

GGS101-MAJOR WORLD REGIONS SYLLABUS

Course Information

Course number: GGS 101-002
Course title: Regional Geography
Term: Spring 2020
Class Meetings: Mondays & Wednesdays 12:00pm-1:15pm
Location: Innovation RM 105
Class Webpage: Blackboard

Professor Contact Information

Professor: Piash Debnath, M.S.
Email: pdebnat2@gmu.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 2pm-5pm
Exploratory Hall Room 2218

Course Description:

This course will provide an overview of the spatial aspects of human regional behavior and how it affects topics such as population, economies, conflict, and an overall human experience of the globe. The course will examine different regions of the world and figure out how they are interconnected.

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:

HW Exercises (3)	4 points each	12%
Mid-Term Exam (1)	20 points	20%
Discussion Board (3)	5 points each	15%
Final Project (1)	25 points	25%
Final Exam (1)	20 points	20%
Participation (1)	8 points	8%
Total Possible Points:	100	100%

Grading Scale:

A- 90 – 100%
B- 80 – 89%
C- 70 – 79%
D- 60 – 69%
F- 59 – 0%

Course & Instructor Policies

Exams: There are 2 exams. There will be an in-class Midterm and Final exam consisting of multiple choice and short answers. Both are worth 20% of the total grade. Please bring a [green scantron](#).

HW Assignments: There will be 3 HW assignments worth 4 points each. They will be due by 11:59am prior to the beginning of class. Submit via Blackboard. No hard copies required unless specified.

Late Assignments: Late Assignments are not accepted unless there is prior approval before the due date.

Discussion Board: The Discussion Board will take place on Blackboard and will be followed up in class. Each Discussion will be worth 5 points with a total of 3 discussions for the semester, due on Blackboard by 11:59am prior to the beginning of class. 2 of the points will be dedicated for in class attendance/participation.

Final Project: The Final Project will be worth 25 points and will consist of a group presentation as well as an individual portion. The individual portion will be worth 10 points and the group portion will also be worth 10 points. The group powerpoint presentation will be presented the last weeks of class. 5 points will be dedicated towards Final Project Steps 1-3.

Participation:

Of the 8% participation grade, 2% will be earned for attending and participating in your peer's final presentations. The participation grade will consist of participation, attendance, and in class map quizzes/activities.

Classroom Etiquette:

Please silence all electronics. Laptops are permitted for notetaking. If you need to take a call, please step outside.

Class Cancellations:

George Mason will notify of campus closures and will be followed accordingly. Furthermore, if there is an emergency on my end, please always check Blackboard/your emails.

Important Dates:

Last day to drop with a 50% tuition refund	Feb 11th
Last day to withdraw without grade penalty	Feb 24th
End of Exam period	May 13th

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 academic setting. More information may be found at the following website:
<http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/disability-services/index.html>

Writing Center- Student Union Building I, Suite 3129.

Feel free to use the writing center for any additional help. To make an appointment or request more information, Please call 703-993-2380, email lsstaff@gmu.edu, stop by, or visit the following website:
<https://learningservices.gmu.edu/tutoring-resources/>

Date	Topics	Readings (before class)	Assignments Due
Week 2 01/20-01/26	MLK DAY Syllabus	Mon- None Wed- Syllabus	Mon-None Wed -None
Week 3 01/27-02/02	Geography Intro	Mon -Chapter 1.4-1.8 Wed – Finish Chapter 1	Mon -None Wed - Exercise 1
Week 4 02/03-02/09	Europe	Mon -Chapter 2.1-2.5 Wed-Finish Chapter 2	Mon -None Wed -None
Week 5 02/10-02/16	Discussion 1 Russia	Mon -None Wed -Chapter 3	Mon - Discussion 1 Wed-None
Week 6 02/17-02/23	North America	Mon -Chapter 4.1-4.3 Wed -Chapter 4.4-4.6	Mon - None Wed - Final Project Step 1
Week 7 02/24-03/01	Middle and South America	Mon -Chapter 5.1-5.2 Wed -Chapter 5.3-5.6	Mon - None Wed - Exercise 2
Week 8 03/02-03/08	Study Day Midterm 03/05	Mon -None Wed -None	Mon -None Wed -None
Week 9 03/09-03/15	SPRING BREAK	Mon -None Wed -None	Mon -None Wed -None
Week 10 03/16-03/22	Library Session 03/16 Sub-Saharan Africa	Mon - Group project readings/research Wed - Chapter 6	Mon - Final Project Step 2 Wed-None
Week 11 03/23-03/29	North Africa and Southwest Asia Discussion 2	Mon -Chapter 7 Wed - None	Mon -None Wed - Discussion 2
Week 12 03/30-04/05	South Asia	Mon -Chapter 8.1-8.3 Wed - Chapter 8.4-8.5	Mon -None Wed - Exercise 3
Week 13 04/06-04/12	East and Southeast Asia Library Session 04/08	Mon -Chapter 9 Wed -None	Mon -None Wed- Final Project Step 3
Week 14 04/13-/04/19	Oceania Discussion 3	Mon -Chapter 10 Wed -None	Mon -None Wed - Discussion 3
Week 15 04/20-04/26	Final Presentations	Mon -None Wed -None	Mon - GROUP FINAL PROJECTS Wed -None
Week 16 04/27-05/03	Final Presentations	Mon -None Wed -None	Mon -None Wed - INDIVIDUAL FINAL ITINERARY
Week 16 05/04-05/10	Final Exam	Mon -None Wed -None	Mon -None Wed -None

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