

# Geography 15000 – World Regional Geography

## Tuesday/Friday, 12:45 PM to 2:00 PM

### Hunter West 510

Instructor: Coline Chevrin  
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Office hours: By appointment

#### **Course overview**

Regions are the spatial expression of physical geography, as well as economic, social and political relations. This course is a geographic approach to the world's regions most important issues considering their social and economic practices, their historical and political specificities, their cultural identities and environmental landscapes.

The course provides knowledge on how the different regions (e.g., South America, Europe, the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and others) interact with the global context; on the diversity of their trajectories and their specific development patterns. It develops critical analysis of the relationship among the different regions and on the link between space and societies. More broadly, the course aims to develop critical thinking regarding the concepts of development, globalization, sustainable development and situated knowledge.

Students will learn to use and analyze spatial data from maps, statistical tables, internet resources and press resources. They will have to follow world current debates and events and articulate them with the contents developed in class.

#### **Course objectives and learning outcomes:**

By the end of the course you will be able to:

1. Understand the links among people, places and regions.
2. Analyze the specificity of each world region and their relationship with each other using a wide variety of sources and material. Critically put in perspective those relationships regarding colonialism, globalization, development, environmental crisis and climate change.
3. Engage critically with development patterns and projects emerging from the different regions as a response to those challenges. Compare them and understand their historical and epistemological grounds.
4. Identify how race, class, gender and other factors can impact those relationships specifically.
5. Use fundamental geographical concepts (e.g. scale, place, space, region, borders) and methods (e.g. thematic maps, population pyramids, interactive digital maps) in order to develop your arguments.

#### **Email Policy**

I encourage you to email me with any questions about the class. When you email me, however, you must do so from your @myhunter email address. You must also sign your message with your name as it appears in CUNYfirst. I do not respond to personal email or to email without a signature. And remember to include “**GEOG 15000**” in your subject line. You should expect a response from me within 24 hours. But allow 48 hours over the weekend. Remember that professionalism is expected in the communication through email (I encourage you to check the website [netiquette](#) if you have any doubt).

### **Required Textbook**

Marston, Knox, Liverman, Del Casino, and Robbins. *World Regions in Global Context: Peoples, Places, and Environments*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Pearson Prentice Hall: 2017. ISBN: 10:0-134-18364-9.

### **Grading**

Final grades for the course will be determined according to the following percentages:

#### **Participation in class (10%)**

Class participation begins with regular attendance. You are required and encouraged to engage in the discussions. You will sign an attendance sheet for each day of class. If you are absent from class it is your responsibility to query your colleagues about the course material you have missed.

#### **Quizzes and assignments (20%)**

There will be three short quizzes over the course of the semester. The quizzes will be multiple choice and will cover the material taught in each period.

Students will have to write one short essay. The essay will be an analysis on one of the issues mentioned in class (500 to 700 words). Students will have to use knowledge from the class and other resources in order to develop articulated arguments. It will be the opportunity to evaluate their capacity to develop critical thinking on a specific topic.

#### **Exams (70%)**

There will be two exams this semester; a mid-term and a final exam. The mid-term will be during regular class-time and will count for 30% of your grade. The final exam will be based on the Hunter College official final exam schedule and will count for 40% of your final grade. Both exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions.

### **Policy on the Giving of IN as a Grade**

No incompletes (IN) for this course are given unless there are exceptional and documented individual circumstances. If you miss an exam, you must provide a documented reason and make arrangements to make up the work. If you have a documented extended absence due to illness or family emergency, you must make arrangements to complete an appropriate alternative assignment to the in-class discussions.

### **Credit/No Credit Policy**

To receive a CR/NC you must have completed all course requirements (exams, quizzes, etc.) and request the CR/NC option prior to beginning the final exam. Based on your final score you will be assigned a letter grade based on the numerical standards that can be found on the Hunter College homepage at <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/advising/how-to/file-credit-no-credit-cr-nc> (where you can also download a copy of the Credit/No Credit form) or in the undergraduate catalog at <http://catalog.hunter.cuny.edu/content.php?catoid=37&navoid=10489>.

### **Policy on the Use of Computers and Other Electronics**

Use of laptops, phones, and tablets in class for anything other than the taking of notes is **not permitted**.

### **Learning Environment:**

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with your legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

You are expected to treat your instructor and all other participants in the course with courtesy and respect. Your comments to others should be factual, constructive, and free from harassing statements.

You are encouraged to disagree with other students, but such disagreements need to be based upon facts and documentation (rather than prejudices and personalities).

### **Academic Integrity**

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

### **ADA Policy**

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: [\(212\) 772-4857](tel:212-772-4857) or [\(212\) 650-3230](tel:212-650-3230).

### **Mental Health:**

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are resources available at Hunter College to assist you. The Counseling and Wellness Services division at Student Affairs offer free and confidential short-term counseling to students. Please visit their website for all contact information: <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/cws/counselingservices/welcome>.

### **Hunter College Policy on Sexual Misconduct:**

In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

- a. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444).
- b. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose ([jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu) or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry ([colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu) or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123.

CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct Link:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/diversityandcompliance/repository/files/cuny-policy-on-sexual-misconduct.pdf>

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. Updates will be posted regularly on Blackboard.

## Preliminary Course Schedule

Date	Day	Topic
August 27 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Class introduction
August 30 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 1: World Regions in Global Context
September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 1: World Regions in Global Context
September 6 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 2: Europe
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 2: Europe
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 3: The Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasus
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 3: The Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasus
September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 4: Middle East and North Africa
September 24 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 4: Middle East and North Africa
September 27 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 5: Sub-Saharan Africa
October 1 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday	<b>No class</b>
October 4 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 5: Sub-Saharan Africa
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	<b>College closed</b>
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Special Topic
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Midterm Review
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Midterm
October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 6: The U.S and Canada
October 25 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 6: The U.S and Canada
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 7: Latin America and the Caribbean
November 1 <sup>st</sup>	Friday	Chapter 7: Latin America and the Caribbean
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 8: East Asia
November 8 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 8: East Asia
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Special Topic
November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 9: South Asia
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 9: South Asia
November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Friday	Chapter 10: Southeast Asia
November 26 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 10: Southeast Asia
November 29 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	<b>College closed</b>
December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tuesday	Chapter 11: Oceania
December 6 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Chapter 11: Oceania
December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Special topic
		<b>***FINAL EXAM***</b>