

GEOGRAPHY 200: WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

AUTUMN 2009

Location: PAGE HALL 0010

Call Number: 12218

Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 AM – 10:18 AM

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:30am-12:30pm

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COURSE OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this course is to generate awareness about the different parts of the world. It is an introductory level course in geography with the aim of giving an idea about the physical and human environment (with greater emphasis on Human Geography). In our daily lives, we interact directly or indirectly with people around the world in more than one way. However, we often tend to forget about the interconnectedness of the world. A simple illustration can help us to understand this. We get up in morning and drink tea or coffee produced in India or Brazil, read the newspaper about the Chinese economy affecting the USA. We wear clothes made in Mexico and shoes in Pakistan. We go to our office or school in a car made in Japan and work on computers which are assembled in China using parts which are in turn produced in countries located in South East Asia. All these commodities connect us to people all across the globe. In this course, our objective is to explore this interconnectedness by developing our knowledge about different historical, socio-cultural, economic, political and environmental processes which affect us in some way and to situate ourselves within this global society. It is an examination of the human and physical geographic structure of all world regions, defined primarily at the continental scale. It examines regions in the global context. This course also fulfils GEC (General Education Curriculum) requirements (please see below).

Texts

Hobbs, Joseph J. (2007 or 2009). *Fundamentals of World Regional Geography*. Belmont, CA: Brooks Cole. ISBN: 0495106690 [**REQUIRED**]

Goode, J. P., and Veregin, Howard. (2006). *Goode's World Atlas, 21st edition*. Rand McNally & Co. (paperback ISBNs vary) [**STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**]

Additional (optional and required) readings will be handed out in class and/or made available on the course website when appropriate. Consult the schedule to see which readings are assigned for each lecture—*readings should be preferably done before the lecture*. While most exam questions will be

drawn from lecture material, the readings will prepare you for lecture topics and concepts, and **there can and will be exam questions drawn directly from the readings.**

GEC REQUIREMENTS FULFILLED BY THIS CLASS

Geography 200 fulfills GEC requirements for Social Science (Human, Natural, and Economic Resources) and Diversity (International Issues):

Social Science: Human, Natural, and Economic Resources

- The purpose of courses in this category is to help students understand human behavior and cognition, and the structures of human societies, cultures, and institutions.
- *Learning objectives:* 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.

Diversity: International Issues

- The purpose of courses in this category is to help students become educated, productive, and principled citizens of their nation and the world.
- *Learning objectives:* 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

Course website

The course syllabus, announcements, map quiz study aids, supplemental readings, exam review sheets, student grades, and other resources will be available at <https://carmen.osu.edu>. You should check Carmen regularly for updates and news about the course, and to access study aids and readings from sources other than the textbook.

Grading Scale

A=93-100%	B=83-86.99%	C=73-76.99%	D=63-66.99%
A-=90-92.99%	B-=80-82.99%	C-=70-72.99%	E=0-62.99%
B+=87-89.99%	C+=77-79.99%	D+=67-69.99%	

Grades will be posted on Carmen. It is the student's responsibility to know her/his grade and standing in the class. If you have any questions regarding your current or potential grade, please contact the Instructor or the Teaching Associate.

COURSE EVALUATION

Course Evaluation	Percent of final grade
Attendance and Participation	6
Map Quizzes (6, 4% each)	24
Assignment 1 (Movie Review)	10
Assignment 2 (Annotated Cartoons)	20
Exam 1	20
Exam 2	20
TOTAL	100

Requirements:

Attendance & Participation: Attendance and participation will be measured by a number of surprise quizzes based on the class lectures. It is also important to note that most exam material is taken directly from the lectures and one who regularly attends class and takes notes is more likely to do well in the course. And interaction with the instructor and amongst students is an important part of the learning process. Therefore, participation can positively affect your final grade.

Readings: You should read the chapters/pages assigned to a particular day before the class, as it will facilitate your understanding. While portions of the book have not been assigned, you may find them useful and I encourage you to take advantage of this resource. Please note that there could be many topics, which will not be mentioned/covered in the book, and there could also be topics where the views of the book and the instructor might not match, in that case the information provided in the lectures would be given more importance.

Six map quizzes: On six scheduled occasions during the quarter you will be given a quick map quiz on the region(s) of the world that are being covered. I will provide a separate document enlisting the possible place names and physical features that you must know about their locations in the maps. This will be posted on Carmen by the second week of the quarter. Your book and atlas are helpful resources for the map quizzes.

One Movie Review: This assignment will be posted on Carmen by 8th October 2009. Follow the instructions given. No late assignments will be accepted. **DUE DATE –OCTOBER 22 2009**

One Portfolio of Annotated Cartoons: This assignment will be posted on the Carmen by 15th October 2009. Follow the instructions given. No late assignments will be accepted. **DUE DATE— NOV 12 2009. Please let the instructor know (in person during class or office hours or by email) about the main theme that you would be dealing with in this assignment by 31st October.**

Two exams: These will primarily be composed of multiple-choice questions, plus some short answer or definition-type questions and a few essay-type questions.

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date. No late assignments will be accepted without a proper explanation and the decision to accept it or not will entirely lie with the

instructor. No assignments sent by email will be accepted. If you need to be absent for some urgent issue on the due date please arrange to submit the assignment in hard copy beforehand.

OTHER ISSUES:

Academic Misconduct: According to the policy of The Ohio State University any reports of student academic misconduct will be investigated by the Committee on Academic Misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). Please note that I will be extremely strict on this matter. This issue will be discussed in the first day of class in detail. If you have any further questions please contact the instructor or the TA. For additional information, please check the FAQs webpage on the Office of Academic Affairs website at <http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/faq.html>. Ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism or cheating will be no defense, and once a violation is reported it is out of our hands. **PLEASE DO NOT DO IT.**

Graduating Seniors. Graduating seniors should notify the instructor no later than the third week of class.

Other. If you are having a problem with the course material or with the assignments, or if you seem to just be getting behind, please come to see the instructor or the TA as soon as possible.

Class Etiquette/Cell Phones:

Please **turn off** all **cell phones**/or keep them on *vibrate mode*; switch off **iPods/mp3** players prior to class. Please do not read newspapers during the class. Additionally, please abstain from talking with or sending text messages to fellow students or others *during the lectures*. This is a matter of courtesy to your classmates and the instructor. In case of any violation you may be asked to leave the class.

COURSE SCHEDULE (tentative)*

Week	Date	Topic	Readings/Assignments
1	Sept 24 (R)	General introduction to the course	
2	Sept 29 (T)	Introduction	Chapter 1 ['07 & '09]
	Oct 1 (R)	Introduction	Chapter 2 ['07 & '09] Chapter 3 ['09]
3	Oct 6 (T)	Sub-Saharan Africa	Chapter 8 ['07] Chapter 9 ['09] – Quiz #1
	Oct 8 (R)		
4	Oct 13 (T)	Latin America	Chapter 9 ['07] Chapter 10 ['09] – Quiz #2
	Oct 15 (R)		

5	Oct 20 (T)	North America	Chapter 10 ['07] Chapter 11 ['09] – Quiz #3
	Oct 22 (R)		Assignment #1 Due
6	Oct 27 (T)	Catch-Up Day/Review	
	Oct 29 (R)	EXAM 1	
7	Nov 3 (T)	East Asia/ South East Asia	Chapter 6 ['07--pg 226-255] Chapter 7 ['09--in parts— will be announced later] – Quiz #4
	Nov 5 (R)		
8	Nov 10 (T)	Europe	Chapter 3 ['07] Chapter 4 ['09] Quiz #5
	Nov 12 (R)	South Asia	Assignment #2 Due
9	Nov 17 (T)	South Asia	Rest of Chapter 6 ['07] Chapter 7 ['09 in parts – will be announced later]– Quiz #6
	Nov 19 (R)	North Africa and Middle East	Chapter 5 ['07] Chapter 6 ['09]
10	Nov 24 (T)	TBA	
	Nov 26 (R)	NO CLASS—THANKS GIVING	
11	Dec 1 (T)	TBA	
	Dec 3 (R)	Catch-Up Day/Review	
12	Dec 9 (W)	EXAM 2 7:30AM-9:18AM	

*Please note that this schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and/or due to unforeseen circumstances.

** Please refer to the chapters corresponding to different editions of the textbook by Joseph Hobbs. For example if it is written Chapter 3 ['07] and Chapter 4 ['09] it implies that students using the book of 2007 edition should read Chapter 3 and students using the 2009 edition should read Chapter 4.