

World Regions in Global Contexts Geog 150
Fall 2023
T/Fr 10-11:15

Course Description:

A survey of the world's major regions. Geographic concepts and principles are used to study the physical, economic, social and political conditions and problems in the culturally diverse world. Spatial expression of culture; specialized behavior patterns; adaptations and way of life in distinct environments. Regional interdependence; implications for development.

Course Overview:

This course introduces you to the different regions of the world, their physical geography, climate, ecology, culture, people, politics, history, and economics. While the course does require you to know the countries and places in different regions, and a knowledge of such facts is important, emphasis will be given to several key socio-cultural issues and processes (in your textbook these are called “Geographic Insights”) that have shaped and are reshaping our world today. We will examine several historical and contemporary themes. Firstly, we will explore the impact of colonialism and imperialism in different regions and its impacts on those regions. We will also study contemporary themes such as globalization, migration, urbanization, trade, conflict, etc. and how these forces shape the different regions of the world. Ultimately, the course is not just about learning facts about regions but also (perhaps more) about understanding and critically examining the processes that shape and change the world. Having a broad and integrative approach to understanding cultural, economic, political and environmental phenomena will in turn allow for students to develop the critical thinking and reflective skepticism that can lead to environmental and social sustainability.

Instructor: Rose Moulton

Office: Hunter North 1032

Office Hours: On Zoom via appointment or in person in HN1032 on Thursdays from 2:30-5 pm

Best contact: by email: **Rose.Moulton@hunter.cuny.edu**

For appointments, please email me so that we can arrange a Zoom meeting at a mutually agreeable time.

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Learning Outcomes:

The course is designed to introduce learners to the regions of our shared planet from a geographical perspective. At the end of the course, learners will be able to

1. Identify and define the different world regions, as well as understand the gendered and religious legacies of the societies of each region
2. Analyze the historical, political, cultural, and economic relationships that each region has to the rest of the world
3. Identify and critically analyze models of social and economic development in each region and how these have changed over time
4. Clearly and effectively communicate about issues associated with social justice and development in each region in writing and verbal formats. Discuss developed and developing world urban models and the dynamics of urban planning

Required Textbook:

Pulsipher, L. M. and A. Pulsipher, eds. 2017. World Regional Geography Concepts, 6th edition. Edition. New York: Freeman.

ISBN-13: 978-0134183640

Additional required readings such as journal/newspaper articles will be posted on Blackboard. On occasion the lectures may be supplemented with videos, slides or guest lectures. Questions on any material covered in these presentations, readings or videos will be fair game for the exams. Several folders include additional required readings.

Grading:

Weekly assignments	60%
Weekly quizzes	10%
Midterm:	15%
Final:	15%

I do not give incompletes except in cases of legitimate documentable emergencies communicated in advance. If an emergency does arise, please inform me and your other professors ASAP. A grade of WU will be given to students who stop attending and neglect to withdraw from the course. A grade of WU will also be given to students who fail to complete sufficient work to justify awarding an earned grade. WU may affect your financial aid status.

Schedule of Topics, readings, and assignments:

Week 1: World Regions in Global Context: Read Chapter 1 **Assignments due 9/3**

Week 2: Europe: Read Chapter 2. **Assignments due 9/7**

Week 3: The Russian Federation, Central Asia, and the Transcaucasus: Read Chapter 3. **Assignment due 9/24**

Week 4: Middle East and North Africa: Read Chapter 4. Listen to podcast about the Geography of Water (available in link on Blackboard). **Assignments due 10/1**

Week 5: Sub-Saharan Africa: Read Chapter 5. **Assignments due 10/8**

Week 6: Latin America and the Caribbean: Read Chapter 7. **Assignments due 10/15**

Lectures on the 10/10 and 10/13 (give both as option

Week 7: Midterm exam—will be available 10/16-10/22 or the entire week but will be a timed exam that will only be available for a single attempt.

Week 8: East Asia: Read Chapter 8. **Assignments due 10/29**

Week 9: South Asia: Read Chapter 9. **Assignments due 11/5**

Week 10: Southeast Asia: Read Chapter 10. **Assignments due 11/12**

Week 11: Oceania: Read Chapter 11. **Assignments due 11/19**

Week 12: The United States and Canada: Read Chapter 6. **Assignment due Monday 11/22**

No class 11/23

Week 13: **Assignments due 12/3**

Week 14: **Assignments due 12/10**

Last day to turn in any late work 12/13

Week 15: Final exam

COURSE ETIQUETTE, EXPECTATIONS, AND SUPPORT RESOURCES

Please don't hesitate to email me with updates, questions, or concerns. I will typically respond within 24 hours during the week and 48 hours on the weekend. To the extent that I can, I will notify you if I will not be regularly monitoring emails due to travel or emergencies. In your emails, please use an informative subject line that includes your course name. This will allow me to best manage communication from different students across multiple courses. Please use common courtesy during lectures and discussion sections. Personal electronics may be only used for academic work connected to the lecture, such as referring to readings and taking notes.

I encourage you to meet with me on Zoom for office hours throughout the term to discuss any concerns you might have, to get clarification on assignments or course material, and for general academic advising. Using office hours does not mean that you are not smart nor that you are being a bother. It is part of my job and I am happy to try and answer questions and resolve issues through office hour meetings.

Grading and Other Essential Information:

- All written assignments will be submitted on Blackboard
- All written assignments will go through SafeAssign for plagiarism review
- Assignments submitted in any other way will not be graded
- Please use the posted grading rubric for guidance.
- There will be significant deductions in points given for late assignments. No points will be given for an assignment submitted more than a week late unless you have given me an ***excellent*** excuse.

- ***I do not give incompletes except in cases of legitimate documentable emergencies.*** Your grade at the end of the semester is your final grade
- If a documentable emergency situation arises that may result in the late submission of an assignment, please let me know as soon as possible via email and note it in the comments box on Blackboard when you do submit.
- Email Policy: I do check my email regularly and will respond promptly until 10 pm unless I am teaching a different class. I expect professional respectful communication via email.

Hunter College Policy on 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.

Hunter College's Policy on Students with Disabilities:

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 E1124 to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance please call (212- 772- 4857)/TTY (212- 650- 3230).

Hunter College Policy on Sexual Misconduct

In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College affirms 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 relationship. 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. 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, on contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444)

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 or 212-650-3262) of Colleen Barry 5 (colleen.barr7@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123. Policy on Sexual Misconduct can be found at <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/diversityandcompliance/title-ix>

Preferred Gender Pronoun

All people have the right to be addressed and referred to in accordance with their personal identity. In this class, we will have the chance to indicate the name that we prefer to be called and, if we choose, to identify pronouns with which we would like to be addressed. I will do my best to address and refer to all students accordingly and support classmates in doing so as well.

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.
- If changes are made to the syllabus, I will notify you via email through Blackboard. It is essential that you have your correct email linked to your Blackboard account and that you check your Hunter or other Blackboard-linked email regularly. Bounced emails will not be an acceptable excuse for not being aware of changes or any other communications to the class.