

GEO 1500-80: World Regional Geography

Winter 2014

Course Syllabus

Professor	Thomas Owusu
Email	owusut@wpunj.edu
Department	Geography & Urban Studies
Course Number & Section	GEO 1500-80
Phone	973 720 3655
Office & Office Hours	Raubinger 424; By Appointment Only

Course Overview:

This course is organized into two parts as follows: The first part focuses on basic concepts and methods of geography, and the application of these concepts and methods to the study and understanding of our world. The second part explores the geography of major regions of the world. Overall, this course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the economic, demographic, environmental, political, social, and cultural factors which have shaped the distinctive physical and human geographies of the different regions of the world.

Course Objectives:

At the end of the course you should:

1. Know the basic concepts and methods of geography
2. Know the demographic, economic, and environmental characteristics of world regions
3. Be able to differentiate between world regions in terms of key geographic characteristics
4. Be able to describe and discuss differences in development between world regions
5. Discuss the nature of the relationships between the major world regions
6. Understand some of the global processes and trends shaping the world today

Required Textbook:

Bradshaw, M; G. White; J. Dymond , & E. Chacko (2010) *Essentials of World Regional Geography (2nd Edition)* Boston: McGraw-Hill.

Evaluation

Exams (3)	80%
Report	10%
Participation	10%

Exams

Exam questions will be based on readings from the textbook and additional readings that may be assigned.

Report

Students will write a short report focusing on a country or region of the world. .

Participation

Students are expected to participate regularly and actively in this online course. This participation is expected to promote student-faculty and student-student interaction. Class participation will be in the form of your responses or comments to discussion questions on world regional geography. Discussion questions will post under Discussion Forum.

Grading Scale

A=90-100	A-=88-89	B+=86-87	B=80-85	B-=78-79	C+=76-77
C=70-75	C-=68-69	D=66-67	F= 65 and below		

Course Outline and Schedule of Readings

WEEK	TOPICS/CHAPTERS
1	Essentials of World Regional Geography (Chapter 1) South Asia (Chapter 6) Russia and Neighboring Countries (Chapter 3)
2	East Asia (Chapter 4) North Africa and Southwestern Asia (Chapter 7) Africa South of the Sahara (Chapter 8) Southeast Asia (Chapter 5)
3	Europe (Chapter 2) Latin America (Chapter 10) North America (Chapter 11)