



**University of Victoria
Department of Geography**

**World Regional Geography
GEOG 388, A01
Fall 2015**

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Class Location: Cornett Building, Room B111
Class Time: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 9:30am-10:20am
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10:30am-11:20am

Course Description

World Regional Geography provides students with an overview of the patterns and processes that have shaped the physical and human environments of different regions around the world. The primary aim of the course is to explore the cultural diversity and environmental variation of world regions from a geographic perspective. In particular, we shall consider the geographic dimensions of globalization, the uneven distribution of economic resources, the legacy of colonialism, cultural identity, and global environmental problems.

Course Objectives

- Introduce students to key geographic concepts so that they will be able to critically assess how geographic patterns and processes shape the lives of people and places around the world.
- Introduce students to different world regions in terms of their physical features, cultural landscapes, and position within the global economy.
- Guide students so they will be able to explain the similarities and differences between different world regions.
- Examine the basics of where world regions, countries and physical features are located on a world map.

Learning Outcomes

- Ability to identify and distinguish the location and key physical features of countries and the world regions.
- Ability to explain how the different regions and countries around the world are similar and different.
- Gain knowledge of the physical, historical, cultural, economic and social geographies of world regions.
- Develop an understanding of how and why the uneven distribution of economic resources can lead to global inequities.

Required Course Text

- Pulsipher, Lydia Mihelic & Alex Pulsipher. (2013). *World Regional Geography: Global Patterns, Local Lives*. Sixth Edition. New York: W. H. Freeman and Company.

Assignments and Grading Scheme

Your final grade will be based on the following calculation:

Attendance	10%
Map Quizzes	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	35%
Group Project	25%

Grading Scale:

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
90-100%	85-89%	80-84%	77-79%	73-76%	70-72%	65-69%	60-64%	50-59%	49% or Less

Undergraduate Grading**As per stated in the 2015-2016 Calendar

Details About Assignments

I. Attendance (10%):

Attendance will be taken during each class session. It is your responsibility to ensure you find the attendance sheet circulated during each class meeting and make sure you sign it. Prompt attendance is a professional responsibility and courtesy (see Academic Regulations in the UVic calendar).

II. Map Quizzes (10%):

There will be three map quizzes throughout the course of the semester (see Schedule below for dates). For each of these quizzes you will be given a blank outline map of a few regions that we have discussed in class and will be asked to label geographic

features such as countries, cities, water bodies, and physical features. Map quizzes will not be cumulative; each will include material covered since the previous quiz.

III. Midterm Exam (20%) and Final Exam (35%)

There will be two exams over the course of the semester (see schedule below for dates). The exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short-answer essay questions, and they will cover material from the lectures, readings, and films. The midterm exam will only include material covered from the beginning to the middle of the semester. However, there will also be a cumulative final exam at the end of the semester. For the final exam, you will be responsible for all material covered in the course from the beginning of the semester to the end. The final exam date/time/location will be announced during the semester. All class lectures will be posted by midnight the night before each class meeting on the UVic CourseSpaces website (<http://coursespaces.uvic.ca>). You are expected to attend lectures and take notes because some information (concepts, ideas, themes) will be discussed in the class that may not be on the lecture slides.

IV. Group Project (25%)

You are required to work in small groups on a group project for this course. I will assign you into groups and specify a region of the world for your group to focus on during the second week of class. Each group should find a place of cultural significance such as a restaurant, organization, business, art gallery, etc., within the city of Victoria that is associated with a particular country or region around the world. You should follow these instructions:

- Find out as much as you can about the social, cultural, and economic connections to the place or region you choose to research for this project. Below are a few questions to help you get started.
 1. If you select a restaurant, what type of food is served at the restaurant? Is the food that is served representative of the style of cuisine in the home country? Does the restaurant import foods/ingredients from the location it is associated with? What imagery and sounds do you observe in the restaurant? What does all of this mean with respect to the geographical diffusion of food cultures?
 2. If you select an organization, what is the purpose of the organization? Is it about raising funds? Why does the organization have an emphasis on a particular country/region? What sort of cultural images do you see the organization promoting?
 3. If you select a business, determine what types of products are sold in the store? Who is it catering to in the neighborhood? Does it import products from the country or region it is associated with?
 4. If you select an art gallery, try to find out why the gallery is promoting a specific place or selection of art pieces from a specific country/region? What meaning is attached to the place of art showcased? Is there some sort of profit that will benefit the people of the country/region it is associated with?

- Groups are expected to meet outside of class to work on the project, however there will be two class dates during the semester when groups will work on the project in class at which time they will also update me on their progress (see schedule below for group project work dates).
- As a group, you will be responsible for putting together a short 15 minutes presentation to show the class what you found for your group project. You can do a poster or a short powerpoint presentation. You should select 2 or 3 group members to represent the group for the presentation.
- In addition to the presentation, each group will write a short paper describing their findings and explain why they think the place they selected for their project is or is not an important cultural addition to the city of Victoria? Incorporating ideas/concepts/themes discussed during lectures, from the assigned reading in the course, and external sources is required for your paper and presentation. You should draw upon a fair balance of lectures, the course reading and external sources as you write the paper. Please do not use Wikipedia as a source (points will be deducted for this citation, as it is not a scholarly reference).
- The essay should be a total of 8-10 pages maximum, doubled-spaced, 12 pt font size, 2.54 cm margins with proper in-text citations. You should also include a separate reference page for external sources cited in the paper (APA style is required for any sources referenced in the paper). Each group must submit their paper on Friday, Nov. 20th as a printed hard copy (no electronic submission). No late papers will be accepted after the due date.
- Your presentation and paper will be evaluated based upon the following rubric:
 - a. Quality of content and linkages to lectures, the course reading and external sources
 - b. Structure and organization of presentation and paper
 - c. Grammar and spelling
 - d. Proper in-text citations and references

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of the term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

UVic's Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. It is expected that students, faculty members and staff at the University of Victoria, as members of an intellectual community, will adhere to these ethical values in all activities related to learning, teaching, research and service. Any action that contravenes this standard, including misrepresentation, falsification or deception, undermines the intention and worth of scholarly work and violates the

fundamental academic rights of members of our community. This policy is designed to ensure that the university's standards are upheld in a fair and transparent fashion.

Class Schedule

Day	Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
Week 1			
Wed	Sept 9th	Introduction	Review syllabus and course requirements
Fri	Sept 11th	Globalization, Population Growth & Urbanization	Read Pulsipher pg.9-12, 13-16, 19-21, 27-33, 52-57
Week 2			
Tues	Sept 15th	Human-Environment Interactions	Read Pulsipher pg.43-51, 40-45
Wed	Sept 16th	North America	Read Pulsipher pg.78-83, 86-94, 106
Fri	Sept 18th	Europe ***Assign into Groups for Project	Read Pulsipher pg.192-195, 202-206, 210-214
Week 3			
Tues	Sept 22nd	Europe	Read Pulsipher pg.215-225, 228-244
Wed	Sept 23rd	Latin America	Read Pulsipher pg.128-142
Fri	Sept 25th	Latin America	Read Pulsipher pg.142-159
Week 4			
Tues	Sept 29th	MAP QUIZ 1 GROUP PROJECT WORK I	*No Assigned Reading
Wed	Sept 30th	Caribbean	Read Pulsipher pg.165-168
Fri	Oct 2nd	Caribbean	*No Assigned Reading
Week 5			
Tues	Oct 6th	Short Film: Sell Off Suriname Short Film: Caribbean with Simon Reeve	*No Assigned Reading
Wed	Oct 7th	Russia & Newly Independent States	Read Pulsipher pg.250-253, 257-262
Fri	Oct 9th	Contemporary Russia	Read Pulsipher pg.253-257, 264-267
Week 6			
Tues	Oct 13th	Southwest Asia & North Africa	Read Pulsipher pg.315-330, 348-353
Wed	Oct 14th	Southwest Asia & North Africa	Read Pulsipher pg.301-316, 336-345
Fri	Oct 16th	MIDTERM EXAM	*No Assigned Reading

		Week 7	
Tues	Oct 20th	Sub-Saharan Africa	Read Pulsipher pg.360-375
Wed	Oct 21st	Sub-Saharan Africa	Read Pulsipher pg.388-395, 403-406
Fri	Oct 23rd	MAP QUIZ 2 GROUP PROJECT WORK II	*No Assigned Reading
		Week 8	
Tues	Oct 27th	Short Film: Zimbabwe Shadows & Lies Short Film: The Other Iraq	*No Assigned Reading
Wed	Oct 28th	South Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.416-418, 426-427
Fri	Oct 30th	South Asia	Read Pulsipher pg. 435-439, 443-445
		Week 9	
Tues	Nov 3rd	South Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.450-454, 456-459
Wed	Nov 4th	East Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.479-481, 487-492
Fri	Nov 6th	East Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.495-502
		Week 10	
Tues	Nov 10th	<i>Reading Break</i>	*No Class
Wed	Nov 11th	<i>Reading Break</i>	*No Class
Fri	Nov 13th	East Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.530-534
		Week 11	
Tues	Nov 17th	Southeast Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.543-546, 551-565
Wed	Nov 18th	Southeast Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.578-582
Fri	Nov 20th	Australia & Oceania GROUP PROJECT PAPER DUE	Read Pulsipher pg.591-596, 602-614
		Week 12	
Tues	Nov 24th	MAP QUIZ 3	*No Assigned Reading
Wed	Nov 25th	REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM ***Reminder: Complete CES Evaluation	*No Assigned Reading
Fri	Nov 27th	Film: China on the Rise	*No Assigned Reading
		Week 13	
Tues	Dec 1st	Group 1, 2, 3 Presentations	*No Assigned Reading
Wed	Dec 2nd	Group 4, 5, 6 Presentations	*No Assigned Reading
Fri	Dec 4th	Group 7, 8, 9 Presentations	*No Assigned Reading
Note: I reserve the right to make reasonable changes to the syllabus over the course of the semester.			

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.