

# ***GGS101-Major World Regions***

## **SYLLABUS**

### **Course Information**

**Course Number:** GGS101DL1  
**Course Title:** Major World Regions  
**Term:** Spring 2024  
**Class Meetings:** ONLINE  
**Location:** ONLINE

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### **Professor Contact Information**

**Professor:** Piash Debnath, M.S.  
**Email:** pdebnat2@gmu.edu  
**Office Hours:** By Appointment/Zoom  
**Teaching Assistant:** **Matthew Foote**  
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### **Course Description:**

Patterns, problems, and prospects of the world's principal human-geographic regions. Emphasizes areal differentiation and role of geographic differences in interpreting current world scene.

**Course Prerequisites:** None

### **Required Textbooks (Available Free Online)**

Title: World Regional Geography

Author: Caitlin Finlayson

<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/world-regional-geography>

### **Grading Policy:**

Mid-Term Exam (1)	20 points	20%
Final Exam (1)	20 points	20%
HW Exercises (3)	4 points each	12%
Discussion Board (3)	5 points each	15%
Map Quizzes (8)	each varies	6%
Final Project (1)	27 points	27%

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Total Possible Points: 100 100%

### **Grading Scale:**

A+	97	–	100%
A	96	–	90%
B+	87	–	89%
B	80	–	86%
C+	77	–	79%
C	70	–	76%
D	60	–	69%
F	59	–	0%

## Course & Instructor Policies

**Map Quizzes:** There will be a map quiz per each region of the week. Students are expected to first study and memorize each regional countries before taking the quiz. The quizzes will consist of short answers and/or multiple choice worth 6% total of the semester grade.

**Exams:** There will be a Midterm and Final exam consisting of multiple choice and/or short answers, closed notes. Both Exams are worth 20% of the total grade. Respondus LockDown browser is required.

<https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/how-to-install-and-use-the-respondus-lockdown-browser/>

**HW Assignments:** There will be 3 HW Exercise assignments worth 4 points each. Submit as a word file.

**Discussion Board:** The Discussion Board will take place on Blackboard in essay format. Each Discussion will be worth 5 points with a total of 3 discussions. 3 points will be towards the Discussion essay.

Format: 750 words minimum, double spaced, and at least 2 references.

You can attach a word file or write directly on the discussion. 2 points are dedicated towards replying to 2 peers. The reply must be at least 4 sentences and directly discuss something from that person's essay.

**Final Project:** The Final Project will be worth 27 points total. The project will be an individual itinerary project. The topic country will be chosen by the student limited to **Europe or Asia**. Further instructions will follow on Blackboard under Syllabus & Docs. 2 points will be dedicated to Final Project Step 1 & 2, which will be assigned early in the semester. Submit as a word file.

**Late Assignments:** Late Assignments are strictly NOT accepted unless there is **prior** approval. Please see announcements and class schedule for detailed due dates. Any assignment turned in after the due date of 11:59pm will result in an automatic 0. Any last-minute emergency within 12 hours of the due date must require a note/proof.

### Classroom Netiquette:

It is expected that the online environmental is respectful and proper. Interactions with classmates online should be in appropriate manners. When emailing the professor there should be a greeting (e.g. Good afternoon Professor), a Subject for the email (e.g. Exercise 2 help), a signature at the end (e.g. Best, Jane Doe), and the course number (E.g. GGS 101 DL1).

### Technology Requirements:

Make sure you have **strong** internet access throughout the semester. Tests/Quizzes where connection is lost may result in a 0 as they may automatically submit. A reliable laptop is a requirement for this online course. Microsoft Word, PPT, and Google Earth is also required. Submit all assignments in word, unless otherwise specified. Please **do not** submit **.pages or other format files**.

### Important Dates:

Last day to drop with a tuition refund	Jan 30th
Unrestricted withdrawal last day	Feb 20th
Selective withdrawal last day	Mar 25th
End of Exam period	May 8th

### Plagiarism

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Make sure to complete your own work. When doing citations please use **APA**. Please refer to the school's plagiarism codes.

### American with Disabilities Act

If you think or know that you need an accommodation based on a disability, you are encouraged to contact a counselor for Disability Services in the Counseling Center to discuss possible accommodations. All information is kept confidential and may increase your chances of success in the class.

Date Every Week starts Monday morning 6am to Sunday 11:59pm	Topics	Readings	Assignments Due : All Weekly Assignments due <b>Sunday 11:59pm</b>
Week 1 Jan 15-21st	Syllabus Week	Syllabus Get Familiar with Blackboard	<b>Orientation Quiz &amp; Introductions</b>
Week 2 Jan 22nd-28th	Geography Intro	Chapter 1	<b>HW Exercise 1</b>
Week 3 Jan 29-Feb 4th	Europe	Chapter 2	<b>Final Project Step 1 Map Quiz</b>
Week 4 Feb 5th-11th	Russia	Chapter 3	<b>Discussion 1 Map Quiz</b>
Week 5 Feb 12th-18th	North America	Chapter 4	<b>HW Exercise 2 Map Quiz</b>
Week 6 Feb 19 <sup>th</sup> -25th	Middle & South America	Chapter 5	<b>Map Quiz</b>
Week 7 Feb 26th-Mar 3rd	<b>Midterm Week</b> <b>EXAM OPEN FEB 29- MAR 3RD</b>	Review	<b>Final Project Step 2 Midterm</b>
Week 8 Mar 4th-10th	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	None	<b>NONE</b>
Week 9 Mar 11th-17th	Sub-Saharan African Africa	Chapter 6	<b>Discussion 2 Map Quiz</b>
Week 10 Mar 18th-24th	North Africa and Southwest Asia	Chapter 7	<b>Map Quiz</b>
Week 11 Mar 25th- 31st	South Asia	Chapter 8	<b>Exercise 3 Map Quiz</b>
Week 12 Apr 1st-7th	East & Southeast Asia	Chapter 9	<b>Map Quiz</b>
Week 13 Apr 8th-14th	Oceania	Chapter 10	<b>Map Quiz Discussion 3</b>
Week 14 Apr 15th- 21st	<b>FINAL PROJECTS</b>	None	<b>FINAL PROJECTS</b>
Week 15 & 16 Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup> -28th	<b>Reivew &amp;Final Exam</b> <b>EXAM OPEN APR 25-28TH</b>	None	<b>Final Exam</b>

\*Dates and assignments are subject to change. Please check Blackboard for up to date readings and assignments