

**Geography 1313 Section 1: World Regional Geography**  
**MWF 9:05-10:00am**  
**CAS 210**

**Spring 2025**

Professor: Jeff Isom  
Office: TBD  
Office hours: MWF 8:00 am to 9:00 am or 11:05am to 12:00pm  
Or by appointment  
E-mail: jisom@uttyler.edu

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

**Communications:** I encourage you to come see me during office hours directly before class. This is a good opportunity for you to look over your exams, ask questions, or seek clarification. If you can not attend my office hours you may set-up an alternative time/location to meet. 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.**

**Required Instructional Materials:**

- Open Educational Resources (OER) textbooks used in this course as reference, thus FREE for students use. Textbook Chapters are loaded on Canvas in each applicable Module.
- 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, 2024 from: <https://pressbooks.pub/worldgeo/>
  - Turner, Peter. (2021, May 19). World Regional Geography. Open Educational Resources (OER). Retrieved August 25, 2024 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 handouts, Postings on Canvas, Weekly Review of World News- (Online: BBC, Al Jazeera, Fox News, 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:**

1. Lecture – The majority of the information in this course will be delivered in the form of lecture and in-class discussion. Because of this, it is strongly recommended that the students attend all classes and be attentive. Due to the amount of material that will be covered this semester it is suggested that the students take notes from the lecture material. However, lecture shouldn't be a one-way street. Discussion is strongly encouraged!
2. Reading – The textbook (appropriate chapter(s)), as well as outside readings, announced in class/canvas, provides a supplement and framework for the lecture material. The students are responsible for reading the corresponding material and textbook chapters prior to the lectures, so each student are prepared for class.
3. Class Discussion – Discussions, ranging from informal talks to organized discussions are an important part of the class. It is vital that the students participate with class discussions in order to receive the maximum benefit from the course.
4. Instructional Aids – Varied instructional aids, including audio-visual, supplementary documents, News reports, and internet assignments are used to furnish additional information for class.

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

- Grading scale:      A    90-100%                      B    80-89.99%                      C    70-79.99%  
                                  D    60-69.99%                      F    0-59.99%

Incomplete course 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.

**Map Quiz/Exam:** 80% of grade

Map Quizzes – There will be scheduled in-class map QUIZZES over each unit. Map quizzes are **CLOSED** book/notes. At the end of the semester the lowest map quiz grade will be dropped. Because of this, **no make-up map quizzes** will be given, except in special circumstances with prior arrangements with the professor.

Exams – There will be schedule EXAMS during the semester. Exams are **CLOSED** book/notes. The information on the exams will be drawn primarily from the lecture material, but can include any information from the text, lecture, supplemental readings, or instructional aids. At the end of the semester the lowest exam grade (Not Including the Final Exam) will be dropped. Because of this, **no make-up exams** will be given, except in special circumstances with prior arrangements with the professor. Exams will be multiple choice and essay. Final Exam – The final exam is a comprehensive exam.

**Assignments:** 20% of Grade: Review Questions, Country reports, and Attendance – Assignments: **SUBMITTED ON-TIME.**

**Other Course Requirements:**

Each student is responsible for bringing a **BLUE** ink pen to each class to use on **MAP QUIZ**, and a **SCANTRON** (100E/882E) and #2 **PENCIL** for written exams.

**Student Responsibilities/Expectations:** Attendance is expected and will constitute **a percentage** of student's overall course grade. Students are expected to attend all classes. Regular class attendance is necessary for maximum success in college. Please be on time and be prepared. You will be less prepared for quizzes and exams if you miss a lecture. Each student is responsible for obtaining class notes from those students who attended a lecture you missed.

**Class Etiquette:** I expect everyone in the classroom to be **respectful** of each other and treat everyone with dignity – we have discussions about cultures from around the world that will be different from your own. I expect comments to be positive and objective and not judgmental and rude.

**Cell Phones/Laptops:** Turn off your ringer and do not use your cell phone during class – this includes text messaging. If you are expecting an important call, please put your phone on vibrate and sit close to the door. This action will help minimize any disturbance to the class. Laptops are allowed for note-taking, but I reserve the right to ask you to shut your computer down (or to change my class policy) if you are using your computer for uses other than note-taking and disrupting those around you. **Any video, photographic or audio recordings of the class must be approved by instructor.**

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**Course Schedule**

<b>Module 1</b>	Chapter 1.1 – Introduction & Tools of World Regional Geography
13 Jan	
15 Jan	Chapter 1.1 – Introduction & Tools of World Regional Geography
17 Jan	<u>Dept of Social Sciences VISIT:</u> Chapter 1.1 – Introduction & Tools of World Regional Geography
<b>20 Jan</b>	<b>Holiday MLK – No Class</b>
22 Jan	Chapter 1.2 – Physical Geography
24 Jan	Chapter 1.2 – Physical Geography
27 Jan	Chapter 1.2 – Physical Geography
29 Jan	Chapter 1.3 – Human Geography
31 Jan	Chapter 1.3 – Human Geography,
<b>2 Feb</b>	<b>Ch 1 – Review Questions Due by noon</b>
<b>3 Feb</b>	<b>World Regions/Lat-Long Map Quiz. Exam 1 – Intro to Geography</b>
<b>Module 2</b>	Chapter 2, Intro to Europe
5 Feb	
7 Feb	Chapter 2, Core Europe
10 Feb	Chapter 2, North Europe
12 Feb	Chapter 2, South Europe
14 Feb	Chapter 2, East Europe
<b>16 Feb</b>	<b>Ch 2 – Review Questions Due by noon</b>
<b>17 Feb</b>	<b>Europe Region Country Reports x2 DUE</b>
<b>17 Feb</b>	<b>Europe Region Map Quiz. Exam 2 – Europe Region</b>
<b>Module 3</b>	Chapter 3 Russia and Near Abroad (Neighbors) Overview
19 Feb	
21 Feb	Chapter 3 Coreland & Russian Realm.
24 Feb	Chapter 3 Caucus & Central Asia.
<b>25 Feb</b>	<b>Ch 3 – Review Questions Due by noon</b>
<b>26 Feb</b>	<b>Russian Region Country Reports x2 DUE</b>
<b>26 Feb</b>	<b>Russia Region Map Quiz. Exam 3 – Russian Region</b>
<b>Module 4</b>	Chapter 4 Middle East/North Africa Overview (MENA)
28 Feb	
3 Mar	Chapter 4 North Africa
5 Mar	Chapter 4 Middle East
7 Mar	Chapter 4 Middle East
<b>9 Mar</b>	<b>Ch 4 – Review Questions Due by noon</b>
<b>10 Mar</b>	<b>MENA Region Country Reports x2 DUE</b>
<b>10 Mar</b>	<b>Middle East/North Africa Map Quiz. Exam 4 - MENA</b>
*****	<b><u>Midterm Grades entered after Exam 4</u></b>
	<b><u>Grade is Calculated as Student's Course Average to date</u></b>

<b>Module 5</b>	Chapter 5 South, Southeast, & East Asia Overview (Monsoon Asia)
12 Mar	
14 Mar	Chapter 5 South Asia
<b>17 – 21 Mar</b>	<b>***** SPRING BREAK *****</b>
24 Mar	Chapter 5 Southeast Asia
26 Mar	Chapter 5 East Asia
<b>27 Mar</b>	<b>Ch 5 – Review Questions Due by noon</b>
<b>28 Mar</b>	<b>Monsoon Region Country Reports x2 DUE</b>
<b>28 Mar</b>	<b>Monsoon Asia Map Quiz. Exam 5 – Monsoon Asia</b>
<b>Module 6</b>	Chapter 6 Oceania (Pacific World) Overview
31 Mar	
2 Apr	Chapter 6 Oceania (Pacific World)
4 Apr	Chapter 6 Australia & New Zealand
<b>6 Apr</b>	<b>Ch 6 – Review Questions Due by noon</b>
<b>7 Apr</b>	<b>Oceania Region Country Reports x2 DUE</b>
<b>7 Apr</b>	<b>Oceania Map Quiz. Exam 6 – Oceania Region.</b>
<b>Module 7</b>	Chapter 7 - Sub-Saharan Africa Overview
9 Apr	
11 Apr	Chapter 7 Sub-Saharan Africa
14 Apr	Chapter 7 Sub-Saharan Africa
<b>15 Apr</b>	<b>Ch 7 – Review Questions Due by noon</b>
<b>16 Apr</b>	<b>Sub-Saharan Africa Region Country Reports x2 DUE</b>
<b>16 Apr</b>	<b>Sub-Saharan Africa Map Quiz. Exam 7 – Sub-Saharan Africa Region</b>
<b>Module 8</b>	Chapter 8 Latin America Overview
18 Apr	
21 Apr	Chapter 8 Middle America.
23 Apr	Chapter 8 South America
<b>24 Apr</b>	<b>Ch 8 – Review Questions Due by noon</b>
<b>25 Apr</b>	<b>Latin American Region Country Reports x2 DUE</b>
<b>25 Apr</b>	<b>Latin American Map Quiz. Exam 8 – Latin American Region.</b>
<b>30 Apr</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM submit by NOON. No Exceptions.</b>