*Unit One Outline*

1. **Geography as a Field of Inquiry**
   1. Geography and the Scientific Method
   2. Geography – The Five Themes
   3. Geography – The Four Traditions
2. **Major geographical concepts underlying the geographical perspective**
   1. Location
      1. Site and situation
      2. Absolute and relative location
   2. Space
      1. Spatial interaction
      2. Time-space compression
      3. Intervening opportunities and obstacles
      4. Diffusion
   3. Place
      1. Sense of Place
      2. Perceptions of places
      3. Mental Maps
      4. Toponyms
   4. Scale
      1. Map Scale
      2. Scale of Analysis
   5. Pattern
      1. Distribution Patterns
         1. Concentration – dispersed vs clustered
      2. Geometric Patterns
         1. Linear, Triangular, rectangular and square
      3. No Pattern
3. **Key Geographical Skills**
   1. How to use and think about maps and spatial data
      1. Elements of a map
      2. Map projections
      3. Types of maps
      4. Map interpretation
   2. How to understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places
      1. Networks, linkages, accessibility, and connectivity between places
      2. Spatial interaction
      3. Interdependence
      4. Cultural ecology
   3. How to recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes
      1. Analyzing phenomenon from local to global scales
   4. How to define regions and evaluate the regionalization process (see Unit III)
      1. Defining regions
      2. Describing and analyzing different types of regions - Formal, functional, and vernacular
   5. How to characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places
      1. Historical approach and the role of transportation & technology
      2. Changing functional distances
      3. Distance decay & frictional distance
      4. Globalization
4. **New Geographical Technologies**
   1. Computer mapping
   2. GPS
   3. Remote sensing
   4. Aerial photography
   5. Satellite imagery
5. **Sources of Geographical Information and Data**
   1. The importance of observation
   2. Field work
   3. Census data
   4. Google Earth
   5. Internet sources of geographic data
6. **Identifying Major World Regions**