

# **GGG 101: MAJOR WORLD REGIONS**

**Fall Semester 2017**

**Wednesday: 10:30 AM – 1:15 PM**

**GGG 101 fulfills Mason Core requirement in Global Understanding**

FACULTY: Patricia Boudinot

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HONOR CODE “Students members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal and/or lie in matters related to academic work.”

I in this course, you are not to:

- Access sources/information during an on-line exam/quiz
- Give help or information/work to a friend/classmate

[Read the Honor Code for a list of definitions and examples](#)

TEXTBOOK: The textbook is not required, it is recommended.

Major World Regions by H.J. De Blij, Peter O. Muller and Jan Nijman, Wiley Edition  
Please note that this textbook can only be found at the GMU bookstore as it is a custom textbook.

The information in this custom textbook is originally from *Geography; realms, Regions and Concepts, 16<sup>th</sup> edition* by H.J. De Blij, Peter O. Muller and Jan Nijman, Wiley Edition

CONTENT: “Patterns, problems and prospects of the world’s principal human-geographic regions. Emphasis will be made on a real differentiation and the role geographic differences play in the interpretation of the current worldscene.”  
In the changing World, this course will encourage students to make important connections across boundaries.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, every student will be able to:

1. master spatial awareness by using geographical tools
2. describe and then explain a geographic document such as map/photograph/chart
3. Identify, evaluate and properly cite resources appropriate to the field, such as audio/visual/online/print materials, or artifacts.
4. Understand global patterns.
5. Understand the interconnectedness, difference, and diversity of a global society.
6. analyse global problems or issues

EVALUATION:

### **Course Orientation Quiz**

Please review the syllabus.

The Course Orientation Quiz will be taken in class on Wednesday September 6, 2017.  
There will be twelve questions each worth .25 point.

By answering all the twelve questions correctly, the students will obtain 3 extra credit points.

These 3 extra credit points will be the only extra credit points a student can obtain in the entire semester.

### **Test**

There will be 3 tests this semester.

Each test will display 40 questions. Each question will be worth .5 points and will be multiple choice or True/False.

For each test you will need a dark green scantron form and a pencil ... please no pen.

Please make a note of the following schedule and PLEASE plan ahead ... NO MAKE-UP allowed.

Exam Schedule:

Test 1 (week 4) you will review Weeks 1, 2 and 3.

Test 2 (week 8) you will review Weeks 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Test 3 (week 14) you will review Weeks 8, 9, 10 and 11.

### **Exercise**

Five exercises are scheduled this semester.

Each exercise is worth 4 points.

Each exercise will be submitted in Blackboard.

Each exercise will open on Thursday at 6am and is due no later than the following Wednesday at 10am: at that date and time, any missing exercise will be graded as a zero.

### **Final Project**

You will build a one week trip either in **South America or in East Asia**. The description of the Final Project can be found in the “Syllabus and Documents”.

The Final Project will be submitted in Blackboard no later than Wednesday December 13, 2017 at 11:59 pm

### **Grading percentage:**

Tests	60%
Exercises	20%
Final Project	20%

### **Grade cutoffs will be as follows:**

A 90% – 100%

B 80% - **89.99%**

C 69% - **79.99%**

D 60% - **68.99%**

F less than 60%

EXPECTATIONS: A classroom is a learning place so please arrive on time.

Leave drinks and snacks outside the classroom and turn off cellphones and pagers.

I remind you that I do allow laptops in class but please use them in an appropriate way: I mean that laptop in class has NOTHING to do with chatting, surfing, browsing, checking your personal emails or anything else other than taking notes from the lecture.

In event of class cancellation, the class will resume where we left off.

Adjustments will be made later and you will be notified via email.

I expect that your GMU email address is active as I will communicate with you via email and I will only be using the GMU email address as it appears on the Patriotweb site

I expect that you access blackboard

I expect the students to understand that I will enter the grades on Patriotweb twice a semester: midterm grades and final grades.

**Last day to drop with no tuition penalty:** Tuesday September 5, 2017

**Last day to add class:** Tuesday September 5, 2017

SCHEDULE (adjustments might be possible)

The readings below refer to the recommended textbook. As the textbook is recommended, the readings appearing are recommended as well.

The recommended textbook readings will not generate test questions.

In addition to these recommended readings, there are mandatory readings such as articles and sites. The mandatory readings appear in the reading assignments in Blackboard.

The mandatory readings will generate test questions.

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
Week 1 08/30	Syllabus Geography	World on maps Page 9 and Page 10 Geography's Perspective page 10 to Page 12 What do geographers do? Page 42	
Week 2 09/06	Population	Realms of population: Page 23 to Page 25  Demographic transition: Page 198 to Page 201	<b>Exercise 1</b> Due on 09/13 no later than 10 am <b>Course Orientation Quiz</b>
Week 3 09/13	Development	Geography of Development Page 34 to 39	<b>Exercise 2</b> Due on 09/20 no later than 10 am
Week 4 09/20	North America	Discussion	<b>Test 1</b>
Week 5 09/27	North America	North America's Physical Geography: Page 99-101	

		<p>Cultural Foundations Page: 103</p> <p>The Federal Map Of North America: Page 104-107</p> <p>Urbanization And The Spatial Economy: Page 109-114</p>	
Week 6 10/04	Middle America	<p>Geographical Features: Page 121-125</p> <p>Physical Geography: Page 125-127</p> <p>Cultural Geography: Page 127-130</p>	<b>Exercise 3</b> Due on 10/11 no later than 10 am
Week 7 10/11	South America	<p>States Ancient And Modern: Page 139-142</p> <p>The Cultural Mosaic: Page 142-144</p> <p>Economic Geography: Page 145-148</p> <p>Urbanization: Page 149- 152</p>	
Week 8 10/18	South America	Discussion	<b>Test 2</b>
Week 9 10/25	Sub Saharan Africa	<p>Historical Geography: Page 159-165</p> <p>Postcolonial Africa: Page 165-166</p> <p>Africans And Their Land: Page 169-173</p>	
Week 10 11/01	Europe	<p>Geographical features Page 46 to Page 50</p> <p>Contemporary Europe Page 54 to Page 57</p>	<b>Exercise 4</b> Due no later than 11/08 at 10 am
Week 11 11/08	Russia	<p>Russian roots Page 80 to Page 81</p> <p>Building the Russian Empire Page 82 to Page 87</p>	<b>Exercise 5</b> Due no later than 11/15 at 10 am.

		The new Russia Page 87 to Page 92	
Week 12 11/15	GIS Day		
<b>Week 13 11/22</b>	<b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>
Week 14 11/29	South Asia	Discussion	<b>Test 3</b>
Week 15 12/06	East Asia	China's Historical Role In East Asia: Page 217-221 Japan's Historical Role In East Asia: Page 221-223 East Asia's Economic Stature: Page 225-226 Geopolitics In East Asia: Page 226-228	
Week 16 12/13	<b>Final project is due no later than Wednesday 12/ 13 at 11:59 pm</b>	<b>Final project is due no later than Wednesday 12/13 at 11:59 pm</b>	<b>Final project is due no later than Wednesday 12/13 at 11:59 pm</b>

Thanks for choosing GGS 101.

I wish you an enjoyable semester.

PB