



**University of Victoria
Department of Geography**

**World Regional Geography
GEOG 288, A01
Fall 2017**

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Class Location: Cornett Building, Room B112
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, political conflicts and global environmental problems.

Course Objectives

- Examine key geographic concepts in relation to human and physical geography.
- Critically assess how geographic patterns and processes shape the lives of people and places around the world.
- Explain the similarities and differences between different world regions in terms of their physical features, cultural landscapes, and position within the global economy.
- Explain how and why global inequalities are created from both historical and contemporary perspectives.

Learning Outcomes

- Ability to understand and use key geographical concepts.

- Describe similarities and differences in the human and physical dimensions of world regions.
- Ability to identify states, countries, regions and key physical features that characterize the different world regions.
- Develop critical thinking skills to explain how and why global inequities exist across different regions of the world.
- Learn basic qualitative research methods skills relating to interviews and developing questions for the process.

Required Course Text

- Pulsipher, Lydia Mihelic, Alex Pulsipher & Ola Johansson. (2017). *World Regional Geography: Global Patterns, Local Lives*. Seventh Edition. 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	25%
Final Exam	30%
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 2017-2018 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, etc. Map quizzes will not be cumulative; each will include material covered since the previous quiz. If you come to class, I will point out the key geographic features during the course lectures

which you could be asked on your map quizzes. The map quizzes are fun activities to test your knowledge of key physical features across the world regions.

III. Midterm Exam (25%) and Final Exam (30%)

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 lectures will be posted by midnight the night before each class meeting on the UVic CourseSpaces (<http://coursespaces.uvic.ca>). You are expected to attend lectures and take notes because some information relating to concepts, ideas, themes and examples that I will be discussing in the class may not be on the lecture slides. It is important to take notes in order to engage with the content presented in the course. Taking notes is a really important learning tool for studying as well. I highly recommend taking notes, and I also recommend coming to see me during office hours if you want to discuss any aspect of the course content even further to improve your learning. I am always here to assist in your learning of the course material.

IV. Group Project (25%)

You are required to work in small groups on a group project for this course. I will assign you into small groups (4-5 students depending on the class size) and specify a region of the world for your group to focus on during the fourth week of class. You **should pick a country within the region you are assigned** to help you focus your research for this project. 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 country within a specified 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 (i.e. the country or region)? 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 and/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 need to work together to visit the site (i.e. restaurant, organization, business, art gallery, etc.) that you have selected to focus your project. You should develop a list of interview questions to ask individuals at the location you are studying (such as business owners, patrons, workers etc.). Think about who you might have access to in order to ask a few questions that might be useful to your project.
 - Each group will also work together to write a paper describing their findings from the case study as well as incorporating ideas/concepts/themes discussed during class lectures and readings into the paper.
 - The essay should be a total of 8-10 pages 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). Please do not use Wikipedia as a source (points will be deducted for this citation, as it is not a scholarly reference). Each group must submit a hard-copy of the paper on **Friday, Nov. 10th**. No late papers will be accepted after the due date.
 - Your paper will be evaluated based upon the following rubric:
 - a. Quality of critical assessment of what you are seeing, observing and discussing in relation to the culture, people and place you conduct research on for your project.
 - b. Quality of content and linkages to lectures and course readings
 - c. Structure and organization of paper
 - d. Grammar and spelling
 - e. Proper in-text citations and references

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of the term you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. 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. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to <http://ces.uvic.ca>. You will need to use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. I will remind you nearer the time to complete the survey online and I will give you some time in class to complete it as well.

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. See website (<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-01/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcl.html>).

Plagiarism

All class assignments should be prepared by the student(s) submitting the assignment. Plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty, will not be tolerated in this course. Plagiarism consists of: (a) submitting someone else's work as your own without the use of proper citation or (b) paraphrasing another's ideas without acknowledging the author's work through citation. The use of an editor, whether paid or unpaid, is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization. If you have any questions concerning matters of plagiarism, please see the following link: <http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism/index.php>.

UVic's Accessibility Statement for Students with a Disability

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Resource Centre for Students with a Disability (RCSD) as soon as possible. The RCSD staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (<http://rcsd.uvic.ca>). The sooner you let me know your needs the quicker I can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

UVic Positivity and Safety Statement

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

Class Schedule

Day	Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
WEEK 1			
Wed	Sept 6 th	Introduction	Review syllabus and course requirements
Fri	Sept 8 th	(Quick Review) Globalization, Population Growth & Urbanization	Read Pulsipher pg.9-12, 30-39, 45-53, 55-58
WEEK 2			
Tues	Sept 12th	(Quick Review)	Read Pulsipher pg.12-29

		Human-Environment Interactions	
Wed	Sept 13th	North America	Read Pulsipher pg.62-63, 67, 79-86, 89-93, 96-100, 103-109, 112, 118-120
Fri	Sept 15th	Europe	Read Pulsipher pg.194-195, 198-200, 209-211, 215-220, 223-225
		WEEK 3	
Tues	Sept 19th	Europe	Read Pulsipher pg.228-236, 239-250
Wed	Sept 20th	Latin America	Read Pulsipher pg.130-131,133, 134-141, 144-155
Fri	Sept 22nd	Latin America	Read Pulsipher pg.156-163, 167-170
		WEEK 4	
Tues	Sept 26th	MAP QUIZ 1 ***INSTRUCTOR ASSIGNS STUDENTS INTO GROUPS FOR GROUP PROJECT	*No Assigned Reading
Wed	Sept 27th	Caribbean	Read Pulsipher pg.172-176
Fri	Sept 29th	Caribbean	*No Assigned Reading
		WEEK 5	
Tues	Oct 3 rd	Film 1: Inside Suriname	*No Assigned Reading
Wed	Oct 4th	Russia & Newly Independent States	Read Pulsipher pg.260-261, 264-278
Fri	Oct 6th	Contemporary Russia	Read Pulsipher pg.279-294
		WEEK 6	
Tues	Oct 10 th	North Africa & Southwest Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.312-313, 317-326, 328-340
Wed	Oct 11 th	North African & Southwest Asia	Read Pulsipher pg. 342-346, 349-358, 360-362, 366-371
Fri	Oct 13 th	REVIEW FOR MIDTERM EXAM	*No Assigned Reading
		WEEK 7	
Tues	Oct 17 th	MIDTERM EXAM	*No Assigned Reading
Wed	Oct 18 th	Film 2: The Secret Slaves of the Middle East	*No Assigned Reading
Fri	Oct 20 th	IN CLASS GROUP PROJECT WORK & UPDATE I	*No Assigned Reading
		WEEK 8	

Tues	Oct 24 th	Sub-Saharan Africa	Read Pulsipher pg. 374-375, 378-393
Wed	Oct 25 th	Sub-Saharan Africa	Read Pulsipher pg. 404-420, 427-430
Fri	Oct 27 th	MAP QUIZ 2 Film 3: Zimbabwe—State of Denial	*No Assigned Reading
		WEEK 9	
Tues	Oct 31st	South Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.436-437, 440-443, 451-455
Wed	Nov 1st	South Asia	Read Pulsipher pg. 461-469, 472, 480-484
Fri	Nov 3rd	IN CLASS GROUP PROJECT WORK & UPDATE II	*No Assigned Reading
		WEEK 10	
Tues	Nov 7th	East Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.496-497, 503-506, 510-517
Wed	Nov 8th	East Asia	Read Pulsipher pg. 527-531, 533-536, 553-559
Fri	Nov 10th	Film 4: The Rise of China—A New Superpower GROUP PROJECT PAPER DUE IN CLASS TODAY	*No Assigned Reading
		WEEK 11	
Tues	Nov 14th	<i>Reading Break</i>	*No Class
Wed	Nov 15th	<i>Reading Break</i>	*No Class
Fri	Nov 17th	Southeast Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.562-563, 569-573, 578-596
		WEEK 12	
Tues	Nov 21st	Southeast Asia	Read Pulsipher pg.607-612
Wed	Nov 22nd	Australia & Oceania	Read Pulsipher pg. 618-619, 621-626, 633-639
Fri	Nov 24th	Australia & Oceania	Read Pulsipher pg.640-652
		WEEK 13	
Tues	Nov 28th	MAP QUIZ 3 Film 5: This Is Our Country Too!	*No Assigned Reading

Wed	Nov 29th	REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM ***Reminder: Complete CES Evaluation	*No Assigned Reading
Fri	Dec 1st	TBA	*No Assigned Reading
Note: I reserve the right to make reasonable changes to the syllabus over the course of the semester.			

***Note: September 22 2017: Last day for adding courses that begin in the first term.

October 31 2017: Last day for withdrawing from first term courses without penalty of failure.