COURSE SYLLABUS

Summer 2013

(This syllabus is subject to change.)

Course Prefix/Number: GEA 2000 5493

Course Title: Nations and Regions of the World (Online)

Course Credit Hours: 3 Semester Hours

Instructor Name and Contact Information:

Wilbur Hugli, Ed.D.

Mon. (850) 499-5797, E-Mail: whugli@uwf.edu

Office Hours: Fort Walton Beach Campus, Room 455, Tues. & Thurs. 9-11am (online by request)

Prerequisites or Co-Requisites: N/A

Textbook:


Required Materials:

- Internet Access (broadband is recommended)
- Activated UWF ArgoNet E-mail Account

Course Description:

This is an issues-oriented world regional class that emphasizes geographic changes that accompany today’s rapid globalization. Throughout this course we will study the integrated physical, economic, social, and political considerations of the major natural globalization issues. There will be added emphasis on current events issues affecting the various regions of study. International English language newspapers and articles will be recommended for access to current physical and geo-political information. Narrated presentations will amplify and expand on text assignments. Some topics may be controversial. Students are
responsible for text material whether or not this material is entirely covered in narrated presentation. It is expected that the text and required readings will be completed prior to accessing the online class material. Students will be a primary source of information to be shared with the entire class through discussions and shared papers. Student discussion and mutual assistance is encouraged. Projects will be used to reinforce and develop geographic concepts.

course learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Define and be able to apply to use key concepts, ideas, and terms in each text chapter.
2. Identify and explain major geographic theories posed and applied by geographers.
3. Describe geographic, land use, urbanization, globalization, historic, cultural, and ethnic models and concepts and then be able to apply those models to current and future realms, regions, and the world.

program goals

This is a General Studies Course and it meets the Multicultural requirement for a number of degree programs.

Nations and Regions is designated as a General Studies course. The General Studies curriculum at the University of West Florida is designed to provide a cohesive program of study that promotes the development of a broadly educated person and provides the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in university studies. This course has been approved as meeting the requirement in the Natural Sciences area. The General Studies learning outcomes for this course are Critical Thinking, Analysis/Evaluation and Info Literacy. Taking notes during the narrated presentations will supplement and further describe, explain and clear up potential 'goofy' text references.

topics

Topics covered in this course include:

- Introduction to maps and concepts
- Europe
- Russia
- North America
- Middle America
- South America
- SubSaharan Africa
- North Africa and Southwest Asia
- South Asia
- East Asia
- Southeast Asia
- Austral and Pacific Realms

grading policy / evaluation
Grades

Total points possible will be 585.

Points Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Possible Points Each</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Papers</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project (choose 1 of 3 options)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions Intro (participation)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions (participation)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Integrity Quiz</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Possible Points</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>585</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated Points to letter-grade conversion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
<th>Maximum Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>550 points or better</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>520 to 549</td>
<td>A -</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>490 to 519</td>
<td>B +</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>460 to 489</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>430 to 459</td>
<td>B -</td>
<td>329 or less</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Detailed Evaluation Criteria

Reaction Papers

Ten one-page papers will be written and submitted as scheduled. Reaction papers will have a one-paragraph summary of a current geography article that you select and a one-paragraph individual reaction commentary. Remember to use or save in doc, docx, rtf, or pdf formats. For identification the subject and address elements must include: Name, GEA2000 Reaction Paper Nr. (insert number i.e. RP 1). There will be an eLearning Dropbox for each paper submission. You must click "Submit" to complete the upload process. **NOTE:** If you do not receive an email confirmation, your upload was not successful. Repeat the upload steps and remember to click the SUBMIT button. For instructions on uploading assignments to the Dropbox, visit this link: [Submitting Assignments to a Dropbox Folder](#).
Normally you will receive a grade entry within 48 hours. Self-assessment: Prepare and submit a practice reaction paper which will be returned with comment but not graded.

Reaction Papers will be graded 0 to 10. Scale: summary 0 to 3 pts (based on clarity and completeness); reaction 0 to 7 pts (based on clarity of reasoning, logic, and completeness of thought). (See the grading rubric)

Projects

You will have three options for completing your student project for this course. You will choose one of the options listed below as your project. Each of these options is comparable in complexity and comprehension of the concepts presented in this course and will require an equal amount of effort, regardless of the options you choose.

Option 1: This is a quiz formatted research-response project with a 2 hour time limit once opened. If you have carefully viewed the presentations and studied the text most, if not all, answers will be easily found. If you choose to use the internet to find answers use the most current data you find (not Wikipedia). It is possible that you will find multiple, recent changes, or overlapping answers to several questions and I will take this into consideration.

Option 2: The Survival project is designed to allow you to use all the geographic theories and concepts to create your 'world' Think what von Thünen, Jefferson, Spykman, Adams, et al, and common sense would say and do. Think both in and outside the box. Use your math skills in both your design and decisions - logic is important. Explain your design (who, what, when, where, why, and how). There is a map blank for your use. If you can visualize and dream this will be an easy project.

Option 3: For the writers - a formal research paper in current APA format. Cover sheet, 6 to 10 pages of cited work, and references. But it is also a place to apply the geographic concepts we've studied. assume that you are planning for sometime around 2030 and the population from Mobile to Panama City has increased by a factor of 4 (quadrupled). Pick one of these for your topical focus: Transportation and transportation corridors; Water resources based in a 125gal/per person/per day; Energy for living, work, and travel; Housing - what design, location, structure, amount, and support. Assume that the military missions, resources, and land/air use will not change. Your cost constraint is $1.5 Billion. Don't forget grammar and spell check before you proof read.

Threaded Discussions (Participation)

Discussions will be graded 0 to 3 for your initial posting. Then, you will receive another 0 to 3 for your participation in at least two other discussions. Discussion total value 10 pts each discussion. The final one point will be based on overall performance and effectiveness of the discussion. Discussions cannot be excused, repeated, or done late. (See the grading rubric in the Content area under Important Course Information.)

Tests

Final Exam: The final exam will be online essay formatted to evaluate student comprehension of concepts based on the text, presentations, discussions, and quizzes. Normally there will be four to five questions randomly selected from a question list. Remember to use spell-check and grammar check before submitting.
Quizzes: Online weekly quizzes will be available through eLearning. These quizzes are random generated (no two the same), time limited, and are graded online. Grades and missed questions will be provided to you for review. Carefully follow the instructions. Self-assessment: There will be a sort quiz for your practice and understanding of the quiz process but it will not be for recorded grade.

Unannounced quizzes may be used to test specific knowledge understanding based on text material. There will be no makeup for these quizzes.

Proctored Exam Information: There are no requirements for exams to be proctored in this course, however should the need arise, all of the information is located here: Proctored Exam Instructions for Students.

Late Work

Pay attention to the online element times and dates! Work and papers turned in late will be reduced by 10% in grade value. There is a separate Dropbox for late papers and projects submissions. (Note: Policy on makeup work and quizzes. Discussions cannot be made up. Plagiarism will result in a course failing grade. Cheating will result on a zero (0) grade on that material.

Attendance Policy

My electronic attendance and grade record are the official records for this class. If you have grade questions after you check the online grade book ask me for clarification. After I have submitted course grades may be too late.

- Participation in discussions and quizzes will also be used for attendance. The official attendance roster is my computer record. Individuals are responsible to make up work missed due to absences; however, this work may be graded with reduced points. If you cannot complete online work for a viable reason let me know beforehand via e-mail.
- Individual “extra credit” is not available because it has an adverse effect on the entire class.

Additional Information

- University students are adults who are responsible for their performance and class participation. You are at the university to learn and grow as an individual with integrity and self-worth. Inappropriate academic activity is counter to this growth and will also affect grades. You are responsible for performance and participation. The university absence-drop policy is applicable. If more than two online sessions in a row are missed after Drop/Add week students may be dropped from the class.
- Changes that affect the entire class will be sent using the ArgoNet Group Mail and the NEWS Bulletins on the course opening page in eLearning. Remember to have the ArgoNet account forwarded to your regularly used e-mail account if necessary.
- If you send me an e-mail, remember to include your name and class in the subject. I do not try to remember individual e-mail names and security screening software may view an e-mail as spam by mistake if instructions are not followed. Note taking handouts may be available in PDF format to download from the course material.
- Elluminate (Online Rooms) may be used for some presentations and communications. Please log into eLearning and work through the instructions under Technology Plug-ins, to familiarize yourself with this learning tool. If you plan to fully use Elluminate a video camera is advisable. If you use a video camera please insure that it is always seeing an appropriate view.
- Students are not authorized to place class notes or resources on the Internet or sell them to Internet sources. Copyright rules apply.

**Minimum Technical Skills and Special Technology Utilized by Students**

This course is totally online. All instructional content and interaction takes place over the Internet. In addition to baseline word processing skills and sending/receiving email with attachments, students will be expected to search the internet and upload/download files. In addition, students may need one or more of the plug-ins available for download on the Technology Plug-ins page.

**Expectations for Academic Conduct / Plagiarism Policy**


**Assistance for Students with Disabilities**

The Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) at the University of West Florida supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captions videos and podcasts, please notify the instructor or the SDRC as soon as possible. (Note: Presentations include student notes as part of the slides but not signing or captions.) You may contact the SDRC office by e-mail at sdrc@uwf.edu or by phone at (850) 474-2387. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the individual.

**Accessibility Resources**

- Follow this link for information on accessibility settings in eLearning.
- Follow this link for information on accessibility features in UWF's Learning Management System (LMS), Desire2Learn.

**TurnItIn**

UWF maintains a university license agreement for an online text matching service called TurnItIn. At my discretion, I will use the TurnItIn service to determine the originality of student papers. If I submit your paper to TurnItIn, it will be stored in a TurnItIn database for as long as the service remains in existence. If you object to this storage of your paper:

1. You must let me know no later than two weeks after the start of this class.
2. I will utilize other services and techniques to evaluate your work for evidence of appropriate authorship practices.
**Weather Emergency Information**

In the case of severe weather or other emergency, the campus might be closed and classes canceled. Official closures and delays are announced on the UWF website and broadcast on WUWF-FM.

- WUWF-FM (88.1MHz) is the official information source for the university. Any pertinent information regarding closings, cancellations, and the re-opening of campus will be broadcast.
- In the event that hurricane preparation procedures are initiated, the UWF Home Web Page and Argus will both provide current information regarding hurricane preparation procedures, the status of classes and the closing of the university.
- If you are not on campus monitor your local weather conditions for potential hazards.

Emergency plans for the University of West Florida related to weather or other emergencies are available on the following UWF web pages:

- Information about hurricane preparedness plans is available on the UWF web site: [http://uwfemergency.org/hurricaneprep.cfm](http://uwfemergency.org/hurricaneprep.cfm)
- Information about other emergency procedures is available on the UWF web site: [http://uwfemergency.org/](http://uwfemergency.org/)