
Geography 200 – World Regional Geography The Ohio State University – Autumn 2009

Call Number: 12220

Class Time & Place: M W 10:30 -12:18 am – Page Hall (PA) 10

Instructor: Nurcan Atalan-Helicke

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(Please put “200” in subject line)

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Teaching Assistant: Robert Klein

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Mail Box: located in 1035 Derby Hall

Course web page: on **Carmen** (<https://carmen.osu.edu/>)

Login and click on ‘GEOG 200 -Wrld Regional Geography (12220)

Course Description:

Geography 200 is an introductory course to world regional geography. This course examines the human and physical geographic structure of all world regions. Our primary goal is to understand the gradual integration/connections of various regions of the world. To guide our analysis we will emphasize the following interrelated themes:

- 1) **Global integration.** The world is becoming increasingly integrated. We will look at the concepts to understand the complexity of world regions, the interconnections between regions and people around the world, and question to what extent the world is integrated.
- 2) **Development and underdevelopment.** We will examine how world regions are classified by their level of development based on different measures of development and critiques of these approaches.
- 3) **Challenges to global integration and new politics.** We will look at conflicts and tensions attending global integration, especially concerning nationality, and emergence of new actors (i.e. MNCs, terrorism).
- 4) **Environmental change.** By examining changing nature-society interaction over space, we will examine the complexity of the globalization of nature (i.e. climate change, effects of development, changing patterns of agriculture).

Students with disabilities: any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of disability should contact me privately to discuss specific needs. Please contact the Office of Disability Services (292-3307, room 150 Pomerene Hall) to coordinate reasonable accommodations (for students with documented disabilities).

Course goals:

- 1) To raise geographic literacy and awareness: By the end of the quarter, you will be familiar with key geographic concepts and themes and understand the wide applicability of these geographic concepts.
- 2) To develop critical and thoughtful perspectives on the connectedness of the world: We will explore this connectedness through current and historical political, cultural, economic, and social processes. By the end of the quarter, you will not only be able to rethink your ideas of what geography is but also critically develop your thoughts about the various geographical issues of the world.

GEC Objectives:

This course also fulfills Ohio State University GEC requirements:

Social Science Course (4C) and Diversity Experience (6B)

- Students exhibit an understanding of political, economic, cultural, physical, and social differences among the nations of the world, including a specific examination of non-Western culture.
- Students understand the theories and methods of scientific inquiry as they are applied to the studies of individuals, groups, organizations, and societies.
- Students comprehend human differences and similarities in various psychological, social, cultural, economic, geographic, and political contexts.
- Students develop abilities to comprehend and assess individual and social values, and recognize their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

Textbook:

Required: Marston, S.A., P.L. Knox and D.M. Liverman, 2008, *World Regions in Global Context: Peoples, Places, and Environments, Third Edition*, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall (ISBN: 013229835X).

Recommended: a current World Atlas with a good index (can be found in the library).

Additional readings: There will occasionally be additional required readings for this course. The readings will be posted on Carmen.

Course Evaluation:

| Requirements | Percent of final grade |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Take-home Quizzes (5x 5%) | 25 |
| Assignments (#1=10%, #2=15%) | 25 |
| Attendance, Class Discussion | 5 |
| Two Exams (#1=20%, #2=25%) | 45 |

Take-Home Quizzes: These are short take-home exercises. There will be 5 take-home quizzes, each worth 5% of your final grade. The objective of the quizzes is to help you familiarize yourself with the regions and topics that will be discussed in class. Doing the readings prior to the class is as important as attending the lectures. A tentative schedule of when they will be handed out and due is to be found at the end of the syllabus. Please note that the quizzes will be collected before class starts on the due date.

NO late quizzes will be accepted, No e-mail submissions of quizzes will be accepted, under any circumstances.

Exams: Two exams will test your knowledge of the material and specific topics discussed in class, as well as the corresponding readings from the textbook – which you will have become familiar with through the take-home quizzes and lectures – and other occasional reading material, audio material, or video(s) watched in class. The exams will consist of a few multiple choice questions, short answer questions, definitions, long answer questions and identifying certain features on maps. Exams are NOT cumulative.

***Exam Make-ups:** There are no make-ups given for exams without valid written documentation of illness or personal/family emergency. Students with a conflict should notify the instructor prior to the exam. Failure to notify the instructor in advance will result in denial of make-ups in all cases. Notification can be made in person or via email.

Assignments: There will be two assignments. Each assignment is ‘weighed’ differently according to the amount of work required for each. The goal of each assignment is to provide you with an opportunity to critically synthesize and think through some of the issues discussed in class. Both assignments will be handed out in class (Assignment 1 distributed on September 30; due October 14; and Assignment 2 distributed on October 21; due November 4). You have two weeks to complete each assignment. NO late assignments will be accepted.

Attendance and Class Discussion will constitute 5% of your final grade. Lectures are a crucial part of the learning process that allows you to be prepared for the exam. Attendance will be randomly taken. In-class group activities will offer you an opportunity to discuss ideas with your instructor and fellow classmates and contribute to your grade.

Readings will be posted on CARMEN. Please do your readings prior to class as these will be used in in-class discussions and for participation points. Please bring assigned readings to each class as we will be referring to them often.

Grading Scale:

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| A 93-100% | C 73-75.99% |
| A- 90-92.99% | C- 70-72.99% |
| B+ 87-89.99% | D+ 64-69.99% |
| B 83- 86.99% | D 60-63.99% |
| B- 80-82.99% | E Below 60% |
| C+ 76-79.99% | |

*Students are responsible for saving returned graded coursework in order to avoid disagreements about grading. Grades will be posted on Carmen.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Behaviors and actions such as cheating, plagiarizing and violation of course rules as contained in the syllabus are some of the actions defined as academic misconduct by the University. Your grade should come from your own work; always remember, in particular, to cite works (reports, papers, articles ... etc) you have used, including works you have found on the Internet. Please check the FAQs webpage and the link for ‘Code of Student Conduct’ on the Office of Academic Affairs website at <http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/faq.html>. The perpetrator of any of these actions specified will be placed in front of the Academic Misconduct Committee. A failing grade and/or expulsion is possible.

IMPORTANT NOTES regarding exams, quizzes and behavior in class and advice:

- No make-up exam or quiz will be permitted unless the student can provide a valid written documentation of illness or personal/family emergency.
- Prevention and preparation for FLU: If your temperature is over 103°F, you have difficulty breathing, severe vomiting and/or diarrhea, or other severe symptoms, please seek medical advice immediately. If you have less severe symptoms, but you are not sure, please do not come to class, but instead seek medical advice and contact me or your TA immediately.
- Exams and exercises are based on lecture material and assigned readings. Lectures do not slavishly follow the readings, and there is a substantial amount of material presented in class that isn't in the readings. It is therefore very important not only to attend class but to arrive on time.
- Please come to class on time. Those who arrive late will be asked to stand in front of the class and asked three questions. If you fail to answer one of them, a point will be taken from your last quiz.
- Please do not leave class early. If you absolutely must leave class early, please tell me at the beginning of class.
- If you are having problems with the course material or with the assignments or if you just seem to be getting behind, please come and talk to your TA and me as soon as possible
- Do not email either the TA or myself any papers, exercises, etc. These will not be graded. Also, please do not send attachments.
- Exams start at the beginning of class. If you are late, you will not be given additional time to complete the exam. Come to class on time.
- If you have any questions/concerns about your grades, after 24 hours you can follow up on these with your TA.
- You are expected to be considerate of your fellow classmates and instructor by avoiding disruptive behaviors. In particular:
 - The use of cell phones in the classroom is NOT OK (text-messaging is NOT an acceptable option by any means; please ensure that your cell phone is turned off before class starts).
 - In line with university policy, discriminatory or derogatory behaviors and comments based for instance on ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, disability ...etc, will not be tolerated. Please maintain a courteous intellectual attitude towards your classmates and your instructor during discussions.

Geography 200 – Tentative Schedule*

| | Date | Topic | Readings | Due Dates |
|-----------|-------------|---|--|---|
| 1 | Sep23 W | Introduction to course | | |
| 2 | Sep28 M | Themes, development theories and critiques | Ch. 1, pp. 1-12 and 27-52. | |
| | Sep30 W | Europe: Integration | Additional Readings (AR) – Check Carmen | Quiz 1 handed out Assignment I distributed |
| 3 | Oct5 M | Europe: challenges to integration | Ch. 2 | Q1 DUE |
| | Oct7 W | Southwest Asia: Spaces of Conflict Case study- Oil and development | Ch. 4, AR ‘Tapped Out’ | Quiz 2 distributed |
| 4 | Oct12 M | Sub Saharan Africa: colonization | Ch. 5 | Q2 DUE |
| | Oct14 W | Sub Saharan Africa: Case study-Coffee and development | Movie ‘Black Gold’ | Exam outline available ASSIGNMENT I DUE Quiz 3 distributed |
| 5 | Oct19 M | North America | TBA | Q3 DUE |
| | Oct21 W | EXAM I | | Assignment 2 distributed |
| 6 | Oct26 M | Latin America: urbanization and agriculture | Ch. 7, AR | |
| | Oct28 W | Latin America: Case study: Deforestation and development | AR. ‘Last of the Amazon’ | Quiz 4 distributed |
| 7 | Nov2 M | South Asia: Nation-making; Case study- Green Revolution | Ch. 10, AR | Q4 DUE |
| | Nov4 W | South Asia: Outsourcing | Ch. 10, AR | Assignment 2 DUE |
| 8 | Nov9 M | East Asia: Geography of Production | Ch. 8 | |
| | Nov11 W | VETERANS DAY- NO CLASS | | |
| 9 | Nov16 M | East Asia: Effects of Development | AR | |
| | Nov18 W | South East Asia: State-led Development | Ch. 9 | Quiz 5 distributed Exam outline available |
| 10 | Nov23 M | Movie Screening and Discussion | | Q5 DUE |
| | Nov25 W | Global link: Drug Economy | AR | |
| 11 | Nov30 M | Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific: Case study: Australia and Drought | Ch. 11, AR ‘Australia’s Dry Run’ | |
| | Dec2 W | What kind of Development? + Review | AR | |

FINAL EXAM December 9, 2009 09:30-11:18 am (PA 010)

****Any part of this syllabus and schedule may be altered throughout the quarter.****
Changes in topics, readings (different/additional readings) or assignments will be announced in class and on Carmen.