

Geography 110: World Regional Geography

Spring 2017

Instructor: Erin Greunke, MS
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Room: EST 349
Time: Monday & Wednesday 12:40PM – 2:00PM
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 2:30PM – 3:30PM or by appointment

Required Texts/Tools:

- *World Regional Geography: Global Patterns, Local Lives (WITHOUT SUBREGIONS)*, 6th Edition, by Lydia Mihelic Pulsipher and Alex Pulsipher, ISBN-10: 1-4641-1069-7; ISBN-13: 978-1-4641-1069-6
 - Free publisher resources at http://bcs.whfreeman.com/pulsipher6e/default.asp#t_895466
- **You will need VR Goggles for this class** – we will discuss on our initial meeting
- A good world atlas is also suggested

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to geographical concepts as they apply to the world's regions. During the semester we will engage in a general survey of the political, social, economic, physical, and ecological systems of the world while applying the five main themes of geography: Location, Place, Human Environment Interaction, Movement, and Regions.

The text and associated lectures are intended to help you develop an appreciation for the diversity and uniqueness of world's cultures as well as a deeper understanding of the complex geophysical differences of the world.

Our goals are to explore world regions, understand how each of these regions relate to other regions in the world, and how we influence and are influenced by these seemingly distant places. You will be challenged to view the world in new and innovative ways and to think critically about current global issues.

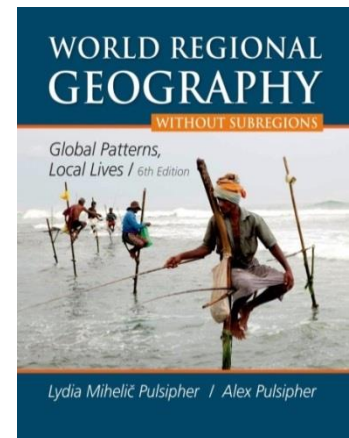
This course fulfills a requirement for the Colonnade Explorations “Social and Behavioral” Category, General Education Category E, and is required for major and minor concentrations in the Geography and Environmental Studies program.

Course Objectives:

During our classes together, we will cover a variety of geographic concepts, notions, and theories in our review of the regions of the world. The course is deeply rooted in today's changing world.

By the end of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Examine cultural, environmental, political, economic, and social systems of the world, and work toward a better understanding of the critical and complex geographic interrelationships within and between world regions.
2. Develop a higher-level of appreciation for the diversity and uniqueness of the world's cultures as well as a deeper understanding of the complexities of global issues.
3. Work toward a better understanding of how we influence, and are influenced by, seemingly distant places and peoples. Students will emerge from this course with a much broader view of the world and with the tools with which to think critically about current global issues and to take action as a responsible global citizen.



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Evaluation:

Item	Count	Points Each	Total Points	Percentage	When	Type
5 Themes Activities	12	25	300	30.0%	Every class	“In-class” activity/assignment/Journal
Reading/Map Quizzes	10	10	100	10.0%	Every chapter	Online Timed Quiz submitted via Blackboard.
Regional Review	10	10	100	10.0%	Every chapter	Online response to video or news article using worksheet and submitted via Blackboard.
Geography 360 EXPO	1	300	300	30.0%	Wednesday, April 19	See Project Description Below and Class Schedule. Includes final presentation during last week of class.
Exams	2	100	200	20.0%	See Schedule	Multiple Choice and Map

All online assignments must be completed by the Friday of the corresponding week. See Schedule.

5 Themes of Geography In-Class Activity:

Students will complete an activity that reinforces the 5 Themes of Geography: Region, Movement, Location, Place, and Human-Environment Interaction. This activity may be reviewing a news article in class or watching a video and discussing themes observed with regard to the region we are covering in class. There are no make-ups for this activity.

Online Weekly Reading/Map Quizzes:

Reading/Map Quizzes will be given every chapter (we will cover a chapter about every week). Questions come directly from your corresponding chapter’s study guide and the answers can be found in your textbook. Quizzes will be timed allowing **20 minutes** for completion. You will be allowed up to 2 attempts per quiz in the designated time period. Blackboard will notify your instructor if you have exceeded the 20 minute mark and I will deduct 5 points for every minute over 20 minutes. There will be no make-up assignments for quizzes. Late work not accepted for quizzes. Your final attempt is the quiz that is your recorded grade.

Online Regional News Article Review:

Each student will select a current news article for discussion pertaining to the region we are covering in class. You will use the Article Worksheet to discuss your chosen article articulating geographic themes you read in the corresponding chapter. You may use any credible news source to find your article using a medium that is comfortable for you (i.e. printed newspaper, online, etc). Article reviews will be submitted via Assignment Dropbox each week. Occasionally, your worksheet will be a response to a select video.

Geography 360 EXPO:

Students will be required to attend and participate in the Geography 360 EXPO, which will be held tentatively on **Wednesday, April 19th.** Students will be assigned to a group as by the instructor and guided to select among certain topics. This event has both individual and group elements to it and will be explained in class. Detailed instructions and guidelines for the project will be provided by the instructor. **NOTE:** Students **MUST** attend and present in this event to earn a grade on the group element of the project. There will be no make-up assignments for this event.

Exams:

Exams will include multiple-choice questions and a map section. Exams are exclusive and each exam only covers the material in between exams. If you miss an exam, at the discretion of the instructor, you may be able to make-up the exam. Missed exams and presentations cannot be made up unless justifying documentation has been presented to (and accepted by) the instructor **BEFORE** the date of the exam/presentation. Only in the case of emergencies will exceptions be made.

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Grades:

Letter grades are assigned according to the final percentage of accumulated points:

Letter	Percentage	Total Point Value	Letter	Percentage	Total Point Value
A	90 – 100 %	900 – 1000	D	60 – 69.9%	600 – 699
B	80 – 89.9%	800 – 899	F	< 60%	0 – 599
C	70 – 79.9%	700 – 799	FN	Failure due to	Non-attendance

NOTE: I do NOT round grades up -- Your grade is up to you and not me.

Extra Credit:

In fairness to all students in the class, no extra credit will be offered as part of this course. Please do not ask. Put in the work the first time around – everyone is capable of earning an A.

Attendance Policy:

Poor attendance reflects a poor scholastic attitude; however formal attendance will not be taken during class except for the first class meeting. Students who miss the first class will be dropped from the course. Information and assignments given during class cannot be made up nor will I repeat myself due to a student's absence. It is each student's responsibility to get the information and notes from classmates (if they are nice enough to share). In-class assignments will be collected at the end of class. I will only accept work from each student directly. Work handed in by a classmate on your behalf will not be accepted.

Classroom Etiquette and Expectations:

- **ALL** electronic devices (cell phones, headphones, laptops, etc.) must be turned off during lectures and exams.
- Any student failing to demonstrate mature and respectful behavior will be removed from the class.
- If you must leave before class has ended, please notify the instructor before class. Coming late and leaving early will count as partial absences.
- It is understood that all students have read the WKU student "Code of Conduct" and will abide by the rules.
- Plagiarism and cheating are serious violations and students should familiarize themselves with these issues.
- **IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO READ AND STUDY THE TEXTBOOK TO RECEIVE A GOOD GRADE IN THIS CLASS!**

Course Withdrawal:

Students who find it necessary to withdraw completely from the university (WKU) or from this course should report to the Office of Registrar in Potter Hall to initiate **Withdrawal** procedures before the last **Withdrawal** date. Students who cease attending class without an official **Withdrawal** will receive a **Failing** grade.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, Room 445 in Potter Hall. The Office for Student Disability Services telephone number is (270) 745-5004 V/TDD. Please do not request accommodations without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

The Learning Center (TLC):

Should you require academic assistance with your WKU courses, The Learning Center (located in the Downing University Center, A330) provides free supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled WKU students. TLC @ DUC offers certified, one-on-one tutoring in over 200 subjects and eight academic skill areas by appointment or walk

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in. Online tutoring is offered to distance learners. TLC is also a quiet study area (with side rooms designated for peer-to-peer tutoring) and offers a thirty-two machine Dell computer lab to complete academic coursework. Additionally, TLC has three satellite locations. Each satellite location is a quiet study center and is equipped with a small computer lab. These satellite locations are located in Douglas Keen Hall, McCormack Hall, and Pearce Ford Tower. Please call TLC @ DUC at (270) 745-6254 for more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment. www.wku.edu/tlc

Other Policies:

The Department of Geography and Geology strictly adheres to university policies, procedures, and deadlines regarding student schedule changes. It is the sole responsibility of the student to meet all deadlines in regard to adding, dropping, or changing the status of a course. Only in exceptional cases will a deadline be waived. The Student Schedule Exception Form is used to initiate all waivers. This form requires a written description of the extenuating circumstances involved and the attachment of appropriate documentation. Poor academic performance, general malaise, or undocumented general stress factors are not considered as legitimate circumstance.

I'm an Ally:

I respect and value each and every student. Our differences in culture and lifestyles make class (and life) much more interesting. My goal is to have open and honest class discussions without judgement or prejudice – that includes my über liberal and über conservative students. Let's celebrate each other!



Study Abroad and Study Away:

I'm a major advocate of study abroad and study away – so much so that I have dedicated my research and career towards it. I would like to encourage each of you to explore your options for study abroad and study away while you are a student at WKU. Both domestic and international students can participate. I currently offer the following classes abroad and away, but can certainly help you with information regarding other programs: Winter: Australia & Hawaii; Summer: Czech Republic, The Former Yugoslavia, Ireland; Spring Break: India

The World is Yours – Go Explore!



Black Fort, Inis Mor, Ireland – Summer 2015 GEO Ireland Program

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Tentative Schedule:

The following schedule is subject to revision as conditions warrant. First we will cover logical themes which each world region are organized around. The globe is divided into 12 regions, which will then be discussed according to the class breakdown below:

GEOG 110 Class Outline – Monday & Wednesday			
January	23/25	Ch. 1: Geography: An Exploration of Connections	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 1 and Regional Review #1 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
	Jan 30/ Feb 1	Ch. 2: North America	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 2 and Regional Review #2 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
February	6/8	Ch. 3: Middle America	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 3 and Regional Review #3 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
	13/15	Ch. 4: Europe	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 4 and Regional Review #4 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
	20/22	Cultural Expo Group Research	
	Feb 27/ Mar 1	Ch. 5: Russia and the Post-Soviet States	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 5 and Regional Review #5 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
	6/8	Exam 1	
March	13/15	Spring Break	
	20/22	Ch. 6: North Africa/Southwest Asia	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 6 and Regional Review #6 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
	27/29	Ch. 7: Sub-Saharan Africa	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 7 and Regional Review #7 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
	3/5	Ch. 8: South Asia	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 8 and Regional Review #8 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
April	10/12	Ch. 9: East Asia	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 9 and Regional Review #9 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
	17/19	Geography 360 Expo	
	24/26	Ch. 10: Southeast Asia	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 10 and Regional Review #10 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
	1/3	Ch. 11: Oceania: Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific	Complete online Reading/Map Quiz Ch. 11 and Regional Review #11 In-class – 5 Themes of Geography Activity
May	8/10	Exam 2 & Final Presentation Reflections	

All items on the syllabus are subject to change at the instructor's discretion.