**Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grants**

**Final Report for Mini-Grants**

# General Information

Date: December 18, 2018

Grant Round: 11

Grant Number: M20

Institution Name(s): Georgia Gwinnett College

Team Members (Name, Title, Department, Institutions if different, and email address for each):

Todd Lindley, Assistant Professor of Geography, School of Liberal Arts, lindley1@ggc.edu

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Project Lead:

David Dorrell, Assistant Professor of Geography, School of Liberal Arts, ddorrell@ggc.edu

Course Name(s) and Course Numbers: Introduction to Human Geography, GEOG 1101

Final Semester of Project: Autumn 2018

***If applicable to your project:***

Average Number of Students Per Course Section: 28

Number of Course Sections Affected by Implementation of Revised Resources: 31

Total Number of Students Affected by Implementation of Revised Resources: 744

# 1. Project Narrative

The goal of this project was to produce an open textbook in Human Geography GEOG 1101 of comparable quality to the commercial alternatives. The basis of this book was the materials that were generated in our previous transformation grant, available at <https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/geo-collections/1/>. Although the materials were fairly complete, they were not in a format remotely like a textbook. They were idiosyncratic, unindexed, and had no narrative cohesion. It seemed unlikely that any other institution would try to reuse those resources.

The material was produced in the following manner, using a schedule supplied in the initial grant. By the end of Spring Semester 2018, all drafts were completed, and the copy-editing began. David Dorrell presented at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in New Orleans in April 2018. The book was the subject of the presentation and the venue was used to promote the forthcoming book. In Summer 2018m the book was submitted to the peer-review through collaboration with the University of North Georgia Press. Revisions were addressed at this time. After that had finished, the book went through final copy-editing, image copyright clearance, and typesetting. In Autumn 2018, the book was introduced into all sections of GEOG 1101 Introduction to Human Geography at Georgia Gwinnett College. The book will be promoted by the team to any available repository or collection of open textbooks. Although the book can be purchased through UNG press, we used the online version available here:

<https://web.ung.edu/media/university-press/human-geography.pdf?t=1545142079591>

What would be done differently next time?

Although it was initially assumed that a project of this size would require many contributing authors, that turned out not to be the case. It would have been better to have had fewer, but more dedicated writers. There was a problem of attrition of contributors. One dropped out completely, and two others wrote fewer chapters than they initially agreed to. The two editors were compelled to finish the work of others. Before beginning another project like this, we would expect to have more complete drafts of all chapters from the authors.

# 2. Materials Description

We took a collection of materials from <https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/geo-collections/1/> and produced a complete textbook available at <https://web.ung.edu/media/university-press/human-geography.pdf?t=1545142079591>

# 3. Materials Links

The book is hosted by UNG press, a partner with ALG in the production of materials.

<https://web.ung.edu/media/university-press/human-geography.pdf?t=1545142079591>

# 4. Future Plans

David Dorrell has already had a presentation at the 2018 Association of American Geographers annual meeting discussing the production of the book to a number of geography faculty at other institutions. Such recruitment will continue in the future.

It is our hope that over time other authors at other institutions will contribute to this work, adding chapters on subjects that may become relevant in the future. Possible topics would include geography of gender, or the spatial constructions of race and class. Eventually it will become necessary to completely update the text, but that should be some years away.