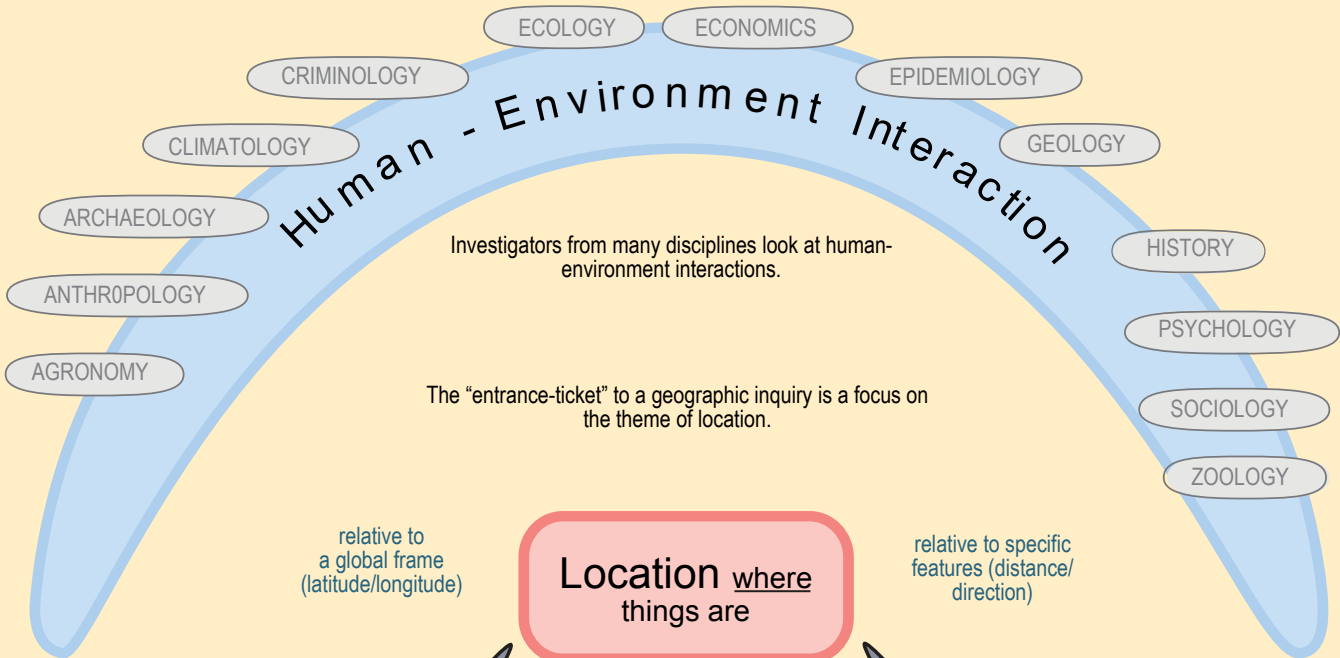


# Basic Themes of Geography

The over-arching goal is to understand how people interact with their environment in places.



relative to a global frame (latitude/longitude)

**Location where things are**

relative to specific features (distance/direction)

The idea of location has two aspects.

**Conditions (place, site)**

**Connections (movement, situation)**

Geographers use spatial thinking to study conditions and connections.

What groups of places have similar conditions?

What groups of places have similar connections?

How do things change as you go from one place to another?

What influence does a place have on its neighbors? (and vice versa!)

SPATIAL TRANSITION

FORMAL REGION

FUNCTIONAL REGION

SPATIAL AURA

**Spatial Reasoning**

ways to organize knowledge about conditions and connections and to suggest hypotheses for further inquiry

How are these places similar or different?

SPATIAL PATTERN

SPATIAL COMPARISON

Are things arranged in a non-random way?

Do particular things tend to occur together in the same places?

SPATIAL ASSOCIATION

SPATIAL ANALOGY

SPATIAL HIERARCHY

How does this place fit inside of larger areas?

Are there places in similar positions on other continents, cities, watersheds, etc.

Links with science -what processes "cause" conditions, patterns, associations, etc.?

Links with ethics, aesthetics, etc. Do I like it? Is it efficient? Is it fair?

Links with history - how do conditions, connections, patterns, associations, etc. change through time?