SUBJECT DATASHEET

Business and Social Geography

BMEGT42M522

I. SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

1. SUBJECT DATA

Subject name
Business and Social Geography

ID (subject code)	BMEGT42M522

Type of subject
contact unit

Course types and lessons

Type	*Lessons*
Lecture	1
Practice	0
Laboratory	0

Type of assessment
exam grade

Number of credits
3

Subject Coordinator

Name	*Position*	*Contact details*
Ballabás Gábor	senior lecturer	ballabas.gabor@gtk.bme.hu

Educational organisational unit for the subject
Department of Environmental Economics and Sustainability

Subject website
https://edu.gtk.bme.hu

Language of the subject
magyar - HU

Curricular role of the subject, recommended number of terms
Programme: **Regional and Environmental Economic Studies part-time programme, autumn start**
Subject Role: **Compulsory**
Recommended semester: **1**

Programme: **Regional and Environmental Economic Studies part-time programme, spring start**
Subject Role: **Compulsory**
Recommended semester: **2**

Direct prerequisites

Strong	None
Weak	None
Parallel	None
Exclusion	None

Validity of the Subject Description
Approved by the Faculty Board of Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, Decree No: 580950/7/2025 registration number. Valid from: 2025.10.29.

2. OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Objectives

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the basics of social and economic geography, explore the spatial features of main social and economic phenomenon, processes and the reasons in the background, and learn about the contemporary means of tackling the challenges. This course unit aims to (1) introduce students to the basics and systems of human geography, to the logic of geographical thinking, (2) provide a comprehensive knowledge of the overall characteristics of the geographical area (settlement, region, country), level and borders, and its European aspects, and the administrative geography (3) present the basics and main areas of social geography, their current research directions and main European characteristics, (4) in particular, reveal the current features of the population and settlement geography, including urban and rural geography and related policies, European features, and some aspects in Hungary, (5) present the basics and main areas of economic geography, their current research directions and main European characteristics, and some aspects in Hungary (6) in particular, introduce the concepts of development and spatial structure, the forms of measurement of the former and the representations of the latter, as well as their European characteristics and urban and regional political dimensions, (7) in addition, explore the current geographic features and European forms of the primary, secondary and tertiary, quaternary sector. The course is based on the classical division of socio-economic geography, along which the lectures discuss each sub-area, including the main challenges and possible responses, with a focus on European aspects.

Academic results

Knowledge

1. The student knows the place of human geography among social sciences;
2. the main sub-fields, their main research questions, problems;
3. the basics, possibilities and limitations of the theory of socio-economic geography;
4. the main socio-economic geographical features, particularly in the European dimension;
5. some related research case studies, policy actions.

Skills

1. The student will be able to understand territorial social, economic problems (from causes through processes to solutions);
2. to give an account of the extent of the problems;
3. to combine social and economic characteristics in geographical space based on their knowledge.

Attitude

1. The student is open to the learning and adaptation of innovations in the field of social and economic geography;
2. to collaborate with their instructors and fellow students during the learning process;
3. gains knowledge and information,
4. uses the opportunities offered by IT tools.

Independence and responsibility

1. The student is capable of independently investigating the origins, nature and possible solutions of environmental problems and challenges;
2. of formulating responsible recommendations;
3. to accept well-funded critical remarks.

Teaching methodology

Lectures and written communication, use of ICT tools and techniques.

Materials supporting learning

- Barta Györgyi (2002): A magyar ipar területi folyamatai 1945-2000. Dialog-Campus. Budapest.
- Beluszky Pál (1999.): Magyarország településföldrajza. DialógCampus, Budapest-Pécs.
- Czirfusz Márton (2014.): Gazdaságföldrajz – Jegyzet oktatóknak és hallgatóknak. Miskolci Egyetemi Kiadó. Miskolc.
- Dövényi Zoltán (szerk., 2012.): A Kárpát-medence földrajza. Akadémiai Kiadó. Budapest.
- Enyedi György- Horváth Gyula (szerk., 2002.): Magyar Tudománytár 2. kötet - Táj, település, régió MTA Társadalomkutató Központ – Kossuth Kiadó Budapest.
- Gyuris Ferenc (2017): A kínai gazdasági csoda okai és korlátai. In: Földrajzi Közlemények 141. 3. 275-287.o.
- Haggett, Peter (2006.): Geográfia – Globális szintézis; Typotex Kiadó. Budapest.
- Kocsis Károly - Schweitzer Ferenc (szerk., 2011.): Magyarország térképekben. MTA Földrajztudományi Kutatóintézet. Budapest.
- Perczel György (szerk., 2003.) Magyarország gazdasági-társadalmi földrajza. (Tankönyv) ELTE Eötvös Kiadó. Budapest.

- Próbáld F.- Gábris Gy.- Szabó P. (szerk.) (2012): Európa regionális földrajza 1-2. ELTE Eötvös Kiadó. Budapest. ISBN: 9789634633198
- Próbáld F.- Horváth G.- Szabó P. (szerk.) (2008): Ázsia regionális földrajza. ELTE Eötvös Kiadó. Budapest ISBN: 9789632840215
- Romsics Ignác (2003. vagy újabb kiadások): Magyarország története a XX. században. Osiris Kiadó. Budapest.
- Tóth J. (szerk. 2002.): Általános társadalomföldrajz I. – Dialóg Campus Kiadó, Budapest–Pécs.
- Golobics P. (2002). A világgazdaság kialakulásának folyamata és jelenlegi térszerkezete. In: Tóth J. (szerk.): Általános társadalomföldrajz I. Dialog-Campus Kiadó. Budapest-Pécs.
- Vidéki Imre (szerk., 2008.): Fejezetek az ipar- és közlekedésföldrajzból (Jegyzet) ELTE Eötvös Kiadó. Budapest.
- Próbáld F. (szerk.) (2005): Amerika regionális földrajza. Trefort Kiadó ISBN: 9789634462972
- Próbáld F. (szerk.) (2002): Afrika és a Közel-Kelet földrajza. ELTE Eötvös Kiadó. Budapest ISBN: 9789634635888

II. SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

TESTING AND ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING PERFORMANCE

General Rules

The learning outcomes stated in point 2.2. are evaluated with summative assessments (2 mid-term exams) based on the competencies acquired during the semester. Based on the summative assessments, a recommended grade can be obtained, if the student does not obtain/does not accept the recommended grade, they must take a written exam during the exam period. The framework of the recommended grade is determined by the instructor.

Performance assessment methods

A. Detailed description of performance evaluations during the study period: Summative assessment: a complex, written evaluation method of the subject's knowledge and ability-type competency elements in the form of two mid-term exams. The mid-term exams focus on the assessment of the acquired knowledge and its application, thus focusing on problem recognition and solution. The course material on which the evaluation is based on is determined by the lecturer of the subject. Based on the summative assessments, a recommended grade can be obtained, the framework of which is explained by the course instructor. B. Detailed description of performance evaluations during the exam period: if the student does not obtain a recommended grade or does not accept it, they must take a written exam during the exam period.

Percentage of performance assessments, conducted during the study period, within the rating

- **1st summative assessment**: 50
- **2nd summative assessment**: 50
- **total**: 100

Percentage of exam elements within the rating

- **Written exam (in case of no accepted recommended grade)**: 100

Conditions for obtaining a signature, validity of the signature

The condition for obtaining a signature is active participation in contact classes.

Issuing grades

Excellent	90
Very good	80-89
Good	70-79
Satisfactory	60–69
Pass	50–59
Fail	0-49

Retake and late completion

1) Pursuant to the current CoS, each summative assessment can be retaken, repeated or completed late. 2) The summative assessments can be retaken, repeated or completed late for the first time during the late completion period free of charge. In the event of a retake, the new result always overwrites the old one. 3) If the student is unable to obtain a grade other than 'Fail' even with the retake, repeat and late completion possibilities according to point 1), they may make a second attempt to successfully complete the course after paying the fee specified in the regulations. 4) Retake, repeat and late completion of exams is possible according to paragraphs 121 and 123 of the CoS.

Coursework required for the completion of the subject

Participation in contact lessons	12
Preparation for contact lessons	12
Preparation for summative assessments	24
Autonomous learning	30
Preparation for written exam	12

total 90

Approval and validity of subject requirements

Consulted with the Faculty Student Representative Committee, approved by the Vice Dean for Education, valid from: 13.10.2025.

III. COURSE CURRICULUM

THEMATIC UNITS AND FURTHER DETAILS

Topics covered during the term

In order to achieve the learning outcomes set out at point 2.2, the subject consists of the following thematic blocks. In the syllabi of the courses announced in each semester, these topics are scheduled according to the calendar and other conditions.

1 The main concepts, theoretical relationships, division, methodology of geography and within it social and economic geography
2 Basic characteristics and main areas of specialization of population geography
3 Settlement geography, urban geography, the urbanizing world
4 Social geography, cultural geography - basics
5 The "old" and "new" economic geography; globalization and economic inequalities; economic development
6 Natural resources and their geography, territorial inequalities and their protection;
7 Geography of agriculture; feeding the world population and its problems;
8 The role of industry, the main areas of industrial geography; the transformation and spatiality of a priority industrial sector as a case study,
9 The importance of services and the tertiary sector in general and their geographical approaches; geographical characterization of priority service sector
10 Regional economic geography: general and geographical characterization of central regions, geographic characterization of specific central regions

Additional lecturers

Approval and validity of subject requirements