

World Regional Geography (Geography 2750)

Course Information

Term: Summer Term 2015
The Ohio State University
[Department of Geography](#)

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Course Description

Geography 2750 is an introductory course to world regional geography. This course examines the variety and distinctiveness of places and regions, while maintaining a strong focus on relationships, connections, and integration of various regions of the world. This course also introduces students to the academic discipline of geography as well as professional applications of geography by engaging geographic approaches to social issues. Students will leave the course with an appreciation for geographic thinking, and greater understanding of the complex modern world.

Course Goals

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Name, locate, and describe regions of the world employing key geographical concepts (e.g. climate, water, population, culture).
2. Recognize the reciprocal relationships between social and environmental processes.
3. Identify and discuss differences and interconnections between world regions (e.g. globalization, development).
4. Apply core geographic concepts and methods to examine world events and issues (e.g. conflict, economic agreements, climate change).
5. Assess their own place in the world: In what ways am I part of the global system?

Course Style and Theme

Style

This course has been modified to fit the needs of an online course for Summer 2015, and

therefore meets the course goals using a different style than the Autumn and Spring versions of the same course. The style of the course places an emphasis on concept mastery while enabling individual learning while on-the-go. As such, there are no group activities or discussion board activities for this course. Instead, your success will be determined by your ability to demonstrate competence over course readings through online quizzes and one online final exam.

Theme

The emphasis of this course is on the geography of global interconnectedness through two important themes: (1) the geography of globalization and (2) the geography of climate change.

Course Materials

The following two books are required for this course. You may choose any format of the book – digital or hard copy – so long as you have access to the entire book throughout the duration of the entire course. Additional readings, handouts, and web-based materials will be assigned or suggested throughout the term. These materials will be distributed by the instructor through Carmen or in class, and will be used during classroom activities.

1. Parenti, C. (2012). *Tropic of Chaos: Climate Change and the New Geography of Violence* (First Trade Paper Edition.) Nation Books. ([Amazon](#))
2. Steger, M. (2013). *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)* (3 edition.). Oxford University Press. ([Amazon](#))

The course will also include several short lecture videos. You are required to watch these completely and expect to be quizzed on the lecture content. These videos are designed to give you an introduction to the weekly readings as well as clarify difficult concepts.

Course Expectations and Evaluation

Reading Quizzes (7 total, 70% of final grade)

You will have assigned readings each week of the course. To evaluate your reading comprehension, you are required to take a quiz each week over the assigned readings. Each quiz will include multiple choice, matching, true/false, and short answer. Quizzes may draw on any assigned readings or lecture material from that week.

Final Exam (30%)

The final exam is a comprehensive review of the material from the course, and will consist of multiple choice and long answer questions. The long answer questions will be distributed in advance so that you may formulate your answers in advance and enter them into the Carmen quiz.

Grading Scale

A	93-100%		C+	77-79%
A-	90-92%		C	70-76%
B+	87-89%		D	65-69%
B	83-86%		E	60-64%
B-	80-82%			

Course Policy

Communication with Instructors

Students are invited to email the instructor and TA at any time with any questions related to the course. When you send an email, include a clear subject line that begins with phrase "GEOG2750". You must include a greeting with the name of the recipient (Kocher or Wang), the details of your email, and a closing with your name.

Late Assignments

There is no late assignment policy. Reading quizzes are due by the end of each week (see reading schedule below), and the final exam is due by the final day of the course.

General Elective Fulfillment

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
 - 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
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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.

- e. Students comprehend and assess the physical, social, economic, and political sustainability of individual and societal decisions with respect to resource use.

Disabilities

Students with specific disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>. Please inform the instructor as soon as possible to determine reasonable modifications or accommodations that will make this course a successful experience for you.

Academic Integrity and Misconduct

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination.

If you are suspected of committing academic misconduct, your Instructor is obligated by University Rules (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487) to report these suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM). If COAM determines that you have violated the University's Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in the course and suspension or dismissal.

Course Schedules

Reading Schedule				
	Dates	Globalization: A Very Short Introduction	Tropic of Chaos	All Assignments Due By 11:59PM Sunday:
Week 1	June 15-21	Chapter 1	Chapters 1, 2	June 21
Week 2	June 22-28	Chapter 2, 3	Chapters 3, 4, 5	June 28
Week 3	June 29-July 5	Chapter 4	Chapters 6, 7, 8	July 5
Week 4	July 6-12	Chapter 5	Chapters 9, 10	July 12
Week 5	July 13-19	Chapter 6	Chapters 11, 12	July 19
Week 6	July 20-26	Chapter 7	Chapters 13, 14	July 26
Week 7	July 27-31	Chapter 8	Chapters 15, 16	July 31