

GGS101-Major World Regions

SYLLABUS

Course Information

Course Number: GGS101
Course Title: Major World Regions
Term: Fall 2020
Class Meetings: Blackboard
Location: ONLINE

Professor Contact Information

Professor: Piash Debnath, M.S.
Email: pdebnat2@gmu.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment/Skype @piash_debnath

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:

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	1 point each	6%
Final Project (1)	27 points	27%
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 will be a Midterm and Final exam consisting of multiple choice and short answers. Both are worth 20% of the total grade and will be open notes online on Blackboard

HW Assignments: There will be 3 HW assignments worth 4 points each. They will be due by 11:59pm Sundays. Submit as a word file.

Map Quizzes: There will be a map quiz almost every week that will consist of the region of the week. It will be short answer and/or multiple choice worth 6% total of the grade.

Late Assignments: Late Assignments are strictly NOT accepted unless there is **prior** approval. Please see announcements and class schedule for detailed due dates.

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 for the semester due on Canvas by 11:59pm Sunday. 3 points will be towards the Discussion essay, 1 page minimum, double spaced. 2 points will be for directly replying to at least 2 peer's essays. The replies need to be at least 4 sentences and directly quote or cite something from the peers' essay. You can copy and paste directly to the discussion board or attach a word file.

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 either in Asia or Africa. Further instruction will follow on canvas. 2 points will be dedicated to Final Project Step 1 and Step 2 which will be assigned early in the semester.

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 must be a greeting (e.g. Good afternoon Professor), a Subject for the email (e.g. Exercise 2 help), and a signature at the end (e.g. Best, Jane Doe).

Class Cancellations:

Not Applicable. Class fully online.

Technology Requirements:

Make sure you have internet access throughout the Fall semester. Microsoft word/powerpoint access, Google Earth, and a reliable computer. Please do not submit .pages or strange format files. If you submit as a link, make sure the link is public and viewable. You have unlimited submissions on any assignment up to the due date.

Important Dates:

Last day to drop with a tuition refund	Sept 28th
Last day to withdraw without grade penalty	Oct 28th
End of Exam period	Dec 16th

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 Mason disability website.

Date Every Week starts <i>Monday morning 6am to Sunday 11:59pm</i>	Topics	Readings	Assignments Due : All Weekly Assignments due Sunday 11:59pm**
Week 1 August 24th	Syllabus Week	Syllabus Get Familiar with Blackboard	Orientation Quiz & Introductions
Week 2 August 31st	Geography Intro	Chapter 1	Exercise 1
Week 3 September 7th	Europe	Chapter 2	Final Project Step 1 Map Quiz
Week 4 September 14th	Russia	Chapter 3	Discussion 1 Map Quiz
Week 5 September 21st	North America	Chapter 4	Exercise 2 Map Quiz
Week 6 September 28th	Middle & South America	Chapter 5	Map Quiz
Week 7 October 5th	Study Week/Library Week	None	Final Project Step 2
Week 8 October 12th	Midterm Week <i>Available 10/14-10/18</i>	None	Midterm due Sunday 11:59pm 10/18
Week 9 October 19th	Sub-Saharan Africa	Chapter 6	Discussion 2 & Map Quiz
Week 10 October 26th	North Africa and Southwest Asia	Chapter 7	None Map Quiz
Week 11 November 2nd	South Asia	Chapter 8	Discussion 3 Map Quiz
Week 12 November 9th	East & Southeast Asia	Chapter 9	HW Exercise 3 Map Quiz
Week 13 November 16th	Oceania	Chapter 10	Map Quiz
Week 14 November 23rd	FINAL PROJECTS	None	Final Project
Week 15 November 30th	Thanksgiving Break/Study	None	None
Week 16 December 7th-14th	Final Exam <i>Available 12/7-12/10</i>	Read Notes/ previous chapters before Final	Final Due 11:59pm Thursday 12/10

**Final Exam due on a Thursday

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