Catalog Description

GEO101 World Regional Geography A-E-G/3 cr.hrs. General survey of fundamental geographic characteristics of principal world regions. Particular emphasis on how differences in environment and culture greatly influence lifestyle, economy and social wellbeing. Focuses on dynamic interplay between spatial variations in the landscape and ecologic processes, socio-economic systems and philosophic beliefs. No prerequisite.

Textbook


Course Goals

1. To provide for the general education needs of students by giving a better understanding and appreciation of the world in which we live, through the study of the distribution and interaction of the environmental elements in physical, biotic, and cultural realms.

2. To provide the student with a foundation for study in the upper division of a college or university and for future occupations in teaching, government, or private business.

3. To provide an understanding and appreciation of the physical environment in which we live.

4. To provide general knowledge of the causes of the seasons, weather changes, and basic dynamic earth processes.

5. To provide information about the world population, its distribution and growth, and the problems with food and resource availability.

6. To provide a better understanding and appreciation of the lifestyles and viewpoints of the peoples of the various nations of the world, and to provide a detailed awareness of the problems which confront human beings in the everyday surroundings in which they live.

7. To give a brief overview of the physical environmental character of a region, followed by more intensive study of resource development, economic activities, political systems, population and cultural groups, and varying lifestyles.
8. To provide a concentrated study of selected countries which stand out in current world affairs, to better understand their importance in the formation of events of international importance.

Course Outline

1. Diversity Amid Globalization Diversity Amid Globalization: A Geography for the Twenty-first Century
2. The Changing Global Environment Geology and Human Settlement: A Restless Earth
4. Latin America Environmental Geography: Neotropical Diversity
5. The Caribbean Environmental Geography: Paradise Undone
6. Sub-Saharan Africa Environmental Geography: The Plateau Continent
7. Southwest Asia and North Africa Environmental Geography: Life in a Fragile World
8. Europe Environmental Geography: Human Transformation of a Diverse Landscape
9. The Russian Domain Environmental Geography: A Vast and Challenging Land
11. East Asia Environmental Geography: Resource Pressures in a Crowded Land
12. South Asia Environmental Geography: Diverse Landscapes, from Tropical Islands to Mountain Rim
13. Southeast Asia Environmental Geography: A Once-Forest Region
14. Australia and Oceania Environmental Geography: A Varied Natural and Human Habitat

Course Requirements

Class Resources

The instructor maintains a site online for this course, www.exploregeography.com. Students are expected to regularly check the site for announcements, assignments and other postings.

In addition to the instructor site there is a companion website that we will use all the time, especially for homework assignments.

http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_rowntree_dag_3/
Student responsibilities, classroom policies and expectations

- Students should arrive on time to class and be ready to learn and participate in class discussions. Disturbances of any kind will not be tolerated and students in violation of this policy may be asked to leave. **This includes (but is not limited to...) talking while myself or another student is talking and all cell phone interruptions.** Please do not bring your laptop to class and expect to use it to take notes, **no laptops allowed.**

- Reading assignments given by the instructor must be completed before coming to class, as these will serve as the basis for lectures and discussions. Completing the reading assignments in a timely fashion will aid greatly the comprehension of the material.

  It is expected that you **bring the book EVERYDAY,** we will be using it for classroom activities and sometimes you will need as a reference during the lecture.

- Note that the classroom is an open forum for the discussion of ideas pertinent to GEO101 and therefore all viewpoints are considered to be valuable contributions to the class. Please show respect to fellow students who choose to express their views on issues pertinent to GEO101.

- Students should check their email accounts frequently for notices or communication regarding GEO101. It is recommended that students check email at least everyday.

There will be weekly reading assignments, individual and in class turn in homework assignments, map quizzes the midterm and final. Homework not turned in on time and in the proper format requested will not be accepted and a grade of **zero** will be assigned. If you are not present for the group assignment you will receive no credit for that portion of your homework.

- Homework: 50% (25% Individual and 25% In Class)

- Tests: 50% (Midterm: 20% and Final: 30%)

Grades based on the following...

A 90%-100%
B+ 85%-89%
B 80%-84%
C+ 75%-79%
C 70%-74%
D+ 65%-69%
D 60%-64%
F 59% or below
Exam/Quiz Policies

The format of course exams is largely multiple choice, but will depend ultimately on the nature of the course material that we are covering and needs of the class. Make-up quizzes shall be given in EXTRAORDINARY situations provided that students can produce verifiable written proof documenting their case.

The Midterm is scheduled for Tuesday October 26 (section 300) & Wednesday October 27 (section 301) during regular class hours. The Final is scheduled for Tuesday December 14 (section 300) & Wednesday December 15 (section 301) during regular class hours. All students must be present. There will be no taking the test early and no rescheduling of the midterm or final. If you are not present you will receive a grade of zero. NO MAKE UP EXAMS will be given.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be present for all meetings of Geography GEO101

Enrolling in a course such as this one implies a serious commitment on the part of the student to careful study and professional conduct. The instructor WILL take roll everyday. Be forewarned that students missing class are responsible for obtaining class notes themselves. Furthermore students are strongly advised to come to every class, as exams will test heavily students’ understanding of the class notes and in-class discussions. Students will be dropped with a grade of “F” after the 2 missed class.

Homework Format

For homework due dates please go online to www.exploregeography.com, select World Regional Geography and click on the homework link.

It is very important that your individual homework assignments are emailed to me by the due date.

That is why we will do a test run, and everyone is required to do this by the first day of class BECAUSE the second day of class will require that you have already turned in your homework.

At the top of the syllabus your class and SECTION number are listed, below that is a very specific email for your class and section to turn in homework to, I will not accept homework emailed to another email or after the due date.

Send me an email and list your name in the subject line, this email should come from the email that you will use for the entire semester, it should also match the email that you wrote down in your contact information. I will send a reply email that you will save as proof of our email exchange. The next few pages will cover how exactly to submit the online portion of your homework.
Homework format and requirements...

http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_rowntree_dag_3


Chapter 1: Diversity Amid Globalization
Chapter 2: The Changing Global Landscape
Chapter 3: North America
Chapter 4: Latin America
Chapter 5: The Caribbean
Chapter 6: Sub-Saharan Africa
Chapter 7: Southeast Asia and North Africa
Chapter 8: Europe

Objectives

- A key goal of this book is to help you understand the “tension and interplay between globalization and diversity—and between the global, the regional, and the local—that gives world regional geography its primary focus.” (p. 44)
- This first chapter introduces the themes and concepts that the authors use throughout the text and lays the foundation for understanding the remaining chapters. The themes and concepts developed in this chapter are used in each succeeding chapter as a framework for learning about the regions of this world.
- This chapter introduces and explains a number of foundation concepts, including the concept of geography itself. It defines and summarizes the debates over globalization. It also introduces the themes that will appear in each chapter associated with a region of the world. They are:
  - Environmental geography
  - Population and settlement
  - Cultural heterogeneity and diversity
  - Geopolitical issues
  - Economic and social development
- When you have completed this chapter, you should have a solid foundation for comprehending the information about regions that will be presented later in the book. Among the specific concepts and models that you should understand are the following:
  - Human-environment interaction
  - What makes areas similar or different. Region as a geographic concept: Cultural landscape; Global to local scale.
  - What factors affect where people choose to live. Vital statistics (birth, death, and growth rates); Demographic transition; Population pyramids; Migration pressures and pulls; Urbanization.
  - Culture as a dynamic evolving force. Different forms of culture: Cultural imperialism, nationalism, and syncretism; Expressions of culture, such as language and religion.
  - Geopolitical fragmentation and unity. Global economic forces: Nations and states; Centripetal and centrifugal forces; Boundaries; Colonialism and decolonialism: International and supranational organizations.
  - Geography of wealth and poverty. Core-periphery model; More- and less-developed countries; Economic development indicators; Social development indicators; Sustainable development.
1) Go online to http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_rowntree_dag_3, this will bring you to the first screen shot shown on previous page, then you can click the appropriate chapter.

2) Once you have selected the chapter you can work on the Multiple Choice and the Map Id assignments, once you have completed the questions and maps you can email your official results to me by the designated due date.

BEAWARE…that the excuse…”the email must not have reached you”, IS NOT expectable, if your concerned that this may happen then you are welcome to submit a printed out version of your online submission and turn it in class with the written portion and the region sheet. THIS IS NOT A SUBSITUTE FOR SUBMITTING ONLINE, if you choose to also print your online result you must indicate it on the top of the page and it needs to accompany PROOF of the online submission. NO turning in the electronic submission in class just because you didn’t have time to submit online, only as a BACKUP to the electronic submission.

The breakdown of the homework (50%) credit is the following…

**Individual Assignments (25%)**

- Online questions 6.25%
- Online Map Id 6.25%
- Paragraph 6.25%
- Region summary sheet 6.25%

**In Class Assignments (25%)**

- In class chapter questions 12.5%
- Map Quiz 12.5%
AGREEMENT

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand all of the information contained in the syllabus and homework format/requirements. It is clear to me when and how my homework will be submitted. Furthermore, I understand that no credit will be given for late assignments and no make up exams will be given.

Name: __________________________________________ (Printed)

Signature: _______________________________________

Date: ______________

Student Information:

Please fill out the questions below and on the back give a brief summary of why you are taking this class and what you expect to get out of the class in general.

Please also answer the following questions:

Grade level: ________

Major: ________

Grade you expect: ________

Contact Information

Please provide the following contact information.

Email: __________________________________________

Home/Cell phone: ________________________________

The email you provided will be used for the entire semester and it will be assumed that you check this email everyday and that you will submit all assignments and correspondence from this email. Please provide me with a viable phone number.