

**GEO 201**  
**Assignment 1: Specialty Groups**  
**Due: August 30<sup>th</sup>, beginning of class**

For the first assignment, please read about each of the specialty groups that exist under the Association of American Geographers ([www.aag.org](http://www.aag.org)). A list of the specialty groups is available in your reading packet. Several specialty groups have their own websites, where they have newsletters posted. Their websites might help you delve further into each specialty group. Choose **three** groups that sound interesting to you. Briefly describe why they appeal to you. Then choose three groups that have no appeal for you and describe why these groups do not interest you.

For your assignment, write a 2 – 3 ½ page paper (typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, 1 inch margin) on these 6 specialty groups. You need to write at least one paragraph (minimum 4 sentences) on each specialty group. In the paragraph, tell me what you liked or did not like about the group. Bring in your personal thoughts and ideas on this paper. I do not want a synopsis or re-writing of the description of the specialty group. I want your words! Did the focus of the group sound boring to you? Have you studied a topic of one of the specialty groups and liked or disliked it? Does a specialty group have the same concentration of your career goals?

Because this assignment is very personal, your 6 choices may be very different than your classmates. *Be prepared* to tell your classmates about each of your 6 specialty groups next week.