



World Regional Geography GEOG 2750

Spring Semester 2026

Newark Campus * LeFevre 164
Mon. & Wed. 8:00 - 9:20a, section 30206



Instructor: Kenneth D. Madsen, Professor of Geography; Ph.D. + M.A. in Geography, Arizona State University; B.A. in International Studies, Graceland College. <https://u.osu.edu/madsen.34/>

Office Hours: Mon. 9:30-10:00a, Wed. 9:30-11:00a in office, by phone, or via Zoom
before/after class as time permits; by appointment

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Preferred method of communication is email, include class number/time ("GEOG 2750, 8a").
Zoom – <https://zoom.us/join> mtg. ID = 732 336 3682 password = borders

Textbook and technology: 1) *Diversity Amid Globalization* (7th ed.) by Rowntree, et al. ISBN # 9780134539423 [\$44 via CarmenBooks, automatically billed to your account]; 2) political world wall map [at Newark bookstore or elsewhere \$10-20]; 3) a *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* subscription [both are free for OSU students, see links online]; 4) Carmen - <https://carmen.osu.edu/> OSU's distance learning platform.

Course Bulletin Description: Develops students' knowledge of world geography through the twin concepts of region and globalization; focuses on culture, society, politics, economy, and interplay between people and environments. 3 credit hours, meets general education requirement for Foundations: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

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|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <u>Points Possible:</u> | attendance = 100 | <u>Grading Scale:</u> | 770 - 799 = C + |
| | enrichment activities = 100 | 930 + = A | 730 - 769 = C |
| | quizzes & worksheets (10 @ 50) = 550 | 900 - 929 = A - | 700 - 729 = C - |
| | midterm exam = 100 | 870 - 899 = B + | 670 - 699 = D + |
| | final exam = 150 | 830 - 869 = B | 600 - 669 = D |
| | total = 1,000 | 800 - 829 = B - | < 600 = E |

Attendance: Since learning is closely correlated with your presence in class, **attendance** will be taken throughout the semester. Grades earned in this category will be based in part on the quality of your response to a question. In other words, you have to not only be present, but paying attention and thinking about class material. Points may also be earned in this category for an instructor office hours visit (deadline: March 11). Above ten attendance activities, low grades in this category will be dropped. Lesson notes cannot be obtained from the instructor. You should arrive to class *before* 8a.

Enrichment activities: You should earn 100 points from among the opportunities provided in this category. These supplemental activities build upon or enhance your understanding of world geography. Some items are on the schedule, additional details and events to be posted to on the class "Enrichment Opportunities" discussion board. Points are cumulative in this grade category, not out of points possible. Up to 50 points in excess of the 100 required may be use for *extra credit*.

Quizzes & Worksheets: There will be 11 quizzes and 1 **worksheet**. Six **map quizzes** will assess students' knowledge of the locations of countries, major cities, and other key features. Study guides for map quizzes will be provided. There will also be five **reading quizzes**. Your lowest score in this category will be dropped or (if you are happy with your grades) you can skip the last quiz. Note that the total points in this category count for more than half of the semester's possible points!

Exams: The midterm exam will be worth 100 points. The final exam will be worth 150 points and will be cumulative. **Exams** include a variety of question formats: multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, short-answers, etc. The exams will be closed-book and taken independently by each student.

Reading: You should come to class having completed the assigned readings and prepared to engage with the instructor and other students on the relevant topics. Keeping up with the reading is critical to doing well. Put another way, successful students (in terms grades, what you learn, general satisfaction with degree, and success in higher education and life more broadly) read a lot. Reading is a skill to be honed in the era of our many electronic distractions and takes time and focus.

Late Work: Although some deadlines are flexible, it is best to submit materials on time and take quizzes and exams as scheduled. In the case of unavoidable delay or absence, students should let instructor know as soon as possible to make alternate arrangements. Supplemental written documentation may be required and points deducted. Late arrival on quiz/exam days (or absence and make-up in the Testing Center) is an automatic -5 points. This will be increased by an additional -5 points for each additional late quiz/exam. Sometimes if you miss a quiz, skipping it and moving on to the next assignment may be your best option.

Incomplete Policy: Incomplete grades are reserved for rare circumstances. In order to qualify, request an incomplete via e-mail no later than the date of the final exam. Substitute or additional assignments may be designed in order to convert an incomplete to a letter grade and are normally due by the beginning of the sixth week of the following term.

University-wide policies: Students are required to abide by the OSU Code of Student Conduct. In terms of this class, pay particular attention to section 3335-23-04 Prohibited Conduct and sub-section (A) on Academic Misconduct. In short, do not cheat. Being unaware of what counts as academic misconduct is not an excuse. ● If you use Artificial Intelligence (AI), even for ideas or an initial draft, you must declare such usage. Keep in mind, however, that the point of class assignments is to see *your* work and *your* ideas, not that of a computer program. Declaring AI usage may keep you from being prosecuted for academic dishonesty, but it may not earn you full points for completion of an assignment. ● If you need special accommodations (disability, illness, religious observance), see instructor sooner rather than later to make arrangements. ● Like many classes, GEOG 2750 focuses on critical thinking skills and in doing so explores a variety of perspectives with which you should be knowledgeable. You are not graded based on personal perspectives or political beliefs. ● OSU and this class are committed to maintaining a welcoming community and an environment free of harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct.

for full statements on these topics, visit these links (also available through class Carmen site):
<https://ugeducation.osu.edu/academics/syllabus-policies-statements/standard-syllabus-statements>
<https://ugeducation.osu.edu/academics/syllabus-policies-statements/optional-syllabus-statements>

Additional Notes: We will use some technology in this class, but our focus will be on class material. Class time is to be reserved exclusively for paying attention to class material, in exchange most days we will take a short personal device break. ★ This class is designed to not only meet a degree requirement, but also be interesting and fun and to fulfill that destiny you should participate fully. ★ You are responsible for changes to this syllabus announced in class or on Carmen.



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Tentative Schedule
Newark Campus * LeFevre 164
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Jan. 12 (M): **first day quiz**, introductions, what we know, syllabus

- ☐ **purchase textbook & wall map**
- ☐ **sign up for free *NYT* and *WSJ* accounts and (optionally) download apps**
- ☐ **read syllabus and other course documents, get on Carmen and look around**
- ☐ **start reading Chapter 1 (Diversity Amid Globalization) - even just a couple pages !**

Jan. 14 (W): **syllabus quiz**, reading exercise, globalization videos,

- ☐ **post introductions and profile photos on Carmen - due Jan. 16 (F)**
- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 1 [reading quiz will cover through p. 18]**

----- JAN. 19 (M), MLK DAY - CAMPUS CLOSED

Jan. 21 (W): **reading QUIZ # ① (Ch. 1)**, sample map quiz, Ch. 1

- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 1**
- ☐ **Enrichment Activity - submit photo of wall map - due Jan. 23 (F)**
- ☐ **clothing survey**

Jan. 26 (M): Ch. 1, clothing survey

- ☐ **finish Chapter 1**
- ☐ **study for **map quiz** (World)**

Jan. 28 (W): **map QUIZ # ① (World)**, Ch. 1

- ☐ **research select portions of Ch. 2 (Environment) - see study guide**

Feb. 2 (M): Ch. 2, introduce development indicators worksheet

- ☐ **start **worksheet** on development indicators**

Feb. 4 (W): Ch. 2, environment, Latin America

- ☐ **finish **worksheet** on development indicators**
 - ☐ **start reading Chapter 4 (Latin America)**
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Feb. 9 (M): development indicators **worksheet** DUE, environment, Latin America

- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 4**

Feb. 11 (W): interactive development indicators exercise, **return worksheet** for additional grading, Latin America

- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 4 (Latin America)**
- ☐ **study for map quiz (Latin America)**

Feb. 16 (M): **map QUIZ # ② (Latin America)**, Latin America

- ☐ **finish reading Chapter 4 [reading quiz will cover full chapter]**

Feb. 18 (W): **reading QUIZ # ② (Ch. 4)**, Latin America, Europe

- ☐ **start reading Chapter 8 (Europe)**

Feb. 23 (M): Europe

- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 8 (Europe)**
- ☐ **study for map quiz (Europe)**

Feb. 25 (W): **map QUIZ # ③ (Europe)**, Europe

- ☐ **finish Chapter 8 [reading quiz will cover full chapter]**
- ☐ **study for midterm exam**

March 2 (M): **reading QUIZ # ③ (Europe)**, Europe

- ☐ **study for midterm exam**

March 4 (W): **midterm exam**

- ☐ **start reading Chapter 7 (SW Asia & N. Africa)**
 - ☐ **reading on globalization in TV and film - TBD**
-

March 9 (M): SW Asia & N. Africa, globalization in TV/film and cultural norms

- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 7**
- ☐ **study for map quiz (SW Asia & N. Africa/Ch. 7 and Sub-Saharan Africa/ Ch. 6)**
note: Ch. 6 items are optional, but worth up to 25 enrichment/extra credit points

March 11 (W): map QUIZ # ④ (SW Asia & N. Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa), SW Asia & N. Africa

- ☐ **finish Chapter 7 [reading quiz will cover full chapter]**

March 12 (Th), 2:00-3:15p via Zoom – videoconference #1 with students in Egypt
globalization in TV/film and global cultural norms

----- MARCH 16-20 M-F), SPRING BREAK - NO CLASSES

March 23 (M): reading QUIZ # ④ (SW Asia & N. Africa), SW Asia & N. Africa

- ☐ **start reading Chapter 12**

March 25 (W): NO CLASS MEETING

- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 12**
- ☐ **study ahead for map quiz (Russian Domain/Ch. 9 and Central Asia/Ch. 10)**

March 30 (M): SW Asia & N. Africa, South Asia

- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 12**
- ☐ **study for map quiz (South Asia and East Asia)**

April 1 (W): map QUIZ # ⑤ (South Asia and East Asia), South Asia

- ☐ **continue reading Chapter 12**

April 6 (M): South Asia

- ☐ **finish reading Chapter 12 [reading quiz will cover full chapter]**

April 8 (W): reading QUIZ # ⑤ (South Asia), South Asia

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April 13 (M): South Asia

- ☐ **study for map quiz (Russian Domain/Ch. 9 and Central Asia/Ch. 10)**

April 15 (W): map QUIZ # 6 (Russian Domain *and* Central Asia), South Asia, Russian Domain

- ☐ **research select portions of Chapter 9 (Russian Domain) - see study guide**
- ☐ **readings on U.S. foreign affairs - current events - TBD**

April 20 (M): U.S. foreign affairs, Russian Domain

- ☐ **research select portions of Ch. 11 (East Asia) - see study guide**

April 20 (M), 11:00a-12:15p via Zoom – videoconference #2 with students in Egypt
U.S. foreign affairs - from cooperation to confrontation

April 22 (W): U.S. foreign affairs, Russian Domain, East Asia

- ☐ **research select portions of Ch. 11 (East Asia) - see study guide**

April 27 (M): East Asia, review, class evaluations

LAST DAY OF CLASSES

May 4 (M): Final Exam, 8:00-9:45a (in our usual room)

revised: 1/19/26

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NEW (Autumn 2022 and later) General Education Requirements



Under the “new” GE requirements, this course meets the requirement to take a **Foundations** course in **Social and Behavioral Sciences**.

New GE goals and learning outcomes met by Social and Behavioral Science courses:

GOAL 1: Successful students will critically analyze and apply theoretical and empirical approaches within the social and behavioral sciences, including modern principles, theories, methods, and modes of inquiry.

- a. Successful students are able to explain basic facts, principles, theories and methods of social and behavioral science.
- b. Successful students are able to explain and evaluate differences, similarities, and disparities among institutions, organizations, cultures, societies, and/or individuals using social and behavioral science.

GOAL 2: Successful students will recognize the implications of social and behavioral scientific findings and their potential impacts.

- a. Successful students are able to analyze how political, economic, individual, or social factors and values impact social structures, policies, and/or decisions.
- b. Successful students are able to evaluate social and ethical implications of social scientific and behavioral research.
- c. Successful students are able to critically evaluate and responsibly use information from the social and behavioral sciences.

Students in GEOG 2750 at Ohio State Newark will meet the above in part by:

- i) learning geographic concepts in the context of world regions and globalization
- ii) understanding the world through conceptualization of coherent regions and the identification of political and cultural diversity between and within those regions
- iii) discussing and reflecting on the complex set of factors that motivate and inform decisions by people and governments in various regions
- iv) exploring and reflecting on ways of understanding and learning about the world, including participation in data collection and out-of-class experiences
- v) placing themselves and their communities in the context of globalization and its impacts both here and abroad

For more information on OSU’s new general education requirements, visit:

<https://artsandsciences.osu.edu/advising/general-education-requirements/new-ge-requirements>

See also:

<https://ugeducation.osu.edu/academics/general-education-ge>

<https://newark.osu.edu/academics/academic-advising>

<http://advising.osu.edu/>

<http://artsandsciences.osu.edu/academics/current-students/advising>

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LEGACY (pre-Autumn 2022) General Education Requirements

If you started at OSU prior to Autumn 2022 and are completing your curriculum under what are known as the “legacy” GE requirements, this course meets two such requirements:

Social Science – Human, Natural, and Economic Resources

Goals: Students understand the systematic study of human behavior and cognition; the structure of human societies, cultures, and institutions; and the processes by which individuals, groups, and societies interact, communicate, and use human, natural, and economic resources.

Expected learning outcomes:

- a. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of the use and distribution of human, natural, and economic resources and decisions and policies concerning such resources.
- b. Students understand the political, economic, and social trade-offs reflected in individual decisions and societal policymaking and enforcement and their similarities and differences across contexts.
- c. Students comprehend and assess the physical, social, economic, and political sustainability of individual and societal decisions with respect to resource use.

Students in GEOG 2750 at Ohio State Newark will meet the above in part by:

- i) learning about other peoples and cultures and geographic interactions between places at the regional and global scale in the context of globalization
- ii) exploring and reflecting on ways of understanding and learning about the world, including participation in data collection and out-of-class experiences
- iii) weighing pros and cons of diverse cultural approaches to major political, economic, and social issues and understanding them in diverse national contexts
- iv) applying a systems model of environmental change to the human role in environmental problems faced in different regions of the world

Diversity – Global Studies

Goals: Students understand the pluralistic nature of institutions, society, and culture in the United States and across the world in order to become educated, productive, and principled citizens.

Expected learning outcomes:

- a. Students understand some of the political, economic, cultural, physical, social, and philosophical aspects of one or more of the world's nations, peoples and cultures outside the U.S.
- b. Students recognize the role of national and international diversity in shaping their own attitudes and values as global citizens

Students in GEOG 2750 at Ohio State Newark will meet the above in part by:

- i) discussing and reflecting on the complex set of factors that motivate and inform decisions by people and governments in various regions
- ii) understanding the world through conceptualization of coherent regions and identification of political and cultural diversity between and within those regions
- iii) drawing comparisons and making contrasts between different places
- iv) placing themselves and their communities in the context of globalization and its impacts both here and abroad

For more information about OSU’s legacy general education requirements, visit:

<https://artsandsciences.osu.edu/advising/general-education-requirements/legacy-ge-requirements>

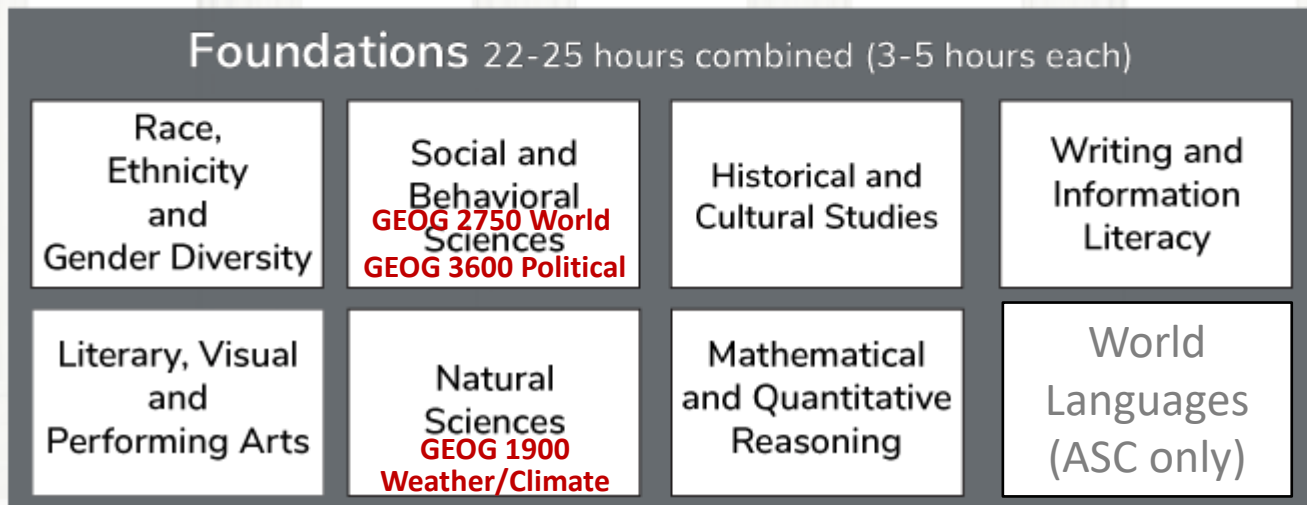
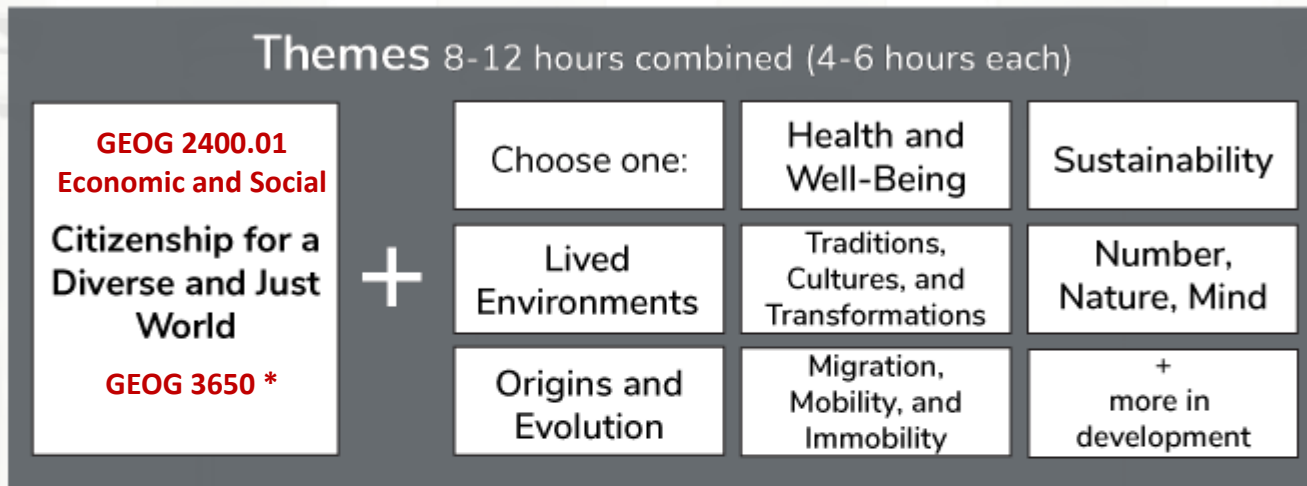
NEW (Autumn 2022 and later) General Education Requirements



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

General Education Program Structure

Launch Seminar 1 hour



Reflection Seminar 1 hour

Geography
Courses
offered at
Ohio State
Newark



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY
NEWARK

* A World
Divided? Place,
Space, and
Regions in
World Affairs
(likely future
Newark
offering)

General Education (GE) Pathway

1

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

Launch Seminar

Introduces you to the broad goals of the GE and the skills you will need to succeed.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Connection Seminar

A customized course for transfer students to connect prior experiences with current and future goals and plans.

2

Foundations Courses

Foundations courses introduce you to a variety of academic disciplines to better understand different ways of analyzing and understanding the world.

Students will take one course in each of seven distinct categories.



3

Themes Courses

Develop a deeper understanding of complex topics that are vital to addressing major 21st-century questions.

All students are required to take Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World plus additional coursework in a theme of their choosing.

4

Reflection Seminar

Helps you document and reflect on your academic and personal growth. It also prepares you to explain to potential employers what skills and knowledge you gained from college.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

<https://ugeducation.osu.edu/academics/general-education-ge>