academic dishonesty.

**5) General organization:** The following sections should be included in your term paper.

**(a) Title:** Give an informative and concise title.

**(b) Abstract:** Give the objectives, your findings and the significance of your paper.

**(c) Introduction:** Give background information and relate the problem(s) you found with the current information. Emphasize your contribution.

**(d) Main body:** Present your ideas in a systematic and concise manner. When necessary, supply figures, diagrams and tables with legends.

**(e) Discussion and conclusion:** Give a summary of your ideas, compare and contrast yours with that of other studies. Suggest future directions and provide thoughtful discussion about the implications of your suggestions.

**(f) References:** Make sure you provide accurate citations with the following format. List references alphabetically.

Text citations:

– Single author (Smithson, 2008)

– Two authors (Smithson and Thompson, 2008)

– Three or more authors (Smithson et al., 2008)

– Multiple references (Smithson et al., 2008a; Smithson et al., 2008b; Jones et al., 2003)

**(g) Abbreviations, units and symbols:** Abbreviations must be given the first time they are used, both in the abstract and again in the main text. SI units should be used except where non-SI units are more common [e.g. milli-liter (ml) for volume]. Symbols should be consistent throughout the text and figures.

#### **4.1.1. Natural Resource Management**

##### **Case Study;**

**Q. Study cases and Prepare a term paper related to natural resources management.**

Natural resource management refers to the management of natural resources with a particular focus on how management affects the quality of life for both present and future

generations. It is similar with the concept of sustainable development, a scientific principle that forms a basis for sustainable global land management and environmental governance to conserve and preserve natural resources. Natural resource management specifically focuses on a scientific and technical understanding of resources and ecology and the life-supporting capacity of those resources. The term Environmental management is also similar to natural resource management. Conservation of natural resources is the major focus of natural capitalism, environmentalism, the ecology movement, and green politics.

#### **4.1.2. Globalization**

##### **Case study;**

**Q. Study cases and Prepare a term paper related to Globalization Issues.**

#### **Definition of Globalization**

Globalization has multifaceted definitions. Hence, the following definitions are good to understand the general concepts of globalization.

1. Globalization is the acceleration and intensification of interaction and integration among the people, companies, and governments of different nations. This process has effects on human well-being, environment, culture (including ideas, religion, and political systems), and on economic development.
2. Globalization is defined as westernization. As such, globalization is regarded as a particular type of universalization, one in which the social structures of modernity (capitalism, industrialism, rationalism, urbanism, etc.) are spread the over world, destroying pre-existent cultures and local self-determination in the process.
3. Globalization is also defined as universalization. In this case, globalization is taken to describe a process of dispersing various objects and experiences to people at all inhabited parts of the earth. On these lines, global means worldwide and everywhere. Hence there is a 'globalization' of business suits, curry dinners, Barbie dolls, anti-terrorism legislation, and so on. Frequently globalization-as universalization assumed to entail homogenization with worldwide cultural, economic, legal and political convergence.
4. Globalization is also defined as liberalization. In this case, globalization denotes a process of removing officially imposed restrictions on movements of resources between

countries in order to form an ‘open’ and ‘borderless’ world economy. On this understanding, globalization occurs as authorities reduce or abolish regulatory measures like trade barriers, foreign-exchange restrictions, capital controls, and visa requirements.

5. Finally, Globalization is also defined as internationalizations. In this case, globalization refers to the growth of transaction and interdependency between countries. From this perspective, a more global world is one where more messages, ideas, merchandise, money, investments and people cross borders between national-state-territorial units.

#### **4.1.3. Eco-tourism**

##### **Self-learning;**

**Q.** Prepare a term paper related to Ecotourism Issues.

The International Ecotourism Society defines Ecotourism as: "responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people". It can also mean "Nature-based tourism that involves education and interpretation of the natural environment and is managed to be ecologically sustainable".

According to Martha Honey (2008), the seven defining points for eco-tourism are:

- 1) Involves travel to natural destinations**
- 2) Minimizes Impact**
- 3) Builds environmental awareness**
- 4) Provides direct financial benefits for conservation**
- 5) Provides financial benefits and empowerment for local people**
- 6) Respects local culture**
- 7) Supports human rights and democratic movements**

#### **4.1.4. Urbanization and its Problems**

##### **Self-learning;**

**Q.** Prepare a term paper related to Urbanization and its problems.

Urbanization is a *process* of becoming urban where rural areas become transformed into urban areas. In general usage, urbanization refers to the relative concentration of a territory's population, which engaged in non-agricultural activities, in towns and cities.

Numerically expressed, urbanization denotes the increases in the share of the population that resides in urban areas predominantly because of net rural to urban migration (UNFPA, 2007).

#### **4.1.5. Poverty and Environment**

##### **Self-learning;**

**Q.** Prepare a term paper by relating poverty and environment.

Poverty, low agricultural productivity and natural resources degradation are severely interrelated problems in less favored areas of the world. These areas include lands that have low agricultural potentials because of limited and uncertain rainfall, poor soils, steep slope, or other bio-physical constraints, as well as areas that may have agricultural potential but have limited access to infrastructure and markets, low population density or other socio-economic constraints.

According to recent study, nearly 2/3 of the rural population of developing countries (in which most are poor) or about 1.8 billion people lives in less favored areas. Such areas include:

- Most of the semiarid tropics of Africa and South Asia
- Mountainous areas in South America and Asia
- Much of the high lands of East and central Africa
- Hill side areas in central America and SE Asia, and
- Large portions of the humid tropics of Africa and Latin America

#### **4.1.6. Climate Change and Adaptation**

##### **Self-learning;**

**Q.** Prepare a term paper by related to climate change and adaptation.

Climate change refers to a large-scale change in one or more basic climate components, such as temperature or precipitation. Such a change would be significant enough to have a profound impact on the natural environment and human society. Climate change is perfectly natural and has taken place many times over the geological record.

In fact, climate change refers to drastic or secular changes in heat balance of the earth-atmosphere system, moisture, cloudiness and precipitation caused by either external factors such as variations in orbital characteristics of the earth, solar variability (fluctuations in radiation from the photosphere of the sun), tectonic process (mainly plate tectonics and displacement of continents and ocean basins), changes in atmospheric composition in terms of concentration of atmospheric aerosols and  $\text{CO}_2$  contents, etc. or by internal factors such as exchange of energy between the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and cryosphere (ice covered surface of both lithosphere and hydrosphere) or both at local, regional, global scale.

### **Adaptations to climate change**

Adapting to climate change will entail adjustments and changes at every level from community tonational and international. Communities must build their resilience, including adopting appropriate technologies while making the most of traditional knowledge, and diversifying their livelihoods to cope with current and future climate stress. Local coping strategies and traditional knowledge need to be used in integrated with government and local interventions. To enable effective adaptation measures, governments as well as non-government organizations, must consider integrating climate change in their planning and budgeting in all levels of decision making (Mendelsohn, 2000).

#### **4.1.7. Food Security**

##### **Case study;**

*Q.* Study cases and Prepare a term paper related to food security conditions and various option to achieve food security.

It is the ability of all people at all times to access enough food for an active and healthy life. It is estimated that 18 million people worldwide, most of whom are children, die each year due to starvation or malnutrition, and many others suffer a variety of dietary deficiencies. The earth can only supply a limited amount of food. If the world's carrying capacity to produce food cannot meet the needs of a growing population, anarchy and conflict will follow.

##### **The following 3 conditions must be fulfilled to ensure food security**

- Food must be available
- Each person must have access to it.
- The food utilized must fulfill nutritional requirement



## Sample questions

1. Explain the procedures for term paper writing.
2. Write a term paper on contemporary geographic issues.

## References

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