

GEOG 112G: World Regional Geography
Fall 2018
Online

Professor: Dr. Eric Magrane

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Office: Breland Hall, Rm 145

Office Hours: August and September: by appointment; October-December: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, or by appointment

Course Website: Canvas (This course is fully online in Canvas.)

Graduate Assistant: Coury Dorn

Email: couryd@nmsu.edu

Office: Breland Hall, Rm 142

Office Hours: Mondays 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, Tuesdays 10 am to 12 pm and 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Wednesdays 10 am to 1 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

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.

ISBN: 9780134587776 (print book with Modified Mastering access) *or* 9780134245348 (e-book with Modified Mastering access). (Hereafter, this text will be referred to as WRGC.) **Note: it is**

important that you get the 6th edition and get an access code for Modified Mastering Geography access as well. [I highly encourage you to buy through the NMSU bookstore or directly through Pearson; if you purchase from a third party and the Modified code is wrong, Pearson cannot refund if the code is wrong.]

Though it is not required, you may also find that a World Atlas (such as *Goode's World Atlas* ISBN: 9780133864649) will be helpful for you in this class.

Any additional materials will be available online through Canvas.

Course Format and Response Time

This course is completely online. Instructor or TA will respond to student emails as soon as possible; expect a response time within 24-48 hours (not including weekends/holidays).

Grading summary

Discussion posts (10 at 20 pts)	(200 points)
Quizzes (13 at 20 pts)	(260 points)
Place Name Exercises (10 at 10 points)	(100 points)
Short Assignments (3 at 80 pts)	(240 points)
Final Project	(200 points)
Total	(1000 points)

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

Each week of the semester, students are responsible for a discussion post. Specific prompts will be provided that relate to the week's module. Each post should be about 200-250 words. Students will also be responsible for replying to at least one of the other posts in their discussion group each week. **Original posts are due by 11:59 pm on Wednesday. Replies will be due by 11:59 pm on Friday. (The first post of the semester will be due by 11:59 pm on Friday 8/17, with a response due by 11:59 pm on Monday 8/20.)** The first week's post will not be graded; each post after that will be worth 20 points. Discussion posts cannot be made up.

Quizzes

There will be a quiz each week beginning Week 2 up through the week before Thanksgiving. Each quiz will be worth 20 points. The highest thirteen quizzes will count toward the final grade. The quizzes will primarily be multiple choice and relate to readings in WRGC and **must be completed by Friday at 11:59 pm each week.** These are 'open-book' quizzes. Some weeks will also include additional "Map Quizzes" in which you answer questions related to maps and figures in the text. Quizzes cannot be made up.

Place Name Exercises

Many weeks you will also have a place name exercise. You will need to use your Modified Mastering access code to register in our connected Modified Mastering Geography course to access these exercises. Once you have registered, you will be able to access these exercises directly through each week's modules.

Assignments and Final Project

There will be three assignments that you must complete during the semester. These assignments will take multiple forms, from creating a graph, map, or Powerpoint, to short writing assignments. The details for each will be posted on Canvas. Each of the three assignments will be worth 80 points. Students must complete every assignment; none will be dropped. Each student will also be

responsible for a final project. Detailed instructions on the assignments and the final project will be provided 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

Late Assignment Policy

This class will move quickly, and it is imperative that assignments be completed on time. **Late discussion posts, quizzes, or place name exercises will not be accepted after 11:59 pm on Fridays.** Be sure to budget your time wisely so that you are not rushing to complete everything Friday evening.

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://eeo.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

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.

Statement of Inclusivity

An inclusive and respectful online 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. 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 more than proficient in using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and/or Publisher). Previous experience in reading and understanding maps and using on-line map tools such as Google Maps (<http://maps.google.com>) is also helpful.

Computer Equipment Requirements

To take this course you will need access to a computer (tablet, pc, mac, etc.) to access the course and perform the basic tasks required. You should be sure that your online platforms have virus protection (Sophos is available free to all registered NMSU students). You should also have enough computing power to support using Microsoft Office products (available free to all registered students at NMSU) as they will often be used to prepare responses to questions and produce assignments.

Extra Credit

Occasionally during the semester, I will announce extra credit opportunities to attend geography colloquia at NMSU's Las Cruces campus or other related events. If you attend one of these events for extra credit and write a one-page response to the event, you will receive 10 points extra credit. The most extra credit that a student can receive is 30 points total (3% of your final grade). As this is an online course, I also know that not everyone will be able to attend colloquia in Las Cruces; alternate opportunities for extra credit will be provided in these cases if you contact me. The final day to turn in any extra credit is December 5.

COURSE OUTLINE OVERVIEW
EACH WEEK'S MODULE WILL BE POSTED ON CANVAS THE WEEKEND BEFORE

Date	Topic
Week 1 (8/15-8/17)	Course Introduction
Week 2 (8/20-8/24)	World Geography Defined
Week 3 (8/27-8/31)	Maps & Geospatial Technologies
Week 4 (9/4-9/7)	The Anthropocene
Week 5 (9/10-9/14)	Europe
Week 6 (9/17-9/21)	The Russian Federation, Central Asia, and the Transcaucasus
Week 7 (9/24-9/28)	Middle East & North Africa
Week 8 (10/1-10/5)	Sub-Saharan Africa
Week 9 (10/8-10/12)	United States & Canada
Week 10 (10/15-10/19)	Latin America & the Caribbean
Week 11 (10/22-10/26)	East Asia
Week 12 (10/29-11/2)	South Asia
Week 13 (11/5-11/9)	Southeast Asia
Week 14 (11/12-11/16)	Oceania
(11/19-11/23)	NO CLASS. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Week 15 (11/26-11/30)	Final Projects
Week 16 (12/3-12/7)	Final Project DUE Wednesday, December 5, at 11:59 pm.

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