

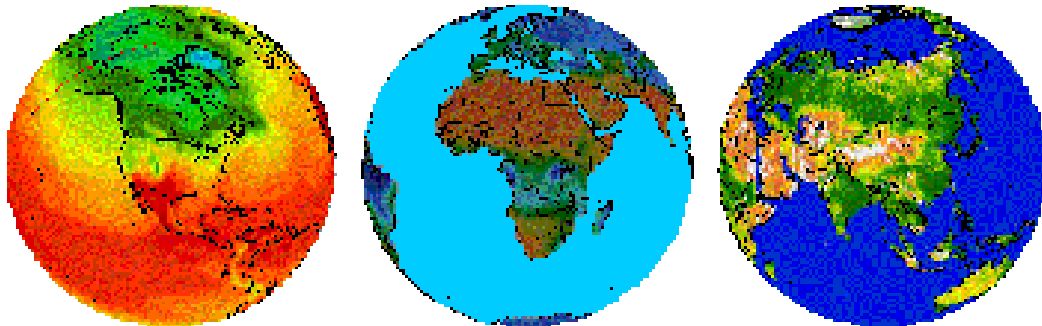


Winter 2010

**GEOG 201, Section 07
WORLD CULTURAL REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY**

Faculty: DR. Kumkum Bhattacharyya
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Office Hours: M/W 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Class Meeting Time: Mondays 4:00 to 6:50 p.m., in SW 108



<http://www.staff.amu.edu.pl/~zbow/glob/3GonW3.html>

Do not let it pass by-----Learn it to be learned

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

World Cultural/Regional Geography (GEOG 201: Section-07) is a 3-credit course, designed to acquaint students with the major regions of the world with their distinctive physical and cultural characteristics and also to develop an understanding of the diversity of the people as influenced by environmental, historical, and cultural forces.

The objectives of GEOG 201's General Education category, International Systems, are:

- to understand the nature of significant international systems and to step outside of the constraints of one's own society
- study one or more significant international system (social, political, economic, cultural, language, etc.)
- consider relationships between international systems
- consider the ways individual values and ethics shape and are shaped by culture, nationality, and other variables
- Introduce students to diverse ways of experiencing and acquiring knowledge in an international context
- Include practice in the written and/or oral reporting and analysis of information

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

Pulsipher, LM and Pulsipher, A. 2008. World Regional Geography, Global Patterns, Local Lives (Without subregions), 4th Edition. W.H. Freeman and company, 469 pp. ISBN: 0-7167-8522-6.

DeBlij, H.J.and Muller, P. 2010. Geography: Realms, Regions and Concepts, 14th edition, Wiley, 688 pp. ISBN-0: 9780470462423

Rand McNally's Goode's World Atlas, 21st edition.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION:

Grading is on a 500-point scale, allocated as follows:

<u>Exam Mid-term:</u>	<u>100 pts</u>
<u>Exam Final:</u>	<u>100 pts</u>
<u>GIS Exercises:</u>	<u>25 pts</u>
<u>News Summaries:</u>	<u>50 pts</u>
<u>Or</u>	
<u>Research Paper:</u>	<u>50pts</u>
<u>Participation & Attendance:</u>	<u>50 pts</u>
<u>Map Quizzes:</u>	<u>100 pts</u>
<u>Video Exam</u>	<u>25 pts</u>

OFFICIAL GRADING SCALE:

Students should keep a record of all returned assignments. The frequent grade will be informed to students to demarcate their position in class. Course grades will be assigned using the following system, based on overall percentage:

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86

B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	70-76
D	60-69
F	<60

Attendance & Participation: is very important. Students are expected to attend all classes. Students who do not attend class regularly will not do well in this course. You are given two free absences. If you miss more than two class periods then you will be penalized with five percent of your final grade for per absence. To be considered for an excused absence you must turn in a written explanation of the absence.

Two Exams: are conducted to test your knowledge in all materials from the lectures, readings and video/films. The exam format will consist of multiple choices, true/false, short questions, and Essay questions. The exact format of examinations will be announced during the week prior to the examinations.

Map quizzes: will be given for each region of study. Missed map quizzes and exercises cannot be made up if missed unless you have written excuses.

GIS Exercises:

We have 25 points for GIS exercises in our classes. This course introduces the fundamental concepts of GIS and the major functionality contained in ArcGIS® Desktop software. In the interactive course exercises, you will work with a variety of ArcGIS tools as you learn how to create maps, find information, create and edit geographic data, and solve a variety of geographic problems.

MISSED or LATE ASSIGNMENTS: All miss or late assignments (except the Exam-3) can be turned in with 50% late penalty. There are no make-up exams unless under extraordinary circumstances.

DEVIATIONS FROM THE EXAM 3 SCHEDULE WILL REQUIRE DOCUMENTATION OF AN EMERGENCY.

During Exams: No electronic devices are permitted including, but not limited to cell phones, PDAs or handbooks, laptops, notebook computers, calculators, and cameras.

Use of e-mail: you must use your SVSU e-mail account for all class e-mail correspondence

Use of VSpace: is recommended. PowerPoints and study guides for each chapter will be posted on VSpace. It is the responsibility of each student check VSpace on a regular basis.

Laptop policy: if you bring a laptop to class, I assume you are using it to take class notes and not to edit photos, check e-mail, or check websites. No misuse of laptops in class!

Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism is directly copying an author's work without proper citation. Copying another student's work with or without his/her knowledge, or giving/receiving aid during any test or examination is cheating. So don't copy phrases, sentences or thoughts from a book, magazine article or from the internet resources into your assignments without citing them. Violations of Academic Integrity will be addressed according to the code of Student Conduct. This URL is: <http://www.svsu.edu/academicintegrity>

WORK EXPECTATION & ADVICE:

- A typical **course requires** two hours of "homework" for every one hour spent in class. (You spend about 3 hours a week in this class, so theoretically you would spend about 6 hours (minimum) a week outside of this class working on the course). If you subscribe to this theory you will be very successful in this class.
- Print off PowerPoint and Study Guides and bring them to lecture for note taking.
- Read over textbook chapters prior to class, and be familiar with figures, maps, and terms.
- Take notes during class, and ask questions if the material is not clear.
- Stop by to my office with your questions and course related problems.

ADMONITIONS:

- Turn off cell phones and other devices. No phone calls during class!
- Leaving the classroom during discussions/presentations is disrespectful.
- Arriving late to an exam may result in a score of "0".
- Eating in class is disrespectful.
- We will respect all forms of diversity and the opinions of others -- even if you disagree with them. Do not monopolize discussions.

During class we will discuss about people, practices and culture that may be different from us. Hence, we need to create an ambience where all opinions will be respected, even though we may personally disagree with the views. Students are expected to avoid usage of disparaging terms and languages while airing their ideas. This will help us to maintain an open and respectful environment throughout the semester.

Writing Assignments

You have to choose two articles from academic journals, magazines, or edited book and create a write up of a 1½-2 page (typed, double-spaced) summary/review of each). Articles must pertain to the world beyond North America.

Other option is one **5-6 page paper**. Detailed **guidelines** for writing assignments will be posted on Vspace.

Writing Assistance: Students are encouraged to use the services of the Writing Center, located on the 3rd floor of the Melvin J. Zahnnow Library. (www.svsu.edu/writingcenter). The Writing

Center may be contacted at 989-964-6061. Its purpose is to help students in all disciplines to improve writing skills using tutorial sessions, workshops, and resources. Please visit this web site for more information <http://www.svsu.edu/writingcenter/writing-resources.html>.

Computer/Technical Assistance: If you need assistance using VSpace, or have another software/technology issue, please contact the Student Technology Center located in Zahn Library, second floor (964-2299 or techtutor@svsu.edu, or www.svsu.edu/stc).

Letter of Accommodation:

“Students with disabilities who seek accommodations must make their request by Contacting the Office of Disability Services located at Curtiss 112, or call (989) 964-7000. All accommodations must be approved by The Office of Disability Services”.

In order to create and maintain an atmosphere conducive to attaining our goals, this class abides by five policies:

1. Be punctual and prepare to do the scheduled activities during entire class.
2. Conduct yourself with maturity and personal self-management during the class.
3. You are expected to give your best effort to learn and understand what is being taught in the class.
4. Be attentive, disciplined and active in class and perform non-class related activities elsewhere.
5. Respect yourself, your colleagues and your instructor.

As your instructor, I commit to help every student achieve the class goals by:

1. Being enthusiastically organized for each class.
2. Implement the class policies.
3. Returning graded work within one week or two.
4. Starting class on time each day with enthusiasm.
5. Treating every student with fairness and respect.

Students ignoring the class policies risk losing that day's attendance points.

OUTLINE (Subject to Modification)

Week	Topic	Assignment
1 January 11	Course Overview & Introduction Geography: An Exploration of Connections	Introduction Chapter 1
2 January 18	Geography: An Exploration of Connections Discussion on Project/Journal summary	Chapter 1 Rivers for All-Video
3 January 25	Middle and South America	Chapter 3 Video: Death in the Desert Guatemala/Mexico: Coffee Country
4 February 1	Europe Discussion on Project/Journal summary Geographic Information System (GIS)	Chapter 4 <u>Class Quiz</u> Video: Spain: The Lawless Sea
5 February 8	North Africa and Southwest Asia Mapping Basics	Chapter 6 Discussion on Assignment Map Quiz-1 (Ch-3,4)
6 February 15	<u>Exam –Mid-term</u>	Chapter 1, 3, 4, 6, 7
7 February 22	Sub-Saharan Africa <u>Mapping Basics</u>	Chapter 7 <u>Class Quiz</u> <u>Video</u>
8 March 1	Russia and The Newly Independent States	1st assignment due

		(Must be in a hard copy, submitted in the class) <u>Chapter 5</u> Video-Moscow: Rich in Russia
9 March 8	No Class- Spring Break	
10 March 15	South Asia	Chapter 8 Video: The hole in the wall Bhutan: The Last Place Map Quiz-2 (Ch-5, 6)
11 March 22	East Asia	Chapter 9 Video: Hong Kong: Chasing the Virus Video: Cambodia: Pol Pot's Shadow
12 March 29	Southeast Asia	Chapter 9 Map Quiz-3 (Ch-7,8)
13 April 5	GIS Assignment	GIS Assignment
14 April 12	Oceania: Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific	Chapter 11
15 April 19	Exam Review Class Quiz Video Exam	Map Quiz -4 (Ch-9,10, 11) 2nd Assignment and Research paper due (Must be in a hard copy, submitted in the class)
16 April 26	Final Exam	Chapter 5, 8, 9, 10,11