

# GEOG 1303: World Regional Geography

Fall 2013 ~ Section 001 ~ MWF 11:00-11:50

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**Office Hours:** MWF 10-11 & by appointment

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## Course Description

Survey of the geography of major world regions. Introduces global issues from a regional perspective with an emphasis on developing an understanding of the connections between and differences among world regions.

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## Student Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Locate major geographic features on maps
2. Discuss the concept of regions and how they are classified as realms in this course
3. Define culture as it is used in our regional approach
4. Recognize the importance of the physical landscape and how it impacts human geography
5. Identify and locate the major realms as they will be studied in this course.
6. Describe economic developmental issues, including core-periphery relationships and globalization
7. Recall what is meant by the term *state* in the world regional framework
8. Explain what is meant by the geographic perspective
9. Locate the current Eastern border of the European realm
10. Discuss the major revolutions that have helped shape Europe
11. Describe the locational advantage of Europe, utilizing the concepts of site and situation, and explain the principles of spatial interaction
12. Recognize important components of contemporary European population patterns and urbanization
13. Discuss the EU and European unification processes as well as centrifugal (devolutionary) forces in the European realm
14. Identify major qualities and distinctions of the five regions of Europe
15. Describe the processes and conditions that underlie both weather and climate in the Russian realm.
16. Discuss the extent of expansionism and colonialism in the Russian Empire and understand how it differs from spatial aspects of European colonization
17. Explain the Soviet legacy and the cultural, political, and economic factors associated with the Soviet Union
18. Identify important geographic properties of the Russian realm today and its transition from union to commonwealth
19. Define and discuss major components of urban geography in North America
20. Discuss similarities and differences in the physical and cultural geography of Canada and the U.S.
21. Discuss the Industrial Revolution as it impacted North America, as well as today's transformation to a post-industrial society
22. Describe major physical characteristics of North America, including the impact of the Rain Shadow Effect
23. Explain why North America is considered to have the best inland water system in the world
24. Define the four major components of the economic/spatial economy as applied to North America.
25. Describe the role of historical geography and colonization in shaping the geographic features of the Middle America realm today
26. Provide examples concerning the "collision of cultures" we find in Middle-America historically and the implications today (included are Mayan, Aztec, European and African)
27. Recognize Middle America as a "hearth" area and differentiate between mainland and rimland utilizing hacienda and plantation agriculture
28. Define and discuss concepts relative to the Middle America realm including plural society as relevant here, acculturation, transculturation, and mestizo
29. Explain the geographic role Mexico plays as a dominant country in Middle America
30. Describe the Inca Empire (a world hearth), Iberian colonialism, and African culture as they shaped the South America we see today
31. Provide examples of the effects of isolation on South America
32. Define characteristics of developing realm urbanization, rural-to-urban migration, and overall population patterns in South America
33. Discuss characteristics of the "Latin" American city model as well as the concept of a growth-pole
34. Recognize the role Brazil plays as the giant of the South American realm
35. Apply the concepts of medical geography including spatial aspects, disease ecology, disease agents, disease vectors, and endemic and pandemic diseases to the Sub-Saharan Africa realm.
36. Recognize colonial spatial organization and the impact of colonialism still evident today in Sub-Saharan Africa
37. Describe Sub-Saharan Africa's physiography as it relates to plate tectonics, especially why Africa is considered physically "unique"
38. Apply the concept of sequent occupancy to the Sub-Saharan Africa realm, especially the country of South Africa
39. Define and discuss the impact of apartheid as it relates to a plural society and core/periphery relationships in Sub-Saharan Africa
40. Explain the agricultural issues of importance in the Sub-Saharan Africa realm
41. Identify the world culture hearths located in North Africa and Southwest Asia

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42. Apply the concepts of culture region and the various types of diffusion to the North African and Southwest Asian Realm
  43. Explain the influence of Islam in North Africa and Southwest Asia
  44. Recognize the spatial impact of oil in North Africa and Southwest Asia
  45. Discuss distinctive characteristics of nomadism in North Africa and Southwest Asia
  46. Apply the concepts of centrifugal and centripetal forces to the South Asia realm
  47. Apply the Demographic Transition Model to the South Asia realm
  48. Discuss the historical geography of South Asia including the development and characteristics of the caste system
  49. Understand the effect of the wet and dry monsoon on the people of the South Asia realm
  50. Discuss South Asia's role as a world hearth area as well as the influence of colonialism
  51. Understand collectivization, communization, and the cultural revolution in China
  52. Discuss Japan in the context of a world and regional core area
  53. Define China's role in the world today, including how its level of development impacts this role as well as the role of SEZs
  54. Apply the concept of extraterritoriality to the East Asian realm
  55. Explain Confucianism and the effect Communism had on it
  56. Explain the pinyin system
  57. Explain China's role as a hearth area of the world
  58. Apply the major components of political geography including the five types of territorial morphology to the Southeast Asian realm
  59. Recognize the colonial influences on Southeast Asia
  60. Understand the term Indo-China
  61. Identify important qualities of Singapore as a unique state in Southeast Asia
  62. Describe Australia and New Zealand's historical geography
  63. Discuss Australia and New Zealand's economic geography and population policies
  64. Describe important characteristics of the indigenous populations of both Australia and New Zealand
  65. Identify high island/low island cultures as they relate to agricultural and fishing economies in the Pacific realm
  66. Recognize the divisions of Micronesia, Polynesia, and Melanesia
  67. Discuss the complex multinational relationship that constitutes Antarctica
  68. Speculate on future prospects in the Arctic

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### Required Course Materials

Realms, Regions and Concepts, 15th Edition, by Harm de Blij, Peter O. Muller, Jan Nijman ©2012

- **Option 1:** Use *WileyPLUS* online in place of the hard copy textbook (save \$) Go to [www.wileyplus.com](http://www.wileyplus.com) to purchase.
- **Option 2:** Buy a new textbook in the bookstore packaged with a *WileyPLUS* registration code.

**Note:** Do not buy a used textbook or an earlier edition of this text. You must have access to WileyPlus and this requires a new registration code that will not be available with a used textbook or earlier edition.

**Important Step:** Once you purchase your *WileyPLUS* registration code, you will need to register for this section of the course on *WileyPlus*. Go to <http://edugen.wileyplus.com/edugen/class/cls329767/> to register for this class.

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### Major Assignments

Your course grade will be determined by your performance on:

- Online assignments (10%)
- 5 exams (15% each)
- Comprehensive final exam (15%)

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### Grading Policy

No make-up work or extra credit assignments will be offered or accepted in order to improve your grade. Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate catalog. Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Grading Scale: A = 90-100%; B= 80-89%; C= 70-79%; D= 60-69%; F = below 60%

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### Attendance Policy

Attending class is vital to your success in the course. Come to class!

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### **Drop Policy**

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

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### **Americans with Disabilities Act**

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

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### **Academic Integrity**

At UT Arlington, academic dishonesty is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any form, including (but not limited to) "cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2). Suspected violations of academic integrity standards will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

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### **Student Support Services Available**

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

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### **Electronic Communication Policy**

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

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### **Student Feedback Survey**

At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather,

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tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>. **I value your feedback very much. Please complete the SFS.**

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### **Final Review Week**

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. Classes are held as scheduled during this week and lectures and presentations may be given.

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**Course Calendar** -- The course calendar is subject to change during the semester. --

Date	Topic	Reading Assignments
8.23.13	Introduction to course	
8.26.13	Geographic Regions and Realms	Introduction World Regional Geography: Global Perspectives
8.28.13	Europe	Chapter 1A The European Realm
8.30.13	Europe	Chapter 1B European Regions
9.4.13	Europe	
9.9.13	Europe	
9.11.13	Russia	Chapter 2A The Russian Realm
9.13.13	Russia	Chapter 2B Russian Regions
9.16.13	<b>Exam 1 - Introduction, Europe, and Russia</b>	
9.18.13	Online Assignment - no class meeting	See Wiley Plus for assignment instructions
9.20.13	Online Assignment - no class meeting	See Wiley Plus for assignment instructions
9.23.13	North America	Chapter 3A The North American Realm
9.25.13	North America	Chapter 3B North American Regions
9.27.13	Middle America	Chapter 4A The Middle American Realm
9.30.13	Middle America	Chapter 4B Middle American Regions
10.2.13	Middle America	
10.4.13	South America	Chapter 5A The South American Realm
10.7.13	South America	Chapter 5B South American Regions
10.9.13	South America	
10.11.13	<b>Exam 2 - North, Middle, and South America</b>	
10.14.13	Subsaharan Africa	Chapter 6A The Realm of Subsaharan Africa
10.16.13	Subsaharan Africa	Chapter 6B Regions Of Subsaharan Africa
10.18.13	Subsaharan Africa	
10.21.13	North Africa/Southwest Asia	Chapter 7A The North African/Southwest Asian Realm
10.23.13	North Africa/Southwest Asia	Chapter 7B Regions Of North Africa/Southwest Asia
10.25.13	North Africa/Southwest Asia	
10.28.13	<b>Exam 3 - Africa and Southwest Asia</b>	
10.30.13	South Asia	Chapter 8A The South Asian Realm
11.1.13	South Asia	Chapter 8B South Asian Regions
11.4.13	South Asia	
11.6.13	East Asia	Chapter 9A The East Asian Realm
11.8.13	East Asia	Chapter 9B East Asian Regions
11.11.13	East Asia	
11.13.13	<b>Exam 4 - South and East Asia</b>	
11.15.13	Southeast Asia	Chapter 10A The Southeast Asian Realm
11.18.13	Southeast Asia	Chapter 10B Southeast Asian Regions
11.20.13	Online Assignment - no class meeting	See Wiley Plus for assignment instructions
11.22.13	Online Assignment - no class meeting	See Wiley Plus for assignment instructions
11.25.13	Austral & Pacific Realms	Chapter 11 The Austral Realm & Chapter 12 The Pacific Realm
11.27.13	<b>Exam 5 - Southeast Asia, Austral, and Pacific</b>	
12.2.13	Make-Up Exams	
12.4.13	Optional Final Exam Review Session	
12.11.13 11:00-1:30	<b>Final Exam - Comprehensive</b>	