

GE 102: WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY

Inst: Richard Bordner

Off. Hrs: MWF 10-12, T/R 11-1 or by app't. (BehSci Bldg 114)

Phone: 739-4644(off.) e-mail= [rbordner@chaminade.edu](mailto:rbordner@chaminade.edu) or [bordnerr001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:bordnerr001@hawaii.rr.com)

Text: Rowntree, Les, Martin Lewis, Price & Wyckoff. 2000. Diversity and Globalization. NY: Prentice-Hall.

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide a basic introduction to the complexities of the human experience around the world. The interaction of people with their physical environment is the main focus of geographical work and this course examines the different regions around the world in the context of past and present human experience. Within this framework, given the holistic nature of geographical thought, we will also examine the interaction and problems generated both regionally and worldwide.

Course Objectives:

- 1) To develop a greater understanding of the geographical point of view and the power of geographical approaches;
- 2) To develop a greater appreciation of both the uniqueness of the varied human experiences and also how they interrelate;
- 3) To sensitize you to the complex dynamic relationship of people and their physical environment.

Course Grading:

1. Exams: There will be 3 exams in this class. They will not be cumulative. They will consist of a combination of objective and short-essay questions. Each exam will count for 20% of the course grade.
2. Research Paper/Service Learning: You must do a short research paper of 4-7 pages on some topical issue in a particular region of the planet that deals with human action; **or** you may participate in an approved Service Learning project. If you are doing the research paper, it must have a minimum of 2 sources other than the text. It will count for 15% of the course grade.
3. Map Tests: There will be a series of map tests (after all this **is** regional geography). The totaled average score of the tests will count for 10% of the course grade.
4. Reaction Papers: There will be a series of reaction papers given during the semester (a minimum of 3). Each paper should be from 1-3 pages long. The reaction papers will be worth 5% of the course grade.
5. Class Participation/Attendance: Class attendance is mandatory (university policy). The class will much more effective and interesting if you participate. Participation and attendance counts for 10% of the course grade.

Grading: Exams(3).....60%	A=-90-100	D=-60-69
Research Paper.....15%	B=-80-89	F=-60
Reaction Papers.....5%	C=-70-79	
Map Tests.....10%		
Part/Attend.....10%		

*Catalog: Spatial study of the world's major cultural regions. An examination of the social and physical factors that have led to contemporary regional patterns.*



- Jan. 14: Introduction  
Ass: Read ch. 1-2, Stratfor xerox  
16: Geographical concepts, physical geography and people  
21: Global issues / **Adopt a Country Time**  
Ass: Read ch. 8  
23: Europe—the impact of geography & persistence of history  
28: European success and problems—the EU, the Chunnel and change  
30: Eastern Europe—Why all the conflicts? History, ethnicity and power in Europe  
Ass: Read ch. 9
- Feb. 4: Imperial Russia, the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation  
6: The republics, Chechnya, ethnic competition, White Russians and social collapse  
Ass: Read ch. 7  
11: What is the Middle East—Eurocentrism & economic colonialism  
13: Religion and factionalism as politics and political blackmail / Study session for EXAM I  
18: EXAM I (ch. 1-2, 7-9)  
Ass: Read ch. 10  
20: Central Asia and conflict: Afghanistan & Kashmir  
Ass: Read ch. 12  
25: South Asia  
27: India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka—religious nationalism and ethnicity
- March 4: Problems in Eden and Shangri-la  
Ass: Read ch. 11  
6: East Asia—Past isolation and moves toward regional dominance in the 21<sup>st</sup>?  
11: The changing Chinas: when politics and economics mix—Marxist businessmen  
13: A whim of history—the Koreas, and what happened to Japan?  
Ass: Read ch. 13  
18: Southeast Asia—stepchild, problem child or poster child?  
Ass: Read ch. 14  
20: Oceania—a wet region with an identity crisis  
25-29: SPRING BREAK
- April 1: Ethnic identity and conflict in Melanesia/Polynesia / Study Session for EXAM II  
3: EXAM II (ch. 10-13)  
Ass: Read ch. 6  
8: Africa: colonialism, and neocolonialism  
10: Africa: change and the future—the horrors of ethnic identity and conflict  
Ass: Read ch. 4  
15: Central & South America—the legacies of colonialism, spanish-style  
17: Economic growth, social and economic segregation and the world economy  
Ass: Read ch. 5  
22: The role of the Caribbean in world and regional affairs  
Ass: Read ch. 3  
24: North America—settlement, Eurocentrism and national identity / **Res. Paper Due**  
29: The changing role of the United States in the Americas—NAFTA & ethnicity
- May 1: Summary  
7: EXAM III (ch. 3-6) 12:45-2:45