



## World Regional Geography

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Instructor:             | <b>Joe Piwowar</b>  |
| Class Times:            | 11:30-12:45 TR in CL 126  |
| Final Exam:             | April 23, 2019 - 2:00-5:00  |
| Office Hours:<br>CL 411 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• After class</li><li>• By appointment: call the Arts Student Services Office at 306-585-4137 and they will find a time that works best for both our schedules.</li></ul> |

### Course Description

An introduction to the human and natural environments of the Earth from a geographical perspective. The fundamental themes of human and physical geography are examined by focussing upon global issues and regional patterns. Concepts are presented to introduce you to the diverse Regions of human and physical geography leading to a greater understanding of the geographic content of our daily lives and our roles as global citizens. Current issues and events are highlighted to reinforce theories and concepts presented in lectures.

### Required Textbook

C. Finlayson, 2018. *World Regional Geography*. Available at: <http://caitiefinlayson.com/worldregional/>.

### Optional

Goode's World Atlas - available at the University Bookstore.

### Grading (More details are provided on UR Courses)

|   |   |     |
|---|---|-----|
| Coursework  | Newspaper Report or Personal Account        | 30% |
| Region Questions  | Questions from the chapter readings         | 10% |
| Quizzes   | <b>February 12, March 19, April 11</b>      | 30% |
| Final Course Assessment*<br>*You must receive a passing grade on the Final Course Assessment in order to pass the course. | Term Paper or Final Exam<br><b>April 23</b> | 30% |

### Region Questions

At the start of each unit, you are to hand in a list of 10 questions (and answers) based on the chapter readings for that region. See the course schedule for due dates. Each question list counts as 2% to your final grade.

### Quizzes

There will be 3 multiple-choice quizzes, one in each of February, March, and April. See the course schedule for quiz dates. The quiz questions will predominantly come from the Region Questions you submit. There will be a few additional questions from the materials covered during the lectures.

### Coursework

Choose 1 of:

- **Newspaper Report** - a short essay describing the geography of an issue reported in a local newspaper.
  - The last day to hand in a Newspaper Report for credit is **April 1**.
- **Personal Account** - an in-class presentation of the geography of a place that you have lived in.
  - You must notify me by **February 1** if you wish to present a Personal Account.

### Final Course Assessment

You may choose to do a Term Paper or write the Final Exam.

- The **Final Exam** will be held on **April 23** from 2:00–4:00 p.m.
- The **Term Paper** is a geographical analysis of an important issue or topic.
- The Term Paper must be handed in prior to the Final Exam date/time. There will not be any extensions granted for the Term Paper ... If you don't hand in your Term Paper before the Final Exam then you must write the Final.

**The Final Course Assessment is a mandatory component of this course. Failure to obtain a passing grade on the Final Exam or your Term Paper will result in a grade of NP being assigned for the course.**

### Schedule (subject to change – check the schedule on UR Courses for the most recent version)

| Dates       | Readings                                | Important Dates   |
|-------------|---|---|
| Weeks 1–2   | Ch.1 - Introduction                     |   |
| Weeks 3–4   | Ch.5 – Middle and South America         | <b>January 22</b> – Region Questions due  |
|             |   | <b>February 1</b> - Last day to notify me that you wish to present a Personal Account of a region to the class. |
| Weeks 5–6   | Ch. 6 – Sub-Saharan Africa              | <b>February 5</b> – Region Questions due  |
|             |   | <b>February 12</b> – Quiz 1   |
| Weeks 7-8   | Ch. 7 – North Africa and Southwest Asia | <b>February 26</b> – Region Questions due   |
| Weeks 9-10  | Ch. 8 – South Asia                      | <b>March 12</b> – Region Questions due  |
|             |   | <b>March 19</b> – Quiz 2  |
| Weeks 11–12 | Ch. 9 – East and Southeast Asia         | <b>March 26</b> – Region Questions due  |
|             |   | <b>April 1</b> – Newspaper Reports due  |
|             |   | <b>April 11</b> – Quiz 3  |
|             |   | <b>April 23</b> Final Exam 2:00–4:00 p.m.   |

## Workplace Skills

In addition to learning about geography, this course will help you develop some important skills that will be useful in the workplace:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b><i>Reading and Writing Skills</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to plot a logical course through your ideas so that an audience can follow them.</li> <li>• Ability to write smoothly and correctly, in light of a proper understanding of grammar and syntax.</li> <li>• Ability to use figures, maps, diction and phrasing for expressive and persuasive effect.</li> <li>• Ability to read critically, with a view not just to absorbing a piece's message but to questioning its methods and its validity.</li> <li>• A broadening of your worldview through exposure to an ever increasing number of texts, perspectives, frameworks, philosophies and opinions.</li> </ul> | <p><b><i>Research Skills</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research skills: ability to find information and ability to evaluate sources of information.</li> <li>• Integration of sources: ability to apply theory and criticism to your own academic thinking.</li> <li>• Documentation: ability to acknowledge research sources properly.</li> <li>• Ability to analyze written material and extract salient points.</li> <li>• Ability to develop systematic procedures for investigating a problem.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b><i>Critical and Analytical Thinking</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logic: ability to suggest connections between ideas according to a perceptible organization.</li> <li>• Cultivation of a sense of sequence and interrelationships between events.</li> <li>• Ability to identify key elements in an argument and to evaluate the logic of the argument.</li> </ul>   | <p><b><i>Cultural and Civic Skills</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultivation of a global perspective.</li> <li>• Cross-cultural understanding.</li> <li>• Enhanced understanding of the present through study of the formative influences of the past.</li> <li>• Understanding of differing cultural practices and the behaviour of individuals as it is influenced by culture.</li> </ul>  |