

Geog 108 (10547)
Fall 2013
James L Sell, Ph.D.

COURSE SYLLABUS
Geography 108 World Geography
10:15-11:40am Tuesday/Thursday
Building 200 Room 208

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a general introduction to world geography and the issues examined by geographers on a world scale, including globalization. It will provide basic information on the physical and human geography of the world. It is expected that by the end of the course you will have some perspective on these regions and their place in world affairs. You also will be shown how professional geography provides insights into the examination of the world.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: Rowntree, Les, Lewis, Martin, Price, Marie, Wyckoff, William. 2014. Globalization and Diversity, 4th Edition. ISBN 978-0-321-82146-1

NOTE: The textbook is also available as an electronic version at this website:
<http://www.coursesmart.com/students>. CourseSmart rents a digital copy for \$53.

Course material (lecture outlines and readings) will also be posted on Blackboard Vista. However, this class is designed to strike a balance between textbook and lecture material, students are expected to have a thorough knowledge of both.

INSTRUCTOR: James L. Sell, Ph.D. University of Arizona

Instructor's Office: 1604A

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Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 10:00 – 11:00am

Tuesday/Thursday 12-1pm

Or by appointment

COURSE CONTENT OBJECTIVES: These objectives are part of the general geography curriculum.

1. Provide a view of regional geography as a way of understanding the world.
2. Introduce basic concepts in geography as an ecological, integrative area of study.
3. Examine the distribution of physical, economic, historic and cultural phenomena that provide the foundations of world geography today.

4. Develop an understanding of issues of importance to the current world situation, especially those relating to globalization, sustainability, and diversity

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This will be a regional introduction to the geography of the world. As such it will provide a sampling of the physical, cultural, economic, and political worlds that make up the human geography of the world. Within the context of the IVC learning objectives, students will be expected to:

1. Comprehend the relationships between physical and human geography as they come together in a regional context.
2. Understand the concepts critical to regional geography today – globalization, diversity, and sustainability.
3. Be able to research regional geography topics using the internet or other sources.
4. Answer these questions about the geographic environment: What is where? Why is it there, not elsewhere?

The underlying objective for this course is to understand today’s world as a place in which you will operate in future.

CLASS STRUCTURE

The class meets Tuesday/Thursday at 10:15 – 11:40am, in Room 208, Building 200. It is formatted as a lecture course. The examinations will be in “objective” format: multiple choice and map location questions. On occasion, special exercises will be conducted that will require students to work as individuals or groups. These will include reading, mapping and essay exercises.

GRADING

Student Grades will be based upon examinations, quizzes, and exercises. The proportion planned is as follows:

3 Regular Exams:	100 points*
Final Exam	50 points**
Exercises and Reports	80 – 100 points
<u>Quizzes or In-Class Exercises</u>	<u>20 – 40 points</u>
Total	250 – 290 points

* The regular exam with the lowest score will be dropped from the total; two will be retained.

****The final exam must be taken to complete the course; it cannot be dropped.**

Quizzes will be given at random through the course. They will be five points total. The purposes of the quizzes are to 1) provide an attendance check, and 2) to provide feedback

about the course material. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. They may be given at any time during the class

The exercises include short essays about current topics within regional geography and questions from the reading. They will also include mapping exercises to help you learn the locations of countries within the regions under study. Grading will be in terms of accuracy, organization and quality of thought, as well as writing and grammatical quality.

Make-up examinations will not be given. One missed exam score will be automatically dropped as the lowest score. Those people who miss more than one exam will receive a 0 for the second missed exam.

Late Policy. Assignments turned in after 5:00pm on the due date will lose 10% of their total possible points. Late assignments will not be accepted after the corrected assignments have been returned to the students. Medical and/or other legitimate reasons for absence or late work must have written documentation for relaxation of these requirements.

Grades will be assigned on the basis of a percentage scale adjusted for difficulty of the material. The highest total score in the class will be scored as 100%, and the grade percentages will be derived from that highest score.

A	93-100%
B	80-92%
C	65-79%
D	50-64%
F	below 50%

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND CONDUCT

Above all, students are expected to act with honesty and decorum, as representatives of Imperial Valley College. The instructor regards the following as serious violations:

1. **Plagiarism:** any attempt to knowingly or deliberately pass off another's work as your own. This includes **self-plagiarism**, which is turning in work done for previous assignments; all work done in this class is expected to be done for this class only.
2. **Cheating:** any attempt to gain an unfair advantage over one's fellow students. This includes copying other student work, using crib sheets, or hiring other people to write papers.
3. **Academic Collusion:** It is an academic offense for two or more students to work together on work assigned as individual projects. This includes allowing another student to copy your work. That is, **if you allow another student to plagiarize your work, you will receive the same punishment.**
4. **Fraud:** any attempt to deceive an instructor or administrative officer of the university.

Sanctions for misconduct will range from loss of credit for particular assignments, failing grades, to disciplinary action by the university.

DECORUM

Decorum is at its most basic level, respect for other people. This includes respect for all members and guests of the class. You will be expected to act as professionals. Failure to do so may not only lead to a failing grade, but to disciplinary action.

It is expected that **cell phones will be turned off, and there will be no text messaging or game playing during class**. Any actions that disturb others or threaten other members of class are not acceptable and will result in sanctions.

Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. DSP&S, Room 2117, Health Sciences Building, (760) 355-6312.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Topic	Text Chapter Readings
1	Introduction, Geography Concepts	1
2	Global Issues and Energy	2
3	Europe	8
4	East Europe and Russia	9
5	Russia and Central Asia	9,10
Examination 1 (September 19)		
6	Asia	11
7	South/Southeast Asia	12
8	Middle East	7
9	Africa	6
Examination 2 (October 24)		
10	Latin America	4
11	The Caribbean	5
12	North America	3
Examination 3 (November 21)		
13	North America/Mexico	3
14	Globalization and Sustainability	
15 Oral Reports (November 26-December 3)		
Final Examination: Thursday, December 5		