

# GEO200 Geography of Economic Activities

3rd and 4th quarters, Sophomore

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<b>Instructor</b>	TSUKIHARA TOSHIHIRO
<b>Style of Class</b>	Lecture
<b>Number of Credits</b>	2
<b>Day and Period</b>	Thursday, period 3

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## Course Description

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This course studies how to understand the regional industrial structure and its spatial organization based on perspectives and approaches that are rooted in geographical factors. Lectures also include selected topics in agricultural geography, commercial geography and industrial geography. While paying careful attention to industry and technology levels and the development of transportation means, the course also takes into account historical developments in the spatial order observed in industrial locations and land usage, as well as their organization.

## Course Objectives

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The objective of the course is for students to absorb fundamental knowledge in industrial geography and economic geography with regard to basic topics necessary to understand the regional industrial structure and its spatial organization.

## Prerequisites

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None in particular.

## Class Materials

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There is no prescribed textbook, but handouts prepared by the lecturer will be distributed to students.

In addition, students are also recommended to read the following books.

- Tomita Kazuaki, *Chiiki to sangyo –keizaichirigaku no kiso–* (Region and Industry: Fundamentals of Economic Geography) (New Edition), Hara Shobo, 2006.
- Ukita Tsuneyoshi, *Chirigaku nyumon–maruti sukeru jigurafi–* (Introduction to Geography: Multiscale Geography) (Revised Edition), Hara Shobo, 2010.
- The Human Geographical Society of Japan (ed.), *Jinbun chirigakujiten* (The Dictionary of Human Geography), Maruzen Publishing, 2013

## Course Method

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Classes will be conducted in lecture format. The lecturer will conduct the lectures and give students report assignments on a regular basis. Moreover, classes may include opportunities to discuss the assignments.

## Evaluation/Assessment

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Students will be evaluated based on two broad criteria. The first one is attitude in class and the degree of enthusiasm displayed in class participation. The second one is an evaluation of assignments given to students in accordance with class progress. The latter consists of two aspects, namely, the submission of reports on the assigned topics, and participation in class discussions related to those topics.

## Grading

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50%	Attitude to class and degree of participation
30%	Submitted reports on assigned topics
20%	Discussion on assigned topics

## Course Schedule

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### Week 1:

Class overview. Basic knowledge on industrial geography and economic geography (1)

**Week 2:**

Basic knowledge on industrial geography and economic geography (2)

**Week 3:**

Basic knowledge on industrial geography and economic geography (3)

**Week 4:**

Agricultural geography (1)

**Week 5:**

Agricultural geography (2)

**Week 6:**

Agricultural geography (3)

**Week 7:**

Industrial geography (1)

**Week 8:**

Industrial geography (2)

**Week 9:**

Commercial geography (1)

**Week 10:**

Commercial geography (2)

**Week 11:**

Commercial geography (3)

**Week 12:**

Regional industrial structure and spatial organization (1)

**Week 13:**

Regional industrial structure and spatial organization (2)

**Week 14:**

Regional industrial structure and spatial organization (3)

**Week 15:**

Comments on students' reports

**Preparation and Follow-up**

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- Preparation: Investigate specialist terms and concepts provided in the previous class using reference books and online sources. (Time required: approximately one hour).
- Follow-up: First, complete the tasks set in the previous class (which will sometimes be written reports). This activity also functions as revision of class content. Submit your work on the task by the next class. (Time required: approximately one hour in most weeks, but when working on reports, from a few hours to approximately five hours over the course of several weeks.)