

GGS101-Major World Regions

SYLLABUS

Course Information

Course Number: GGS101-DL5
Course Title: Major World Regions
Term: Spring 2021
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 (8)	each varies	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/or 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 Blackboard 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 Blackboard. 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 **strong** internet access throughout the Fall semester. Tests/Quizzes where connection is lost may result in a 0 as they will automatically submit. 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	Feb 16th
Last day to withdraw without grade penalty	Mar 1st
End of Exam period	May 10th

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 January 25th	Syllabus Week	Syllabus Get Familiar with Blackboard	Orientation Quiz & Introductions
Week 2 February 1st	Geography Intro	Chapter 1	Exercise 1
Week 3 February 8th	Europe	Chapter 2	Final Project Step 1 Map Quiz
Week 4 February 15th	Russia	Chapter 3	Discussion 1 Map Quiz
Week 5 February 22nd	North America	Chapter 4	Exercise 2 Map Quiz
Week 6 March 1st	Middle & South America	Chapter 5	Map Quiz
Week 7 March 8th	Spring Break	None	None
Week 8 March 15th	Study Week/Library Week	None	Final Project Step 2
Week 9 March 22nd	Midterm Week <i>Available 03/24-03/28</i>	Chapter 6	Midterm due Sunday 11:59pm 03/28
Week 10 March 29th	Sub-Saharan Africa	Chapter 7	Discussion 2 Map Quiz
Week 11 April 5th	North Africa and Southwest Asia	Chapter 8	Map Quiz
Week 12 April 12th	South Asia	Chapter 9	HW Exercise 3 Map Quiz
Week 13 April 19th	East & Southeast Asia	Chapter 10	Map Quiz
Week 14 April 26th	Oceania	None	Discussion 3
Week 15 May 3rd	FINAL PROJECTS	None	Final Project
Week 16 May 5 th -9 th	Final Exam <i>Available 05/5-05/09</i>	Read Notes/ previous chapters before Final	Final Due 11:59pm Sunday 05/09

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