

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Winter Intersession 2016	Instructor Name:	Austen Thelen
Course Title & #:	World Regional Geography GEOG 108	Email:	austen.thelen@imperial.edu
CRN #:	15132		
Classroom:	Online	Office #:	1604 A
Class Dates:	January 5 – February 5, 2016	Office Hours:	By Appointment
Class Days:	Continuous through class dates	Office Phone #:	(760) 355-6537
Class Times:	Online - Asynchronous	Emergency Contact:	Elvia M. Camillo Staff Secretary Behavioral & Social Science Department Imperial Valley College 380 E. Aten Rd. Imperial, CA 92251 (760) 355-6144
Units:	3		

Course Description

World Regional Geography is a survey course which introduces students to the physical and cultural geographic aspects of the world's realms. Geography's interdisciplinary approach is used to analyze regions and illustrate their interdependence. (CSU,UC)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Analyze and compare cultures in terms of global population patterns. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO5)
2. Analyze current spatial geographic events using the Five Themes of Geography (ILO1, IOL2, IOL4)
3. Analyze the global economy in terms of regional production patterns (ILO2, ILO4, ILO5).

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Relate the 5 Themes of Geography to the World's regions.
2. Analyze the cultural and physical factors which divide the World into regions.
3. Compare worldwide geographic patterns using an atlas' thematic maps.
4. Appraise the impact and implications of regional problems on world political and economic orders.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

1. White et al. Essentials of World Regional Geography with Connect Access (3rd Edition) New York: McGraw Hill. ISBN 978-1-259-19234-0

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

In this course, we will utilize several methods of instruction, including lectures, the textbook, multi-media presentations, lab assignments (Google Earth), current events research and discussion, along with an in-class group project activity.

Lectures: Typical class meetings will consist of lectures, usually in the form of power point presentations. Students should attend all lectures having completed the assigned reading material on the given lecture topic. Students should take notes on the lectures. Template slides for organized note-taking are available on the course Blackboard page.

Textbook: All assigned readings from this course come from McKnight's Physical Geography Third California Edition, the required text. Students should read the assigned material before lectures related to the topics covered in the various reading assignments. Students must complete reading quizzes, covering the assigned readings, before each quiz's posted due date. The quizzes are taken online, via Blackboard.

Multi-Media Presentations: Videos and films will appear from time to time throughout the course. Publically available video content ("Youtube" videos for example) may also be assigned for viewing in lectures, or outside of class.

Lab Assignments: Students will complete three lab assignments using the program Google Earth, which is available for download free of charge (see the above link).

Current Events Research and Discussion: Each student must select one news article, or several news articles covering one event, that he or she finds relevant to one of the topics covered during the course of this semester. Instructions for completing current event assignments can be found on Blackboard.

Group (Individual) Project: Students will be divided into groups to complete a project, covering the topics of "Geographic Awareness." Students may complete this project in groups of 5 or fewer, any may choose to complete the project alone. Instructions for completing the project are available on Blackboard.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Midterm Exam: 85 points.

Final Exam: 85 points.

Quizzes: 11 quizzes worth 15 points each – 165 points.

Activities: 11 activities worth 5 points each – 55 points.

Discussion Forums: 11 discussion boards worth 10 points each – 110 points.

Student's Final Grades are based on 500 total points, figured by the following breakdown:

- 450-500 points – A.
- 400- 449 points – B.
- 350 – 399 points – C.
- 300 – 349 points – D.
- 299 points or fewer – F.

Late Assignments Policy: Any assignment in this course may be submitted after its due date, up until 11:59 pm on the last day of the course for 80% credit, except quizzes, which take a 2 point late deduction.

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.
- All students are responsible for maintaining their own enrollment status. Changes in status, drops for example, will not automatically be conducted by the instructor. Should circumstances merit prolonged periods of absence for any given student, he or she should notify the instructor regarding his or her intentions regarding course completion. Prolonged absences will not automatically result in a "drop" from the course.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.
- This course will require students to communicate using Blackboard. When doing so, please be respectful. Consider a good piece of advice regarding netiquette: if you wouldn't say it out loud, don't write it... think before you press submit (send)!

Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- [Blackboard Support Site](#). The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- [Learning Services](#). There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- [Library Services](#). There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

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. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- [Student Health Center](#). A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 for more information.
- [Mental Health Counseling Services](#). Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 January 5 - 9	Module 1: Geography Basics Module 2: Europe	Readings: Chapters 1 and 2 Assignments due January 10: Quiz 1, Discussion

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
		Board 1, Activity 1, Quiz 2, Discussion Board 2, Activity 2.
Week 2 January 10-16	Module 3: Russian and its Neighbors Module 4: East Asia Module 5: Southeast Asia	Readings: Chapters 3, 4 and 5 Assignments due January 17: Quiz 3, Discussion Board 3, Activity 3, Quiz 4, Discussion Board 4, Activity 4, Quiz 5, Discussion Board 5, Activity 5.
Week 3 January 17-23	Module 6: South Asia Mid-Term Exam Module 7: North Africa and Southwest Asia	Readings: Chapters 6 and 7 Assignments due January 24: Quiz 6, Discussion Board 6, Activity 6, Quiz 7, Discussion Board 7, and Activity 7. Midterm Exam: Must be completed between 12:00 am January 19 - 11:59 pm on January 23.
Week 4 January 24-30	Module 8: Sub-Saharan Africa Module 9: Australia and Oceania Module 10: Latin America	Readings: Chapters 8, 9 and 10 Assignments due January 31: Quiz 8, Discussion Board 8, Activity 8, Quiz 9, Discussion Board 9, Activity 9, Quiz 10, Discussion Board 10 and Activity 10.
Week 5 January 31 - February 5	Module 11 - North America Final Exam	Readings: Chapter 11 Assignments due February 5: Quiz 11, Discussion Board 11, Activity 11 Final Exam must be completed between February 1 at 12:00 am and February 5 at 11:59 pm.

Tentative, subject to change without prior notice