

The Meaning of Geography

- It literally means “*earth writing*”
- *Strabo* a Greek scientist, coined the term geography from the words *geo* (“the earth”) and *graphein* (“to write”).

A Spatial Science

- Geography is concerned with the
 1. How and why do things differ from place to place on Earth’s surface?
 2. How do observable spatial patterns evolve over time?



The Meaning of Spatial...

- *Space* occupies a space.
- Within that space, there are *places*.
- Every space is different from all other spaces.
- Geography examines the *relationships* among all of these spaces.




Thinking About Geography

Your understanding of your hometown your neighborhood is a **geographic understanding**.

It is based on your awareness of **WHERE** things are, of their **SPATIAL RELATIONSHIPS**.

Take a minute and try to sketch the area surrounding your house. Include greenspace, roads, other houses, restaurants. What did you find?



Our Study of Human Geography

*We are the world, we are the children
We are the ones who make a brighter day
So let's start giving
There's a choice we're making*



- The mission?
- The emphasis?

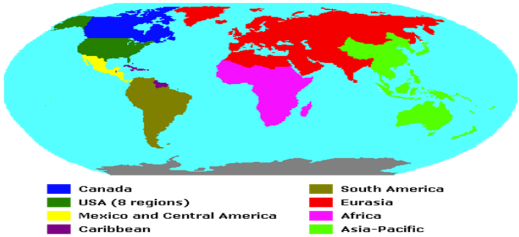
What's the Difference?

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY:

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY:

Traditionally...

- ... both Human Geography and Physical Geography have been taught from a
- This means that the
- have been listed and compared to other regions.
- Examples of characteristics: languages; religion; imports/exports; population structure, etc.



However...

- Our study of Human Geography will be
- This means that we will examine various topics and apply what we have learned to various case studies.
- **Examples:**
 - When we study demographics, we will examine the impact of the epidemic on Africa.

