

Major World Regions

GGG 101__005

Professor

Dr. Christine Rosenfeld
(she/her)

Email

crosenfe@gmu.edu

Office Hours

By appointment,
email to arrange

2216 Exploratory Hall
or by [zoom](#)

Teaching Assistant

TBA

Learning Assistant

Tristin McCreight
(she/her)

tmccrei@gmu.edu

Office Hours TBA

Student Expectations

- Come to class, interact, display respect
- Read email daily
- Reach out if you're stuck

Course Delivery

In-person

Meeting Time & Location

Mondays & Wednesdays, 12:00 pm-1:15 pm
2008 Horizon Hall

Course Description

This course provides a survey of cultural, physical, and societal aspects of major world regions. It examines how forces across various scales shape the character of place. It explores how regions differ from one another and interrelate in our globalizing world. Acquiring a familiarity with and a foundation in the geography of the world regions allows us to ask more critical questions about the unevenness of various geographical processes and patterns on the landscape in addition to reflecting on our own role in the larger world. Satisfies the Mason Core Global Understanding Requirement.

Required Text

Finlayson, Caitlin. World Regional Geography:

<https://worldgeo.pressbooks.com/> **Free**

Learning Outcomes

- Use geographic tools and data to profile place
- Identify the distribution of patterns of human and physical geographical features across the globe and describe the geographical processes that explain said patterns
- Demonstrate understanding of how the patterns and processes of globalization make visible the interconnections and differences among and within contemporary global societies
- Identify and articulate one's own values and how those values influence their interactions and relationships with others, both locally and globally
- Explore individual and collective responsibilities within a global society through analytical, practical, or creative responses to problems or issues, using resources appropriate to the field

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Grading/Requirements

100 pts, 10%

Participation

This is an on-ground class and as such, regular in-person attendance and attention is required. If you need to miss class, email the professor to make alternative arrangements. Failure to regularly attend class may result in a failing course grade.

420 pts, 42%

Mapping Exercises

You will complete 7 mapping exercises (60 points each) which include labeling countries and geographical features on maps in addition to responding to free response questions. Resources for exercises are shared in class. To be completed partially in class and partially out of class. Submit on BB.

480 pts, 48%

Exams

There is a midterm and a final (240 points each). Only 20% of the final covers cumulative content; the rest covers material taught since the midterm. Each has a mix of question types, often including: multiple choice, T/F, fill in the blank, place identification, and short answer. Exam reviews occur in class. Exams administered in person.

Grade Point Cutoffs

A+	980-1000	B-	800-829
A	930-979	C+	780-799
A-	900-929	C	700-779
B+	880-899	D	600-699
B	830-879	F	0-599

Late Work Policy

Each student starts with 2 late work tokens, which allow you to turn in a graded item up to 48 hours past the original due date without penalty. When using a late token, you do NOT need to email the professor in advance; simply turn in/complete your item on BB.

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Academic Integrity

George Mason University has an Honor Code with clear guidelines regarding academic integrity and all students are expected to adhere to the Honor Code. Cheating and/or plagiarism—passing off work as your own that is not—will result in an F for your final grade in this class. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes plagiarism and familiarize yourself with the Honor Code. The official GMU policies are available from the Office of Academic Integrity: <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/>. Please consult with me about questions *prior to turning in assignments*. See also [Assignment Procedures](#).

Miscellaneous

- Communicate accommodations or concerns.
- Obtain reliable access to a computer and internet.
- Course materials are [private to this class](#).
- Use your GMU email account; include full name and course #.

Title IX

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1412. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993- 8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

Diversity Statement & Accommodations

GMU promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty, and staff. Mason strives to maintain a quality environment for work, study, and personal growth. An emphasis upon diversity and inclusion throughout the campus community is essential to achieve these goals. Diversity includes, but is not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, religion (see [religious holiday calendar](#)), age, disability, and sexual orientation. Diversity also entails different viewpoints, philosophies, and perspectives. Attention to these aspects of diversity will help promote a culture of inclusion and belonging, and an environment where diverse opinions, backgrounds and practices have the opportunity to be voiced, heard, and respected. *Share your name and gender pronouns and how best to address you in class and via email and update your PatriotWeb profile.*

Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students by upholding the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please first visit <http://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Then please discuss your approved accommodations with me. Disability Services is located in Student Union Building I (SUB I), Suite 2500. Email: ods@gmu.edu | Phone: (703) 993-2474. Students who are pregnant or experiencing pregnancy-related circumstances are welcome to reach out to the professor to discuss adjustments. The university directs you to the [Pregnant and Parenting Adjustment Form](#).

Additional Resources

See list and links on BB.

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Course Schedule

Weeks	In-Person Class 12:00 pm-1:15 pm	Topic	Graded Items Due by Class Time
Week 1	Weds 1/17	Welcome & World Mapping Exercise	
Week 2	Mon 1/22 Weds 1/24	Geographic Tools & World Geography Orientation	
Week 3	Mon 1/29 Weds 1/31	Europe Mapping Exercise Europe	World Mapping Exercise (Mon)
Week 4	Mon 2/5 Weds 2/7	Europe Russia Mapping Exercise	Europe Mapping Exercise (Weds)
Week 5	Mon 2/12 Weds 2/14	Russia Russia	
Week 6	Mon 2/19 Weds 2/21	Midterm Exam Review (Mon) Poles	Russia Mapping Exercise (Weds)
Week 7	Mon 2/26 Weds 2/28	Midterm Exam Canada (crash course)	Midterm During Class (Mon)
Week 8	Mon 3/4 Weds 3/6	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>
Week 9	Mon 3/11 Weds 3/13	Africa Mapping Exercise Africa	
Week 10	Mon 3/18 Weds 3/20	Africa Southwest Asia Mapping Exercise	Africa Mapping Exercise (Weds)
Week 11	Mon 3/25 Weds 3/27	Southwest Asia Oceania (crash course)	
Week 12	Mon 4/1 Weds 4/3	Asia Mapping Exercise Asia	SW Asia Mapping Exer. (Mon)
Week 13	Mon 4/8 Weds 4/10	Asia Asia	
Week 14	Mon 4/15 Weds 4/17	Latin America Mapping Exercise Latin America	Asia Mapping Exercise (Mon)
Week 15	Mon 4/22 Weds 4/24	Latin America Final Exam Review	Lat. Am. Mapping Exercise (Weds)
Week 16	Mon 4/29	Final Exam	Final Exam During Class (Mon)