

Geography 1300: World Regional Geography (3 credits; BF, SUSL)

Fall Semester 2019

Instructor: Ingrid Weinbauer
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Meeting Time: TTH 12:25-1:45 in MLI 1130

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Cell phones off and away, please!

Course Description:

This is an introductory level geography course. Geography is by its nature a spatial discipline. A general knowledge of the realms and regions of the world is fundamental to understanding the deeper relations of human-human and human-environment interactions. This course seeks to provide you with a broad overview of the realm and regions of the world, by examining physical, cultural, social, political, and economic characteristics. Within each realm, we will consider many themes ranging from development and food production to languages, religion, political systems, and current events.

Learning Outcomes:

- Know basic geographical concepts and methods.
- Understand the complex and diverse human and physical characteristics of the world realms and regions.
- Be able to draw connections between the world's people, environments, and places.
- Be able to understand, analyze, and critically think about some of the current issues/problems facing the world today.

Textbook:

The textbook for the course is *Geography: Realms, Regions, and Concepts* by De Blij, Muller, and Nijman (16th edition, 2014). It will also be helpful for you to have a current world atlas handy.

Grading:

Midterm: 25%
Final Exam: 30%
4 Current Event Assignments: 20%
Quizzes: 20%
Movie Assignment: 5%

Grading Scale:

A 100-90%
B 90-80%
C 80-70%
D 70-60%
F < 60%

Attendance Policy:

I strongly encourage attendance, since the majority of the exams, assignments, and quizzes will be drawn upon class material, lectures, and class discussions. When you miss class, it is your responsibility to get notes from your peers.

Active Class Participation:

There will be plenty of opportunity for you to be actively involved in the class. Ask questions, raise points, make comments, and participate in class discussions. This is your class, so make sure you are actively involved in it.

**NO LATE work will be accepted! And NO make-up exams OR quizzes will be given!
Please plan accordingly! Thank you!**

University Policies

The Americans with Disabilities Act. The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

University Safety Statement. The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

Incompletes. The mark "I" (incomplete) shall be given and reported for work incomplete because of circumstances beyond the student's control. The grade of "I" should be used only for a student who is passing the course and who needs to complete 20% or less of the course. An "I" should not be used in a way that will permit a student to retake the course without paying tuition. If the student attends the course during a subsequent semester as part of the effort required to complete the course, he/she must be registered (either as a regular student or for audit) in the semester in which he/she attends.

If a student has not finished incomplete work within one calendar year after the "I" was given, the "I" will be changed to an "E" by the Registrar's office. If the student graduates within one calendar year after receiving the "I," but before completing the work, the "I" will remain in the record, but will not contribute to credit toward graduation or the grade point average. An instructor may override the automatic change from an "I" to an "E" by submitting a grade change form.

“Academic misconduct” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one's work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information, as defined further below. It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct.

- a. ***“Cheating”*** involves the unauthorized possession or use of information, materials, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise, or the unauthorized communication with another person during such an exercise. Common examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, copying from another student's examination, submitting work for an in-class exam that has been prepared in advance, violating rules governing the administration of exams, having another person take an exam, altering one's work after the work has been returned and before resubmitting it, or violating any rules relating to academic conduct of a course or program.
- b. ***Misrepresenting one's work*** includes, but is not limited to, representing material prepared by another as one's own work, or submitting the same work in more than one course without prior permission of both faculty members.
- c. ***“Plagiarism”*** means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in, or as a basis for, one's own work offered for academic consideration or credit or for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one's own, without attribution, any other individual's words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression.

University Policies Continued

“*Academic sanction*” means a sanction imposed on a student for engaging in academic or professional misconduct. It may include, but is not limited to, requiring a student to retake an exam(s) or rewrite a paper(s), a grade reduction, a failing grade, probation, suspension or dismissal from a program or the University, or revocation of a student's degree or certificate. It may also include community service, a written reprimand, and/or a written statement of misconduct that can be put into an appropriate record maintained for purposes of the profession or discipline for which the student is preparing.

Current Event Assignments:

Your assignment will be to write a **two-page (500 to 600 words) analysis** of a current event article (not older than 6 months) for **four** of the following areas: Europe/Russia, Americas, Africa (Sub or North), and Asia. I will provide topics/suggestions for each area OR you can choose your own topic.

You need to find an article featured in a major newspaper (*The NY Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, The International Herald Tribune*). These assignments should encourage you to read a major newspaper or watch the news (e.g., BBC World News) on a daily basis. It should also provide you with an opportunity to read about what is going on in the world and make you draw a connection between the class material and outside sources.

Each assignment needs to include:

- a) A short summary of the article (one paragraph).
- b) A short history of the problem/issue—in other words you need to contextualize the article. For this part of the article you need to do a little more research beyond what is provided in your feature article. You also need to cite the information. **No Wikipedia or other on-line encyclopedias!**
- c) Analysis.
- d) Relevance/connection of this article to class and your readings.
- e) Citation of the article. Remember, this needs to be a major newspaper article, not more than 6 months old.

Movie Assignment:

A **two-page** paper on a movie that discusses some aspect/topic relevant to the class. Include a short summary of the movie and how this movie broadened and deepened your understanding about the area and the topic at hand. We will discuss this further in class.

Suggestions/Ideas:

Osama: Afghanistan

Hotel Rwanda: Rwanda

Grbavica: Bosnia

Blood Diamonds: Sierra Leone

Empire of the Sun: China

City of Joy: India

Color of Paradise: Iran

Slumdog Millionaire: India

Prisoners of Mountains: Chechnya

King of Masks: China

30 for 30: The two Escobars: Middle and South America

City of God: Brazil

The Lives of Others: E-Germany

Shadow of Afghanistan

War Child: Sudan

Putin's Kiss: Russia

Paradise Now: Palestine

The Soong Sisters: China/Taiwan

Peacemaker: Bosnia

Not without my daughter: Iran

The Gods must be crazy: South America

Lemon Tree: Israel/Palestine

Whale Rider: New Zealand

Captain Phillips: Somalia

Kingdom of Heaven: Israel

Persepolis: Iran

Colombiana: Colombia

No Man's Land: Bosnia

Free Tibet: Tibet

Argo: Iran

These are just a few suggestions, there are many more. Check with me before you watch a movie!

Class Schedule:

Week One:

August 20: Class Overview

August 22: Basic Concepts of Geography (*Introductory Chapter*)

Week Two:

August 27/29: Introduction (*Introductory Chapter*)

Week Three:

September 3/5: Europe (*Chapters 1A and 1B*)

Week Four:

September 10: Europe

September 12: Russia (*Chapters 2A and 2B*)

Week Five:

September 17/19: Middle America (*Chapters 4A and 4B*)

Europe/Russia Current Event Article Due (9/19)

Week Six:

September 24/26: South America (*Chapters 5A and 5B*)

Week Seven:

October 1: Catch-Up Day; Exam Review

October 3: **Midterm Exam**

Fall Break 10/8 and 10/10

Week Eight:

October 15/17: Sub-Saharan Africa (*Chapters 6A and 6B*)

Americas Current Event Article Due (10/17)

Week Nine:

October 22: Sub-Saharan Africa

October 24: North Africa/SW Asia (*Chapters 7A and 7B*)

Week Ten:

October 29/31: North Africa/SW Asia

Week Eleven:

November 5/7: South Asia (*Chapters 8A and 8B*)

Africa (Sub or North) Current Event Article Due (11/7)

Week Twelve:

November 12/14: East Asia (*Chapters 9A and 9B*)

Week Thirteen:

November 19/21: Southeast Asia (*Chapters 10A and 10B*)

Week Fourteen:

November 26: Catch-Up Day

Movie Assignment Due (11/26)

Week Fifteen:

December 3: Australia and New Zealand (*Chapters 11*); Pacific Rim (*Chapter 12*)

December 5: Review for Final Exam

Asia Current Event Article Due (12/5)

The Final Exam will take place on Thursday, December 12, 2019 in the classroom!

Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for the course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Class/Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of the class. Any changes will be announced in class and/or posted on Canvas under Announcements.