

Geography 2750: World Regional Geography

Autumn 2018

Class# 8117: TuTh 3:55 – 5:15 Stillman Hall, 235

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Course Description:

Geography is a multifaceted discipline with close connections to many fields within both the social and physical sciences. Using this integrative, geographic perspective, Geography 2750 examines the regions of the world in global context. By the end of the semester, students will have basic knowledge of world geographic patterns and the forces that create or contribute to those patterns. This will provide a good foundation for understanding and interpreting a variety of current and future world situations.

GE Categories:

In the Program of General Education, students achieve basic skills, competencies, and breadth of knowledge expected of a College of Arts and Sciences graduate. This is a Diversity: Global Studies, and a Social Science: Human Natural and Economic Resources course.

Diversity: Global Studies

1. The Goal of Diversity GE: 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.
2. Global Studies 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.

Social Science: Human, Natural, and Economic Resources

1. The Goal of Social Science GE: 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.
2. Social Science Expected Learning Outcomes:
 - a. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of individuals and groups.
 - b. Students understand the behavior of individuals, differences and similarities in social and cultural conflicts of human existence, and the processes by which groups function.
 - c. Students comprehend and assess individual and group values and their importance in social problem solving and policy making.
3. 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.

Required Course Materials:

1. Marston, et.al. 2017. World Regions in Global Context: Peoples, Places, and Environments, sixth edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson. This is available at OSU Barnes and Noble, 1598 N. High Street.
2. You will need access to a world atlas (published within the last five years). While some students rely on maps found online and in the textbook, others find that an atlas in print is easier to use. If you do not have an atlas already, you can usually find relatively inexpensive ones on Amazon or at any major bookstore.

Course Website:

You will use Carmen to access assignments, study aids to support the material presented in lecture, and other important class information. In order to have access to the course information in Carmen, you must have an osu.edu e-mail account and appear on the official class roster. If you have any problems with Carmen, visit <http://telr.osu.edu/carmen/> or call 688-4357 (688-HELP).

Evaluation:

Exams : 87%

Lowest Score Exam	15%
Other Exam	24%
Other Exam	24%
Other Exam	24%

Map Quizzes: 12% (6 quizzes at 2% each)

Surveys: 1% for completion of all three (student info. form, pre-course assessment, and post-course assessment)

Extra Credit: 4% (since there will be a total of 8 map quizzes, two of them will be counted as extra credit)

Exams:

The exams will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. The content and format of each exam will be discussed in more detail as exam dates approach.

Map Quizzes:

Each quiz will consist of 20 multiple choice and fill-in questions that you will answer by referring to a map that is included with the quiz questions. See the *Quiz Preparation Guide* for the exact countries, cities, and physical features you will need to know for each quiz.

Grading Scale:

Your final grade in the course will be assigned according to the following scale:

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Grade</u>
93%+	A
90% - 92.9%	A-
87% - 89.9%	B+
83% - 86.9%	B
80% - 82.9%	B-
77% - 79.9%	C+
73% - 76.9%	C
70% - 72.9%	C-
67% - 69.9%	D+
60% - 66.9%	D
below 60%	E

End Of Semester Grades:

Grades assigned at the end of the semester are not negotiable. There will likely be many instances when a student is within a few tenths of a point from the next grade. I do not round up, nor do I provide opportunity for additional extra credit beyond the extra credit points for the quizzes and extra credit points on exams. Your grade will be based on the points you have earned according to the scale above, no matter how close you are to the next grade.

Do Yourself A Favor; Do Not Miss Class!

Lectures will **NOT** be verbal repetitions of the assigned readings. A significant amount of class time will be devoted to presentation and discussion of current issues and other information that is not covered in the textbook. Information from all of these classroom activities will be covered on exams. Although I will post lecture study questions and some selected graphics (e.g. maps, tables, & diagrams) after every class, these will **NOT** contain all of the details and explanations included with the original lectures presented in class. For all of these reasons, coming to class is essential if you wish to receive a good grade.

If you must miss a class, **regardless of the reason**, you are responsible for making arrangements **with a classmate** to get notes and to learn of any announcements that were made in class.

Attendance Policy:

You are expected to attend every class from beginning to end. Attendance will be taken at some point during each class session. If you are not present when attendance is taken, you will be recorded as absent. If you miss part of a class session because you arrive late or leave early, you will still be recorded as absent if you are not present in class at the time when attendance is taken. Please be sure that you sign the attendance list every day. You will not be allowed, under any circumstances, to sign the attendance list at a later date. If you find that frequent absences are unavoidable because of work schedules, frequent illnesses, etc., you should not take this class.

Makeups:

Map Quizzes:

There will be no makeups for map quizzes! In order to receive credit for the quizzes, you must be present when the quiz is given in class. **THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO MAKEUPS FOR QUIZZES, REGARDLESS OF THE REASON FOR YOUR ABSENCE FROM CLASS.** This policy also applies if you miss a quiz because you come to class late on a quiz day, regardless of the reason for your delay. Keep in mind that you can miss up to two map quizzes without any penalty. If you do not miss any quizzes, the extra two will count as extra credit.

Exams:

Dates for exams are listed on the *Course Schedule*; please plan your semester accordingly. **No make-up exams will be given without a signed and verifiable statement from a medical professional explaining that it was impossible for you to attend the exam at the date and time in question.** If you do have a medical excuse (as described in the preceding sentence), you must send me an e-mail message as soon as you know that you will miss the exam, so that we can arrange a time for a makeup.

If you know in advance that you will not be able to take an exam at the scheduled time because of a verifiable medical condition (e.g. scheduled medical procedure such as surgery), please inform me of this situation as soon in the semester as possible.

If you are given permission to take a make-up exam, please be aware that it may differ from the original exam in both format and content.

Class Protocols:

Use of laptops, tablets, etc. is highly discouraged but is permitted for note taking only. No other electronics of any kind are permitted during class meetings. Please... turn off your cell phone; be on time; be prepared to discuss challenging issues and treat your fellow students with respect.

Academic Misconduct:

In accordance with Faculty Rule 3335-5-487, all instances of alleged academic misconduct will be reported to the department chairperson and the Committee on Academic Misconduct. Academic misconduct is grounds for failing the course and may be grounds for further sanctions such as dismissal from the University. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, falsifying data, giving or receiving information during an exam, or submitting plagiarized work for academic requirements. Refer to "Academic Misconduct" in section 3335-23-04 of the Code of Student Conduct. You can find it at http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp. Please be advised that written assignments may be submitted to Turnitin.com to check for originality.

Students With Disabilities:

Any student who may need an accommodation because of a disability should contact the Office of Student Life Disability Services at 292-3307 or stop in at 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Ave. If you are a student with a disability, you should also contact me privately so that we can discuss your specific needs and coordinate our efforts with SLDS.

General Advice and Comments:

You should use the *Course Schedule* as a guide for studying and planning in this course. I have included the dates for each exam, quiz, assignment, and course topic so that you can plan your time wisely. **Remember to make full use of the lecture support materials and reading study questions provided on Carmen with each course topic.** These have been created so that you will have a clear roadmap to success in this class.

In order to avoid last minute "cram" sessions, review class material frequently and make a note of anything that is unclear or confusing. Discuss these points with me on a regular basis. This way, you can "study as you go" during the semester and be better prepared on exam days.

I am available during the office hours listed on the syllabus. If necessary, we can also set up individual appointments at times other than "official" office hours. You are highly encouraged to contact me after class or via e-mail if you would like to see me and are unable to meet with me during regular office hours. Sometimes, I do not hear from a student who is having problems until late in the semester; by that time, many of the opportunities for grade improvement have already passed. Please see me **right away** if anything seems to be confusing, unclear, etc.

Please feel free to come to my office any time you like, even if you're not having any particular problem with the class. I always enjoy getting better acquainted with my students.

Course Schedule

Important: For each lecture topic below, find the corresponding reading assignments, web assignments and lecture study aids on Carmen.

Week	Date	Lecture Topic*	Exams & Quizzes
1	Aug. 21	Introduction	
	Aug. 23	World Regions in Global Context	Info. Form & Pre-Course Assessment Due (submit online)
2	Aug. 28	World Regions in Global Context	
	Aug. 30	World Regions in Global Context	
3	Sep. 4	Europe	Map Quiz #1 (Europe)
	Sep. 6	Europe	
4	Sep. 11	Europe / Russian Fed., C. Asia, Transcauc.	Map Quiz #2 (Russian Fed., C. Asia, Transcaucasus
	Sep. 13	Russian Fed., C. Asia, Transcaucasus	
5	Sep. 18	Russian Fed., C. Asia, Transcaucasus	
	Sep. 20	EXAM 1	EXAM 1
6	Sep. 25	Latin America & Caribbean	Map Quiz #3 (Latin America & Caribbean)
	Sep. 27	Latin America & Caribbean	
7	Oct. 2	Latin America & Caribbean	
	Oct. 4	Sub-Saharan Africa	Map Quiz #4 (Sub-Saharan Africa)
8	Oct. 9	Sub-Saharan Africa	
	Oct. 11	AUTUMN BREAK - NO CLASS	
9	Oct. 16	Sub-Saharan Africa	
	Oct. 18	EXAM 2	EXAM 2
10	Oct. 23	Middle East & North Africa	Map Quiz #5 (Middle East & North Africa)
	Oct. 25	Middle East & North Africa	
11	Oct. 30	Middle East & North Africa	
	Nov. 1	South Asia	Map Quiz #6 (South Asia)
12	Nov. 6	South Asia	
	Nov. 8	South Asia	
13	Nov. 13	EXAM 3	EXAM 3
	Nov. 15	Southeast Asia	
14	Nov. 20	Southeast Asia	Map Quiz #7 (Southeast Asia)
	Nov. 22	THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS	
15	Nov. 27	Southeast Asia / East Asia	Map Quiz #8 (East Asia)
	Nov. 29	East Asia	
16	Dec. 4	East Asia	Post-Course Assessment Due (submit online)

FINAL EXAM is on Wednesday, December 12, 4:00 - 5:45 in our regular classroom

Topics, quiz dates, and exam dates are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

All such changes will be announced in class.

