

Social and Cultural Geographies

ENVS275

Social and Cultural Geographies are two diverse, interlinked fields within contemporary human geography. Social geography is interested in the relationships between social identities, power and space, and cultural geography examines the ways in which meaning is produced through 'culture' - social ideas, discourse, performances, art, entertainment, images, etc. This course will introduce you to these broad themes through a focus on the interrelations between identity, space and power and the ways in which these are produced through cultural forms. This includes exploring a range of social differences and identities. These might include gender, race, class, (dis)ability, sexuality, age, etc.

In the course, we will think about how ideas about such identities are produced and communicated through cultural 'texts' such as TV and film, music, policy, and everyday embodied performances (e.g. clothing, comportment, etc) and what this means for the power relations between different groups. We will do this by reading academic work within social and cultural geography and then applying this to analysis of these cultural 'texts'.

Assessment includes an essay and an exam.

