COURSE SYLLABUS

Spring 2012

(This syllabus is subject to change.)

Course Prefix/Number: GEA 2000/0915

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. Some topics may be controversial. Classes, unless changed, will be open discussion format. Students are responsible for text material whether or not this material is entirely covered in lecture or 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 apply to geographic questions the key concept, ideas, and terms in each text chapter.
2. Identify and explain major geographic theories posed and applied by identified geographers.
3. Identify geographic, land use, urbanization, globalization, historic, cultural, and ethnic models and develop their application to the current and future realms, regions, and 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 Critical Thinking area. The General Studies learning outcomes for this course are Analysis/Evaluation and Info Literacy.

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 / Evaluation

Grades

University grade scale will be used based on the statistical norm conversion of points for work completed versus what could have been completed. Relative Value: Papers (35%), Projects (5%), Participation (20%), Tests (40%). Total points available will be approximately 400.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93% or better</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90% to 92%</td>
<td>A -</td>
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<tr>
<td>87% to 89%</td>
<td>B +</td>
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<tr>
<td>83% to 86%</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>80% to 82%</td>
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<tr>
<td>77% to 79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>73% to 76%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>70% to 72%</td>
<td>C -</td>
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<td>60% to 69%</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>50% or less</td>
<td>F</td>
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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. 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 (D2L) drop box for paper submission. If e-mailed, do not send these papers as attachments which will automatically be deleted. Normally you will receive a response e-mail or grade entry within 48 hours. If you do not receive a response within 72 hours I did not receive the paper – resend it.

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 APA ver 5 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. (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.

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. (Note: Policy on makeup work and quizzes. 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. There will be blank spaces in the grade book if that material has not been assigned. Some material is used in different sections.

- 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 attend class or complete online work for a viable reason let me know beforehand via e-mail.
- In both CONTENT and GRADES there are “LOCKED” or unassigned items. These, if not assigned, do not affect your grade. They are for use in other sections.
- 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 attendance. 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 attendance. The university absence-drop policy is applicable. If more than two classes or 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, please 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 software 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.
- Classrooms and meetings. Mobile telephones have no place in the classroom – turn them off unless you are an on-call emergency responder. Talking, texting, ‘grandstanding’, sleeping, tardiness, watching videos, and ungentlemanly/unlady-like conduct (etc.) is insulting and disruptive conduct.

**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 following plug-ins:

- Real Player: [http://www.real.com/realplayer/search](http://www.real.com/realplayer/search)
- For students’ using Screen Readers: Download Elluminate's Java Bridge: [https://www.elluminate.com/Support/Other_Resources/Java_Accessibility_Bridge/?id=368](https://www.elluminate.com/Support/Other_Resources/Java_Accessibility_Bridge/?id=368)
- eLearning’s Accessibility Resource Guides for users: [http://www.desire2learn.com/access/resources/](http://www.desire2learn.com/access/resources/)

**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-captioned videos and podcasts, please notify the instructor or the SDRC as soon as possible. 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](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html).
- Follow this link for information on [accessibility features in UWF's Learning Management System (LMS), Desire2Learn](http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/).

**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 cancelled. 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.

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
- Information about other emergency procedures is available on the UWF web site: http://uwfemergency.org/

Course Schedule and Assignments

Directions: Print this page for a comprehensive checklist of all assignments due for Nations and Regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Session / Topic</th>
<th>Course Material</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
2. View Narrated Presentation - Introduction | 1. Introduce yourself to the class in the Meet Your Classmates Discussion Forum Not Later Than 1/22 6pm  
2. Complete both discussions under the Introduction to Nations and Regions Discussion Forum by 1/22 6pm |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Quizzes/Discussion Due Dates</th>
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</table>
| 1/23 - 1/29      | Session 2 - Europe | 1. Read Chapter 1 - Europe  
                      2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1, 2 and 3 | 1. Complete Chapter 1 Discussion by 1/29 6pm  
                      2. Europe Quiz by 1/29 6pm. |
| 1/30 - 2/5       | Session 3 - Russia | 1. Read Chapter 2 - Russia  
                      2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1 and 2  
                      3. Locate and read Pravda (English version) online | 1. Complete Chapter 2 Discussion by 2/5 6pm.  
                      2. Russia Quiz, by 2/5 6pm.  
                      3. Reaction Paper 1 by 2/5 6pm. |
| 2/6 - 2/12       | Session 4 - North America | 1. Read Chapter 3 - North America  
                      2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1 and 2 | 1. Complete Chapter 3 Discussion by 2/12 6pm.  
                      2. North America Quiz by 2/12 6pm.  
                      3. Reaction Paper 2 by 2/12 6pm. |
| 2/13 - 2/19      | Session 5 - Middle America | 1. Read Chapter 4: Middle America  
                      2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1 and 2 | 1. Complete Chapter 4 Discussion by 2/19 6pm.  
                      2. Middle America Quiz by 2/19 6pm.  
                      3. Reaction Paper 3 by 2/19 6pm. |
| 2/20 - 2/26      | Session 6 - South America | 1. Read Chapter 5 - South America  
                      2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1 and 2 | 1. Complete Chapter 5 Discussion by 2/26 6pm.  
                      2. South America Quiz by 2/26 6pm.  
                      3. Reaction Paper 4 by 2/26 6pm. |
<p>| 2/27 - 3/4       | Session 7 -       | 1. Read Chapter 6 -                                                 | 1. Complete Chapter 6 Discussion by 3/4 |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/5 - 3/11</td>
<td>SubSaharan Africa</td>
<td>SubSaharan Africa</td>
<td>2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1 and 2</td>
<td>6pm</td>
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<td>3. Locate and read African News online.</td>
<td>3/4 6pm</td>
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<td>2. Sub-Saharan Quiz by 3/4 6pm</td>
<td>3/4 6pm</td>
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<td>3. Reaction Paper 5 by 3/4 6pm</td>
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<td>2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>2. North Africa &amp; SWA Quiz 3/11 6pm</td>
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<td>3. Locate and read Arab Daily News online.</td>
<td>3. Reaction Paper 6 by 3/11 6pm</td>
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<td>3/26 - 4/1</td>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>North Africa and Southwest Asia (continued)</td>
<td>1. Chapter 7 (continued)</td>
<td>1. Complete Chapter 7 Discussion Part 2 by 3/18 6pm</td>
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<td>2. Project</td>
<td>2. Reaction Paper 7 by 3/18 6pm</td>
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<td>3. Project due by 3/18 6pm</td>
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<td>4/2 - 4/8</td>
<td>11/11</td>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>1. Read Chapter 8 - South Asia</td>
<td>1. Complete Chapter 8 Discussion by 4/1 6pm</td>
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<td>2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1 and 2</td>
<td>2. South Asia Quiz by 4/1 6pm</td>
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<td>3. Reaction Paper 8 by 4/1 6pm</td>
<td>3. Reaction Paper 8 by 4/1 6pm</td>
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<td>4/9 - 4/15</td>
<td>12/12</td>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
<td>1. Read Chapter 9 - East Asia</td>
<td>1. Complete Chapter 9 Discussion by 4/8 6pm</td>
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<td>2. View Narrated Presentations - Parts 1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>2. East Asia Quiz by 4/8 6pm</td>
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<td>3. Locate and read China Daily News online</td>
<td>3. Reaction Paper 9 by 4/8 6pm</td>
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<td>1. Read Chapter 10 - Southeast Asia</td>
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<td>2. View Narrated</td>
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<td>12/12</td>
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<td>1. Complete Chapter 10 Discussion by 4/15 6pm</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Session</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<td>4/16 - 4/22</td>
<td>Session 13 - Austral and Pacific Realms</td>
<td>1. Read Chapters 11 &amp; 12 - Austral and Pacific Realms</td>
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<td>2. View Narrated Presentations Chapter 11 - Parts 1 and 2</td>
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<td>3. View Narrated Presentation Chapter 12</td>
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<td>4/23 - 4/27</td>
<td>Session 14</td>
<td>Open Discussion - If assigned by instructor</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Challenge Discussion Question - by 4/30 6pm.</td>
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<td>Final Exam available 4/22 - 4/30.</td>
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