

SE'02

Chaminade University of Honolulu
GE 102: World Regional Geography

Spring / 02

Instr.: Dr. Morgan Brent
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Course Description ~

Today we live in a world that is both incredibly diverse and profoundly interconnected. This course provides an introduction to geographical ways of thinking about our world and the historical processes that have shaped it. Economic globalization, migration, tourism, and new communications technologies are transforming identities, lifestyles, and landscapes in almost every corner of the earth. Yet there are local forces that resist the challenges and threats that often accompany globalization. Territorial and ethnic conflicts, social displacement, uneven development, environmental degradation, and charges of cultural imperialism and neo-colonialism are all symptomatic of on-going encounters between the local and the global. Geography provides a lens through which we can begin to make sense of these and many other complex problems that require a sophisticated and nuanced understanding of human interactions with their environments and with each other.

Course Objectives:

1. develop a workable knowledge base of where the various regions of the globe are located and of what states they are composed;
2. identify each of these regions in terms of their physical, cultural, historical and economic attributes;
3. develop an understanding of the relationships between these attributes in a regional context;
4. analyze the contemporary problems each region currently faces from a geographic perspective,

Grading

Grading will be based on three short written assignments (news analysis, a reaction paper, and film critique), a mid-term and final exam. The written assignments are worth 30% of your final grade, the mid-term and final exam are worth 30% each. Attendance and participation are mandatory, essential, and are awarded 10%.

The scale:

90-100 @ A; 80-90 @ B; 70-79 @ C; 60-69 @ D; 59-0 @ F

The following requirements will be considered in the grading:

- mandatory attendance
- be courteous and professional in class discussions; i.e. take turns in speaking, allowing others to express their ideas without interruption, communicate with positive, constructive verbal and nonverbal language.
- show respect and an open mind to different ideas and opinions of class members.
- complete assignments on time.

Learning Outcome Assessment; All student's work will be evaluated for:

- knowledge of the reading material, class lectures, discussion, videos, and resources from research.
- ability to provide relevant examples to support viewpoints.
- ability to apply the knowledge to understand current issues in society.
- clarity and logical presentation.
- demonstration of having an understanding of the subject matter objectively and from opposing viewpoints.
- demonstration of achieving the objectives of this class.
- ability to analyze, critically review, and compare the issues cross-culturally.

Required Texts

Rowntree. Les et al.

2000 *Diversity Amid Globalization: World Regions, Environment, Development*. Prentice Hall.

Schedule

April 6

Introduction

April 13

Chapters 1,2

April 20

North America: chapter 3

April 27

Latin America: chapter 4

May 4

Europe: chapter 8

May 11

Exam I

Southwest Asia and North Africa: chapter 7

May 18

Russia and its Neighbors: chapter 9

May 25

East Asia: chapter 11

June 1

Australia and Oceania: chapter 14

June 8

Review and Exam II