GEOG 151 Sp07 One-page Writing Assignment Series
POPULAR CULTURE INSTRUCTIONS AND RUBRIC

Why are you being asked to sit in your respective student memorial union/student center and watch people passing by for 30 minutes? There are three reasons. First, to help you to focus upon concepts of popular culture as exhibited at your own campus. Second, to provide your instructor and you with a data base of popular culture examples that we will use when we discuss the topic prior to Spring Break. Finally, an underlying purpose of this exercise is to promote critical thinking and creative thinking. Please use the accompanying headings as the template for your written part of this assignment.

1. Name (last name first, please)
2. Campus (full title, please)
3. Date of Observations and Specific Time
4. Describe, please, as specifically as you can, where you took your observations within (or for hardy people, outside) your campus student center
5. Summarize, please, in no more than two paragraphs what general observations you can make about how popular culture is expressed at your campus.
6. Knowing what you know about the other two campuses which participate with your campus over IVN, why would you agree or disagree with the premise that your general observations for your campus would be mirrored exactly at those other institutions of higher education.
7. Based upon your current knowledge of popular culture, explain in no fewer than one paragraph nor more than three paragraphs how representative is your campus compared to what is perceived as the national popular culture to be found on a college campus.

Rubric. This exercise is worth 25 points. The maximum number of points would be obtained if you were to have the template reproduced properly and under each heading an appropriate entry. What constitutes an appropriate entry and the scoring levels for each heading is presented here. For the first three headings, you must properly record the information requested (one point each). For the fourth heading, the site and situation of your place of observation ought to given and a description of your setting within that place (two points for completeness but only one point otherwise). For the fifth heading, you need to provide specific examples to support your general observations (five points for solid examples and logical conclusions, three points for fair examples and weaker conclusions, and one point for weak examples and poor conclusions). For the sixth heading, you need to provide a full explanation for your stance for the full five points (three points if you provide a less complete explanation and only a point for just “filling in” a response). For the seventh heading, you need to make connections to the key concepts and have a rationale for the reply you give (five points for strong ties and well documented rationale, three points for a fair “tie-in” and partially documented rationale, and one point for a poor “tie-in” and undocumented rationale). The remaining five points are divided among good mechanics and style (five points for proper grammar, error-free spelling, proper grammar, and correct punctuation, three points for less well-handled mechanics and style, and one point for poorest handling of mechanics and style). Please prepare your materials using Word or WordPerfect (Works seems to not work for me!). The deadline for submission is prior to Spring Break, so check Blackboard.