

GGG 101 – Section 004: Major World Regions

Tues/Thurs 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm, Robinson B, Room 201

Instructor: Dr. Christine Rosenfeld

Email & Phone: crosenfe@gmu.edu, 703-993-4298

Office: Exploratory Hall, Room 2216

Office Hours: TR 1:45-2:45, W 9:15-10:15, by appointment, & by Blackboard chat

REQUIRED TEXT

Marston, S., Knox, P., Liverman, D., Del Casino, V., and Robbins, P. (2017). *World regions in global context: Peoples, places, and environments* (6th ed.). New York, NY: Pearson Publishing.

***Available at the campus bookstore and other retailers; also on reserve at Gateway library.**

COURSE DESCRIPTION (3 credits)

This course provides a survey of cultural, physical, and societal aspects of major world regions. We will examine how forces across various scales, from local to global, shape the character of place and space. Furthermore, we will explore how regions differ from one another, are similar to one another, and interact with/interrelate to one another in today's globalizing world.

Acquiring a familiarity with and a foundation in the geography of the major 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.

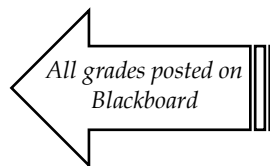
LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course satisfies the Global Understanding requirement for the Mason Core and is tied to the following learning outcomes:

1. Identify and articulate one's own values and how those values influence their interactions and relationships with others, both locally and globally.
2. Demonstrate understanding of how the patterns and processes of globalization make visible the interconnections and differences among and within contemporary global societies.
3. Demonstrate the development of intercultural competencies.
4. 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.

GRADING & REQUIREMENTS

Participation & Attendance.....	10%
Homework Assignments.....	20%
Midterm	25%
Final Project	20%
Final Exam	25%



GRADE CUTOFFS

A	93%-100%	C+	78%-79%
A-	90%-92%	C	70%-77%
B+	88%-89%	D	60%-69%
B	83%-87%	F	0%-59%
B-	80%-82%		

PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE (10%)

You are expected to come to class on time, prepared, and ready to participate every day. Failure to do so will negatively affect your grade. Instead of calling out attendance every day, there will be a poll each class period which will be used to assess your attendance. Your participation in the polls will make up your participation/attendance grade barring you are otherwise engaged

in and showing up to class on time. Life and class are both better when we respect each other and are polite, so I expect nothing less than this in all ways that you participate in this class.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS (20%)

There will be 3 homework assignments throughout the semester. See Blackboard for specific instructions. The lowest grade out of all 3 will be dropped (Example 1: if you get a 90%, 85%, and 74%, the 74% will be dropped; Example 2: if you get an 80% on 2 of the assignments and do not complete the 3rd, your overall grade will reflect the 2 assignments you completed). If you complete all 3 and achieve at least an 80% on each, you will receive extra credit.

MIDTERM (25%)

40 question multiple choice exam; some questions may require you to write out a 1-2 word example.

FINAL PROJECT (20%)

Create a Story Map using ArcGIS featuring the world region assigned to your group. Story Maps will be shared in class but presentations are not graded. Full details on Blackboard.

FINAL EXAM (25%)

40 question multiple choice exam; some questions may require you to write out a 1-2 word example. *Not comprehensive (i.e. only covers material taught AFTER the midterm).

ASSIGNMENT PROCEDURES

All assignments must be submitted on Blackboard. Save assignments as word documents and upload to Blackboard; do NOT type assignment directly into Blackboard unless otherwise specified. All assignments are due by the start of class on their due date.

Modifications for snow days/closures will be announced via email. Assignments due on a snow day/closure are STILL due on that day by the start of class unless otherwise specified

You are responsible for proper and timely submission. If you have a technical issue and cannot submit via Blackboard, you MUST email me a copy of the assignment *before* it is due in order to receive credit. Please avoid this by submitting to Blackboard before the last minute.

LATE & MISSING ASSIGNMENT/EXAM POLICY

You are responsible for completing assignments and exams on time. Due dates are clearly indicated on the syllabus. Unless previous arrangements have been made with me accompanied by university-compliant documentation, I do not accept late work or make up exams. That means that it is 100% on you to communicate any conflict with me prior to any due date/exam date to see if the university accepts the reason for the conflict.

EMAIL POLICY

In compliance with a University-wide initiative, correspondence between instructors and students must only occur through GMU assigned email accounts. Check your email daily, before you come to office hours to check for a cancellation, and after turning in assignments on Blackboard in case there was a technical error and your assignment did not upload.

ELECTRONICS POLICY

The use of electronic devices is permitted in class for note-taking and to access course materials. If the use of any electronic device proves to be a distraction to you or others (including myself), I reserve the right to amend this policy for any or all students at any time for any length of time.

Cell phones are not permitted in class UNLESS the instructor asks you to use them for in-class polling after which you must put them away. Please silence all electronic devices before class begins. If you must use your cell phone for an emergency, please leave the room; if you know you will have to leave or check your phone during class, please alert me beforehand.

RESOURCES

Writing Resources: Tutors at the Writing Center are available to assist you: Robinson B, room 213, 703-993-1200, writingcenter.gmu.edu

Looking for a different resource? Let me know & I can help you find it!

Disability Services: If you have a documented learning disability or other condition that may affect academic performance, you should: 1) Make sure this documentation is on file with Disability Services--SUB I, suite 2500, 703-993-2474, ds.gmu.edu and 2) Discuss your accommodation needs with the instructor.

Library Study Rooms: library.gmu.edu/use/study-rooms

Student Technology Assistance & Resource Center (STAR): Provides all kinds of technology support: JC, room 229, 703-993-8990, bit.ly/2hWjI0y

Counseling Services: Professional counselors provide individual and group sessions for personal development and assistance with a range of emotional and relational issues: SUB I, room 3129, 703-993-2380, caps.gmu.edu

Student Support & Advocacy Center: Assistance regarding healthy lifestyle and educational choices: SUB I, suite 3200, 703-993-3686, ssac.gmu.edu

Food Pantry: Access food and household items: SUB I, suite 3011, pantry@gmu.edu

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

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, 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.

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. Please consult me with questions prior to turning in assignments. The official GMU policies are available from the Office of Academic Integrity: <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/>.

Changes to the syllabus will be announced in class, via email, and on Blackboard

COURSE SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Agenda/Topic	Due on this Date
Tues	8/28	Introduction/syllabus review	
Thurs	8/30	Chapter 1: World Regions in Global Context	
Tues	9/4	Chapter 1: World Regions in Global Context	
Thurs	9/6	Chapter 2: Europe	
Tues	9/11	Chapter 2: Europe	
Thurs	9/13	I Spy Geography	<input type="checkbox"/> Homework Assignment 1
Tues	9/18	Chapter 3: The Russian Federation, Central Asia, & the Transcaucasus	
Thurs	9/20	Chapter 3: The Russian Federation, Central Asia, & the Transcaucasus	
Tues	9/25	Chapter 4: Middle East & North Africa	
Thurs	9/27	Chapter 4: Middle East & North Africa	
Tues	10/2	Chapter 5: Sub-Saharan Africa	<input type="checkbox"/> Homework Assignment 2
Thurs	10/4	Chapter 5: Sub-Saharan Africa Midterm Review	
Tues	10/9	NO CLASS (MONDAY CLASSES MEET)	
Thurs	10/11	MIDTERM	
Tues	10/16	Chapter 6: The US & Canada	
Thurs	10/18	Chapter 6: The US & Canada	
Tues	10/23	Chapter 7: Latin America & the Caribbean	
Thurs	10/25	Chapter 7: Latin America & the Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> Homework Assignment 3

Tues	10/30	Chapter 8: East Asia	
Thurs	11/1	Chapter 8: East Asia	
Tues	11/6	Final Project In-Class Group Work	
Thurs	11/8	Chapter 9: South Asia	
Tues	11/13	Final Project In-Class Group Work	
Thurs	11/15	Chapter 9: South Asia Chapter 10: Southeast Asia	
Tues	11/20	Chapter 10: Southeast Asia	<input type="checkbox"/> Final Project
Thurs	11/22	Thanksgiving recess--GMU closed	
Tues	11/27	Chapter 11: Oceania	
Thurs	11/29	Chapter 11: Oceania	
Tues	12/4	Other Regions? Share Final Projects	
Thurs	12/6	Final Exam Review	

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 13, 2018, 1:30pm-4:15pm, Robinson B, Room 201