

GEOG 112G: World Regional Geography

Fall 2017

Room: CB 111 // 9:30 – 10:20 am M,W,F

Professor: Dr. Eric Magrane

Email: magrane@nmsu.edu

Office: Breland Hall, Rm 145

Office Hours: M, T, W, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm or by appointment

Course Website: Canvas

Graduate Assistant: Aaron Adams

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Office: Breland Hall, Rm 144

Office Hours: M,W 11:30 am – 12:30 pm; Thursday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm, or by appointment

Course Description

The goal of this course is to familiarize students with the world's geographic diversity. Simply put, we want to understand how and why the world is organized the way it is. We will examine physical geographic processes and the human adaptations to those processes. We will study the diverse conditions of the everyday lives of people as well as comprehend the larger political, economic, social, and physical conditions that mediate their existence. Moreover, we want to understand the relationships between the social and spatial organization of society, and how the social world is organized in and through particular places, such as cities, states, and nations.

Course Objectives

- to gain a wide view of the world and its peoples and landscapes
- to develop knowledge of different regions' political and economic practices, cultural and environmental landscapes, and sociocultural attributes
- to understand world regions as constantly in change and part of an interconnected world
- to demonstrate knowledge of a geographic vocabulary and key concepts in human geography including globalization and regionalization, environmental change, and the Anthropocene, through a variety of forms including maps, graphs, and short writing assignments

Course format

There are three weekly class sessions and attendance is required. These sessions will include a combination of lectures, class discussions, group exercises, in-class writing assignments, viewing of films, and presentation of work completed outside of class. Students taking this class are expected to be willing to ask and answer questions in class, and participate actively in discussion on the topics at hand.

Required Text

Marston S., P. Knox, D. Liverman, V.J. Casino Jr., and P. Robbins (2017). *World Regions in Global Context: Peoples, Places, and Environments*, 6th edition. New York: Pearson.

Note: it is important that you get the 6th edition.

You must login and register on Canvas (learn.nmsu.edu) for access to discussions, additional course materials, etc.

Grading summary

Discussion posts	15% (150 points)
Quizzes	20% (200 points)
Short Essays/Assignments	20% (200 points)
Midterm Exam	15% (150 points)
Final Exam	20% (200 points)
Participation/Attendance	10% (100 points)

Total	100% (1000 points)
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A = 93-100%	A- = 90-92%	
B+ = 88-89%	B = 83-87%	B- = 80-82%
C+ = 78-79%	C = 73-77%	C- = 70-72%
D+ = 68-69%	D = 63-67%	D- = 60-62%
F = < 60%		

Discussion Posts (Canvas)

Students are expected to respond (200-250 words) about the readings and course content in discussion posts on Canvas. These discussions will also help facilitate discussion in class. Sometimes I will give a prompt beforehand; other times the discussion will be open for you to respond to whatever in the week's readings or lectures most interests you. Students will also be responsible for responding to at least one of the other posts in their discussion group each week. The posts will be located under "Discussions" on the course Canvas site. Posts are due each week by 5 pm on Wednesday. Responses will be due by 5 pm on Friday.

Quizzes, Midterm, and Final Exam

There will be ten short quizzes throughout the semester. You will complete these online on Canvas. Each will be worth twenty points and will be "open book." The quizzes will primarily be multiple choice. Quizzes cannot be made up. The midterm and final exams will be composed of a combination of multiple choice, open-ended, short answer, or short essay questions. We will hold in-class review sessions in the class meetings before the midterm and final exams.

Short Essays/Assignments

Throughout the semester, students will be required to complete three short essays/assignments. More details for each of these assignments will be provided in class and on Canvas.

Six-Week Early Performance Grades

A Six-Week Early Performance Grade for this course will be posted. You will be able to access your grade through your MY.NMSU.EDU under the Student Tab: Click on Student Record / Midterm Grades. In this class the Six-Week Early Performance Grade will reflect your performance on only a portion of the total graded work in this course. If you are doing well, congratulations on your success – but be mindful that there is still a significant portion of the graded work yet to be completed. If you are doing poorly, or not as well as you would like, please meet with me to discuss how you can improve. If you have concerns about your progress in multiple courses and need to consider a schedule change, meet with your academic advisor.

Academic Policies

Academic Misconduct

Academic and non-academic misconduct: The Student Code of Conduct defines academic misconduct, non-academic misconduct and the consequences or penalties for each. The Student Code of Conduct is available in the NMSU Student Handbook online:

<http://studenthandbook.nmsu.edu/>

Academic misconduct is explained here:

<http://studenthandbook.nmsu.edu/student-code-of-conduct/academic-misconduct/>

Discrimination and Disability Accommodation

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) covers issues relating to disability and accommodations. If a student has questions or needs an accommodation in the classroom (all medical information is treated confidentially), contact:

Trudy Luken, Director
Student Accessibility Services (SAS)
Corbett Center Student Union, Rm. 208
Phone: (575) 646-6840
E-mail: sas@nmsu.edu
Website: <http://sas.nmsu.edu/>

NMSU policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status.

Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation.

For more information on discrimination issues, Title IX, Campus SaVE Act, NMSU Policy Chapter 3.25, NMSU's complaint process, or to file a complaint contact:

Lauri Millot
Title IX Coordinator

Agustin Diaz
Title IX Deputy Coordinator
Office of Institutional Equity (OIE)
O'Loughlin House, 1130 University Avenue
Phone: (575) 646-3635
E-mail: equity@nmsu.edu
Website: <http://eio.nmsu.edu/>

Other NMSU Resources:

NMSU Police Department: (575) 646-3311 www.nmsupolice.com

NMSU Police Victim Services: (575) 646-3424

NMSU Counseling Center: (575) 646-2731

NMSU Dean of Students: (575) 646-1722

For Any On-campus emergencies: 911

Absence and Late Assignment Policy

Attendance in class is crucial and mandatory, and a percentage of the course's grade is based on attendance. It is important to come to class on time; tardiness is disruptive to class. Three or more unexcused absences or late arrivals will affect a student's final grade. Late assignments will be

penalized 10% for each day they are late. Canvas discussion posts and quizzes will not be accepted late.

Electronic equipment in class (Laptops, phones etc.): Laptops should only be used for note taking or for course-related activities. Cell phones should be on silent and put away during class. Use of electronic equipment for social media, text, etc. is disrespectful and distracting to both the instructor and class peers. If you are using a laptop for notetaking, I ask that you sit in the front rows of class.

Withdrawals/Incompletes:

Withdrawals are your responsibility. The instructor will not withdraw or drop students from this class under any circumstances. Incomplete grades will not be given except under extraordinary circumstances related to serious illness, bereavement, etc. Documentation will be required in these limited circumstances.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Do not plagiarize.

Statement of Inclusivity

An inclusive and respectful classroom environment is crucial to our success and is a fundamental part of higher education. This course supports elective gender pronoun use and self-identification; rosters indicating such choices will be updated throughout the semester, upon student request. As the course will include group work and in-class discussion, it is vitally important for us to create an educational environment of inclusion and mutual respect.

Common Core Requirement

This course meets the NMSU General Education “Social Analysis” Common Core requirement: <http://artsci.nmsu.edu/advising/information-for-potential-transfer-students/university-general-educationarts-and-sciences-core-requirements> You will also see that although technically it does not meet other Common Core requirements, you will find that many of them are included throughout the course content.

Course Prerequisites

There are no course prerequisites for this course and it does fulfill the requirements of a general education / common core course at NMSU.

Tech Skill Prerequisites

Students are expected to be more than proficient in using Microsoft Windows-based PCs and be able to perform common tasks such as logging in, copying and deleting files, creating folders, searching for content on the hard drive, searching for content on the Web, etc. Students are expected to be proficient in using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint). Previous experience in reading and understanding maps and using on-line map tools such as Google Maps (<http://maps.google.com>) and Mapquest (<http://www.mapquest.com>) is also helpful.

Information contained in the course syllabus may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the professor.

COURSE OUTLINE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
CHECK CANVAS REGULARLY FOR UPDATES.

Date	Topic
Wed Aug 16	Course Introduction
Fri Aug 18	
Mon Aug 21	World Geography Defined
Wed Aug 23	
Fri Aug 25	
Mon Aug 28	The Anthropocene
Wed Aug 30	
Fri Sep 1	
Mon Sep 4	Labor Day: No Class
Wed Sep 6	Europe
Fri Sep 8	
Mon Sep 11	The Russian Federation, Central Asia, and the Transcaucasus
Wed Sep 13	
Fri Sep 15	
Mon Sep 18	Middle East & North Africa
Wed Sep 20	
Fri Sep 22	
Mon Sep 25	Sub-Saharan Africa
Wed Sep 27	
Fri Sep 29	Midterm Review
Mon Oct 2	Midterm Exam
Wed Oct 4	United States & Canada
Fri Oct 6	
Mon Oct 9	Latin America & the Caribbean
Wed Oct 11	
Fri Oct 13	
Mon Oct 16	East Asia
Wed Oct 18	
Fri Oct 20	
Mon Oct 23	South Asia
Wed Oct 25	
Fri Oct 27	
Mon Oct 30	Southeast Asia
Wed Nov 1	
Fri Nov 3	

Mon Nov 6	Oceania
Wed Nov 8	
Fri Nov 10	
Mon Nov 13	Future Geographies
Wed Nov 15	
Fri Nov 17	
Nov 20-24	No class. Happy Thanksgiving!
Mon Nov 27	Futures Geographies
Wed Nov 29	
Fri Dec 1	Last Day of Classes: Final Exam Review
Mon Dec 4	Final Exam: 8:00 am – 10:00 am