

# Major World Regions

GGG 101\_\_002

## Professor

Dr. Christine Rosenfeld

## Email

[crosenfe@gmu.edu](mailto:crosenfe@gmu.edu)

## Office Hours

By appointment,  
email to arrange

2216 Exploratory Hall  
or by [zoom](#)

## Teaching Assistant

TBA

## Learning Assistant

Wyatt Johnson  
[Wjohns5@gmu.edu](mailto:Wjohns5@gmu.edu)  
Office Hours TBA

## Student Expectations

- Come to class, interact, display respect
- Read email daily
- Reach out if you're stuck

## Course Delivery

In-person

## Meeting Time & Location

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30 am-11:45 am  
Horizon Hall 1010

## Course Description

This course provides a survey of cultural, physical, and societal aspects of major world regions. It examines how forces across various scales shape the character of place. It explores how regions differ from one another and interrelate in our globalizing world. Acquiring a familiarity with and a foundation in the geography of the 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. Satisfies the Mason Core Global Understanding Requirement.

## Required Text

Finlayson, Caitlin. World Regional Geography:  
<https://worldgeo.pressbooks.com/> **\*Free\***

## Learning Outcomes

- Use geographic tools and data to profile place
- Identify the distribution of patterns of human and physical geographical features across the globe and describe the geographical processes that explain said patterns
- Demonstrate understanding of how the patterns and processes of globalization make visible the interconnections and differences among and within contemporary global societies
- Identify and articulate one's own values and how those values influence their interactions and relationships with others, both locally and globally
- 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

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## Grading/Requirements

100 pts, 10%

### Participation

This is an on-ground class and as such, regular in-person attendance and attention is required. If you need to miss class, email the professor to make alternative arrangements. Failure to regularly attend class may result in a failing grade.

420 pts, 42%

### Mapping Exercises

You will complete 7 mapping exercises (60 points each) which include labeling countries and geographical features on maps in addition to responding to free response questions. Resources for exercises are shared in class. To be completed partially in class and partially out of class. Submit on BB.

480 pts, 48%

### Exams

There is a midterm and a final (240 points each). Only 20% of the final covers cumulative content; the rest covers material taught since the midterm. Each has a mix of question types, often including: multiple choice, T/F, fill in the blank, place identification, and short answer. Exam reviews occur in class. Exams administered in person.

## Grade Point Cutoffs

|    |          |    |         |
|----|----------|----|---------|
| A+ | 980-1000 | B- | 800-829 |
| A  | 930-979  | C+ | 780-799 |
| A- | 900-929  | C  | 700-779 |
| B+ | 880-899  | D  | 600-699 |
| B  | 830-879  | F  | 0-599   |

### Late Work Policy

Each student starts with 2 late work tokens, which allow you to turn in a graded item up to 48 hours past the original due date without penalty. When using a late token, you do NOT need to email the professor in advance; simply turn in/complete your item on BB.

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## 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. The official GMU policies are available from the Office of Academic Integrity: <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/>. Please consult with me about questions *prior to turning in assignments*. See also [Assignment Procedures](#).

## Miscellaneous

- Communicate accommodations or concerns.
- Obtain reliable access to a computer and internet.
- Course materials are [private to this class](#).
- Use your GMU email account; include full name and course #.

## Title IX

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1412. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993- 8730, or emailing [titleix@gmu.edu](mailto:titleix@gmu.edu).

## Diversity Statement & Accommodations

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 (see [religious holiday calendar](#)), 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. *If you wish, please share your name and gender pronouns with the professor and how best to address you in class and via email. I use she/her for myself. Please consider updating your profile in PatriotWeb.*

Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students by upholding the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please first visit <http://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Then please discuss your approved accommodations with me. Disability Services is located in Student Union Building I (SUB I), Suite 2500. Email:[ods@gmu.edu](mailto:ods@gmu.edu) | Phone: (703) 993-2474

## Additional Resources

See list and links on BB.

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## Course Schedule

| Weeks          | In-Person Class<br>10:30 am-11:45 am | Topic  | Graded Items Due by Class<br>Time          |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Week 1</b>  | Tues 1/24<br>Thurs 1/26              | Welcome & World Mapping Exercise<br>Geographic Tools |  |
| <b>Week 2</b>  | Tues 1/31<br>Thurs 2/2               | Geographic Tools<br>Europe Mapping Exercise          | World Mapping Exercise<br>(Thurs)          |
| <b>Week 3</b>  | Tues 2/7<br>Thurs 2/9                | Europe<br>Europe                                     |  |
| <b>Week 4</b>  | Tues 2/14<br>Thurs 2/16              | Russia Mapping Exercise<br>Russia                    | Europe Mapping Exercise<br>(Tues)          |
| <b>Week 5</b>  | Tues 2/21<br>Thurs 2/23              | Russia<br>Poles                                      | Russia Mapping Exercise<br>(Thurs)         |
| <b>Week 6</b>  | Tues 2/28<br>Thurs 3/2               | Poles<br>Midterm Exam Review                         |  |
| <b>Week 7</b>  | Tues 3/7<br>Thurs 3/9                | <b>Midterm Exam</b><br>Africa Mapping Exercise       | <b>Midterm During Class (Tues)</b>         |
| <b>Week 8</b>  | <b>SPRING BREAK</b>                  | <b>SPRING BREAK</b>                                  | <b>SPRING BREAK</b>                        |
| <b>Week 9</b>  | Tues 3/21<br>Thurs 3/23              | Africa<br>Africa                                     |  |
| <b>Week 10</b> | Tues 3/28<br>Thurs 3/30              | Southwest Asia Mapping Exer.<br>Southwest Asia       | Africa Mapping Exercise (Tues)             |
| <b>Week 11</b> | Tues 4/4<br>Thurs 4/6                | Southwest Asia<br>Asia Mapping Exercise              | SW Asia Mapping Exer. (Thurs)              |
| <b>Week 12</b> | Tues 4/11<br>Thurs 4/13              | Asia<br>Asia   |  |
| <b>Week 13</b> | Tues 4/18<br>Thurs 4/20              | Asia<br>Latin America Mapping Exer.                  | Asia Mapping Exercise (Thurs)              |
| <b>Week 14</b> | Tues 4/25<br>Thurs 4/27              | Latin America<br>Latin America                       | Lat. Am. Mapping Exercise<br>(Thurs)       |
| <b>Week 15</b> | Tues 5/2<br>Thurs 5/4                | Final Exam Review<br><b>Final Exam</b>               | <b>Final Exam During Class<br/>(Thurs)</b> |