

# Geography 1313.060 Online: World Regional Geography

Fall 2024

Professor: Jeff Isom  
Office: Classroom - CAS 158  
Office hours: MWF 8-9am or 10-11am  
Before or After my Class in CAS 158 or by appointment

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*This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.*

**Communications:** Email me or you may come see me on-campus during office hours directly before/after my class in CAS 158. This is a good opportunity for you to look over your assignments, ask questions, or seek clarification. If you cannot attend my office hours and prefer not to correspond via email, you may set-up an alternative meet online. One-on-One meetings such as Zoom, Telephone, can be arranged with a scheduled date/time.

I will try to respond promptly to your emails. **In your email, include your first and last name and that you are enrolled in Geography 1313 – World Geography - Online.**

## Required Instructional Materials:

- Course Textbook (**FREE**): Available in Canvas Modules (students may download chapters, then review, study, highlight, or use “find” function to search text)
- Textbook references:
  - Finlayson, Caitlin. (2021, November 18). World Regional Geography. Open Educational Resources (OER). Retrieved August 25, 2023 from: <https://pressbooks.pub/worldgeo/>
  - Turner, Peter. (2021, May 19). World Regional Geography. Open Educational Resources (OER). Retrieved August 25, 2023 from: <https://library.achievingthedream.org/herkimerworldgeography/>
- The instructor may post news articles, websites, supplemental documents, and required readings and/or videos within the Canvas Learning System to broaden students’ perspective of the world’s geography.
- Canvas is used for UT-Tyler online classes, and all students are expected to check Canvas regularly for announcements and/or messages.

**Recommended Reading(s): Instructor materials** - Posted on Canvas - Instructor Handouts/Downloads and Websites (URL), Also, each student is expected to conduct a Weekly Review of **World News**- (Online: BBC, Al Jazeera, Fox, CNN. Etc.) Other assignments: TBD.

**World Regional Geography Catalogue description:** Analyzes cultural patterns in terms of physical, locational, social, and economic processes. World regions are described and compared.

## Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Define and explain the geographic concept of “region.”
- Locate significant geographic features of regions of the world and describe their cultural, economic, political, and physical characteristics.
- Demonstrate knowledge of each region’s role in a globalizing world.

- Apply geographic concepts to understanding current events, conflicts, and issues in a regional context.

**Course objective:** The primary objective is for you to describe how the physical and human geography of a region can be unique yet also share many qualities with other regions. Although you will learn the locations of key places and landforms in order to become globally aware citizens, *this course's objective is not to promote or reward memorization*. The objective is to provide a geographical context for world events, to make spatial connections, and to understand the importance of geographical contexts in our everyday lives. By the end of this course, you should be able to read and synthesize world events and maps.

**Course format:** ONLINE

Weekly Modules are used within Canvas whereas students will complete the various assignments for each assigned chapter (**module**). Students will **READ TEXTBOOK** chapters and answer review questions on the **READINGS** and watch online **VIDEOS** then complete multiple-choice/essay assignments. In addition, each module contains a map **QUIZ** and **EXAM**. Students will participate in **Discussion** threads and complete **Country Reports** assignments on Canvas by **DUE DATES**.

Grades are based on completion of each module by **DUE DATE**. Late assignments are penalized 10%.

**Faculty-student interaction and student-student interaction –**

Online Class Discussion – Periodic Class discussion, ranging from informal discussions to organized discussion topics will be an important part of the class. It is vital that the students **participate** in the discussions to receive the maximum benefit from the course. Students will be expected to participate in discussions based on instructor-initiated questions, using the Discussion Board function of Canvas. Critical comments from the instructor on student responses to discussion questions will be delivered as private emails and not posted to the Discussion Board. The instructor will periodically ‘intervene’ in the Discussion Board to re-direct, correct, or elaborate on the interactive class discussions. Discussion scores are posted on the Canvas site according to an appropriately time schedule to give students clear indication of their progress. Discussion Topics will be on relevant Current Events of the Topics we are studying.

**Expectations and Feedback** – Occasional Instructor Announcements are posted on the Canvas course site to remind students of certain due dates, changes, discussions topics, and any new course material provided via the course Canvas site. The instructor will provide email feedback as needed to students concerning the completion and assessed quality of written assignments, and quizzes. Assignments, Quizzes, Discussions, and Exam scores are posted on the Canvas site according to an appropriately time schedule to give students clear indication of their progress. Additional student-instructor interaction will be available via email or through appointment only.

**Communication:** Direct email is the best way to communicate with Professor. In your email, include your first and last name and the geography course you are enrolled in. (GEOG 1313 – World Geography). **Contact Professor via UT-Tyler Email with any questions/concerns. One-on-One meetings such as Zoom, Telephone, can be arranged with a scheduled time/date.**

**Participation** (logging in regularly and taking part in discussions) and other proactive course activities. **NOTE:** The Department of Education requires institutions of higher education to report non-attendance/non-participation of all students (even students who do not utilize federal aid). For this class, your initial attendance is based upon participation in Module 1 - assignments. You will be dropped non-participation per UT-Tyler’s interpretation of federal regulations. Course reinstatement fees may be applied.

**Evaluation and Grading System : Grades will be based on the following scale:**

90%-100% = A

80%-89% = B

70%-79% = C

60%-69% = D

59% and below = F

Incomplete grades will only be given under special conditions upon consultation with the instructor prior to final exams. If an incomplete grade is given, the remaining coursework must be completed within a specified period of time, usually six weeks from the end of the semester. If the work is not completed within the given time the student will receive a failing grade for the course.

<b>World Geography - GEOG 1313.060</b> <b>Online</b> <b>Fall 2024</b> 15 Week Course Outline and Schedule	
<b>Start Here Folder</b>	Read Syllabus, then complete <b>Syllabus Acknowledgement Quiz</b>
26 Aug – 1 Sep	Discussion Board – Student Introductions – <b>DUE</b> – (Ice Breaker)
<b>Module 1</b>	
26 Aug – 1 Sep	Chapter 1.1 – Introduction & Tools of World Regional Geography –
26 Aug – 1 Sep	Chapter 1.2 – Physical Geography – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
3 – 8 Sep	Chapter 1.3 – Human Geography – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
3 – 8 Sep	Map Quiz / Exam <b>DUE</b>
<b>Module 2</b>	
9 – 15 Sep	Chapter 2, Europe – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
16 – 22 Sep	Europe Country Reports x2 <b>DUE</b>
16 – 22 Sep	Natural Hazards / Geopolitical Discussion <b>DUE</b>
16 – 22 Sep	Map Quiz / Exam <b>DUE</b>
<b>Module 3</b>	
23 – 29 Sep	Chapter 3 Russia & Near Abroad – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
30 Sep – 6 Oct	Russia and Neighbors Country Reports x2 <b>DUE</b>
30 Sep – 6 Oct	Natural Hazards / Geopolitical Discussion <b>DUE</b>
30 Sep – 6 Oct	Map Quiz / Exam <b>DUE</b>
<b>Module 4</b>	
7 – 13 Oct	Chapter 4 Middle East & North Africa – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
14 – 20 Oct	Middle East & North Africa Country Reports x2 <b>DUE</b>
14 – 20 Oct	Natural Hazards / Geopolitical Discussion <b>DUE</b>
14 – 20 Oct	Map Quiz / Exam <b>DUE</b>

<b>Module 5</b>	
21 – 27 Oct	Chapter 5 South, Southeast, and East Asia – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
28 Oct – 3 Nov	South, Southeast, & East Asia Country Reports x2 <b>DUE</b>
28 Oct – 3 Nov	Natural Hazards / Geopolitical Discussion <b>DUE</b>
28 Oct – 3 Nov	Map Quiz / Exam <b>DUE</b>
<b>Module 6</b>	
4 – 10 Nov	Chapter 6 Oceania & Antarctica – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
4 – 10 Nov	Oceania Country Reports x2 <b>DUE</b>
4 – 10 Nov	Natural Hazards / Geopolitical Discussion <b>DUE</b>
4 – 10 Nov	Map Quiz / Exam <b>DUE</b>
<b>Module 7</b>	
18 – 24 Nov	Chapter 7 Sub-Saharan Africa – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
18 – 24 Nov	Sub-Saharan Country Reports x2 <b>DUE</b>
18 – 24 Nov	Natural Hazards / Geopolitical Discussion <b>DUE</b>
18 – 24 Nov	Map Quiz / Exam <b>DUE</b>
<b>25 – 29 Nov</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
<b>Module 8</b>	
1 – 8 Dec	Chapter 8 Latin America – Assignments <b>DUE</b>
1 – 8 Dec	Latin America Country Reports x2 <b>DUE</b>
1 – 8 Dec	Natural Hazards / Geopolitical Discussion <b>DUE</b>
1 – 8 Dec	Map Quiz / Exam <b>DUE</b>
<b>9 – 13 Dec</b>	<b>Final Exam - DUE</b>
	Note: <b>Friday, December 9, 2024, 11:59pm DEADLINE</b> for END of course. All course materials must be submitted. <b><u>NO EXCEPTIONS</u></b>

*The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.*