

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2020	Instructor Name:	Austen Thelen
Course Title & #:	Cultural Geography: GEOG 108	Email:	austen.thelen@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10987		
Classroom:	Online (Canvas)	Office #:	807 F
Class Dates:	August 17 – December 11 (Delayed Start to August 24)	Office Hours:	Monday – Thursday 1:00-2:00
Class Days:	Every Day	Office Phone #:	(760) 355-6537
Class Times:	Always Accessible	Emergency Contact:	Elvia M. Camillo Staff Secretary Behavioral & Social Science Department Imperial Valley College 380E. 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)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

There are no prerequisites for GEOG 108.

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. World Regional Geography, Caitlin Finlayson, 2016 ISBN: 1077115032 This textbook is available free of charge, as an open educational resource (OER). You do not need to purchase any materials to complete this course.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

In this course, we will utilize several methods of instruction, including lectures, the textbook, multi-media presentations, and current events research and discussion.

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 Canvas page.

Textbook: All assigned readings from this course come from White et al. Essentials of World Regional Geography

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.

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 Canvas.

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: 100 points.

Final Exam: 100 points.

Quizzes: 11 quizzes worth 10 points each – 110 points.

Current Event Reports: 4 reports worth 20 points each – 80 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 Work Policy: Any late assignments may be turned in for partial credit (up to 80%) before the end of the semester.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 0 August 17 - 22	Syllabus & Introduction	Acquire course materials, become familiar with Canvas and the course.
Week 1 August 23 - 29	Module 1: Geography Basics	Read Chapter 1 Module 1 Discussion and Quiz due August 28
Week 2 August 30- September 5	Module 2: Europe	Read Chapters 2 Module 2 Discussion and Quiz; Current Event Report 1 due September 4
Week 3 September 6- 12	Module 3: Russian and the Former Soviet Union	Read Chapter 3 Module 3 Discussion and Quiz; Current Event Report 2 due September 11
Week 4 September 13- 19	Module 4: North America	Read Chapter 4 Module 4 Discussion and Quiz due September 18
Week 5 September 20- 26	Module 5: Latin America	Read Chapter 5 Module 5 Discussion and Quiz due September 25
Week 6 September 27 – October 3	Module 6: Africa South of the Sahara	Read Chapter 6 Module 6 Discussion and Quiz due October 2
Week 7 October 4-10	Review Week	
Week 8 October 11-17	Mid-Term Exam	Mid-Term Exam due October 16
Week 9 October 18-24	Module 7: North Africa and Southwest Asia	Read Chapter 7 Module 7 Discussion, Quiz, and Current Event Report 3 Assignment due October 23
Week 10 October 25-31	Module 8: South Asia	Read Chapters 8 Module 8 Discussion and Quiz due October 30
Week 11 November 1-7	Module 9: East Asia	Read Chapters 9 Module 9 Discussion and Quiz due November 6

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 12 November 8-14	Module 10: Southeast Asia	Read Chapter 10 Module 10 Discussion and Quiz; Current Event Report 4 due November 13
Week 13 November 15-21	Module: 11: Oceania	Read Chapter 11 Module 11 Discussion and Quiz; due November 20
Week 14 November 22-28	Thanksgiving Break	
Week 15 November 29 – December 5	Module 12: Review Week	Read Chapter 12 Module 12 Discussion and Quiz due December 4
Week 16 December 6-11	Final Exam	Final Exam due December 11

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****

Attendance

What does it mean to “attend” an online class?

Attendance is critical to student success and for IVC to use federal aid funds. Acceptable indications of attendance are:

- Student submission of an academic assignment
- Student submission of an exam
- Student participation in an instructor-led Zoom conference
- Documented student interaction with class postings, such as an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction via modules
- A posting by the student showing the student's participation in an assignment created by the instructor
- A posting by the student in a discussion forum showing the student's participation in an online discussion about academic matters
- An email from the student or other documentation showing that the student has initiated contact with a faculty member to ask a question about an academic subject studied in the course.

Logging onto Canvas alone is NOT adequate to demonstrate academic attendance by the student.

- 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.

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, only students enrolled in the class may attend; children are not allowed.

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 (!!!!)].

How am I expected to act in an online "classroom" (especially Zoom)?

Attending a virtual meeting can be a challenge when there are many students on one conference call. Participating in such meetings may count as class attendance, but disruptive behavior may also result in you not being admitted to future meetings. Follow the tips below for best results:

1) Be RESPECTFUL

- a. Your written, verbal, and non-verbal communications should be respectful and focused on the learning topics of the class.

2) Find a QUIET LOCATION & SILENCE YOUR PHONE (if zooming)

- a. People walking around and pets barking can be a distraction.

3) EAT AT A DIFFERENT TIME.

- a. Crunching food or chugging drinks is distracting for others.
 - b. Synchronous zoom times are set in advance so reserve meals for outside class meetings.
- 4) ADJUST YOUR LIGHTING SO THAT OTHERS CAN SEE YOU**
- a. It is hard to see you in dim lighting so find a location with light.
 - b. If your back is to a bright window, you will be what is called “backlit” and not only is it hard on the eyes (glare) but you look like a silhouette.
- 5) POSITION THE CAMERA SO THAT YOUR FACE AND EYES ARE SHOWING**
- a. If you are using the camera, show your face; it helps others see your non-verbal cues.
 - b. You may be at home, but meeting in pajamas or shirtless is not appropriate so dress suitably. Comb your hair, clean your teeth, fix your clothes, etc. before your meeting time to show self-respect and respect for others.
- 6) Be READY TO LEARN AND PAY ATTENTION**
- a. Catch up on other emails or other work later.
 - b. If you are Zooming, silence your phone and put it away.
 - c. If you are in a room with a TV – turn it off.
- 7) USE YOUR MUTE BUTTON WHEN IN LOUD PLACES OR FOR DISTRACTIONS**
- a. Pets barking, children crying, sneezing, coughing, etc. can happen unexpectedly. It’s best if you conference in a private space, but if you can’t find a quiet place, when noises arise **MUTE** your laptop.
- 8) REMEMBER TO UNMUTE WHEN SPEAKING**
- a. Follow your instructor’s directions about using the “**raise hand**” icon or chat function to be recognized and to speak, but make sure you have unmuted your device.
 - b. Do not speak when someone else is speaking.
- 9) REMAIN FOCUSED AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING**
- a. Especially when the camera is on YOU, we can all see your actions. Engage in the meeting. Look at the camera. Listen to instruction. Answer questions when asked.
 - b. Do not use the Zoom meeting to meet with your peers or put on a “show” for them.
- 10) PAUSE YOUR VIDEO IF MOVING OR DOING SOMETHING DISTRACTING**
- a. Emergencies happen. If you need to leave the room or get up and move about, stop your video.

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 Services for Students

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.

- **CANVAS LMS.** Canvas is Imperial Valley College’s main Learning Management System. To log onto Canvas, use this link: [Canvas Student Login](#). The [Canvas Student Guides Site](#) provides a variety of support available to students 24 hours per day. Additionally, a 24/7 Canvas Support Hotline is available for students to use: 877-893-9853.
- **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 provides basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 or in Room 1536 for more information.

- **Mental Health Counseling Services.** Short-term individual, couples, family and group counseling services are available for currently enrolled students. Services are provided in a confidential, supportive, and culturally sensitive environment. Please contact the IVC Mental Health Counseling Services at 760-355-6310 or in the Room 1536 for appointments or more information...

Veteran's Center

The mission of the **IVC Military and Veteran Success Center** is to provide a holistic approach to serving military/veteran students in three key areas: 1) Academics, 2) Health and Wellness, and 3) Camaraderie. The Center also serves as a central hub that connects military/veteran students, as well as their families, to campus and community resources. The goal is to ensure a seamless transition from military to civilian life. The Center is located in Building 600 (Office 624), telephone 760-355-6141.

Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS)

The Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS) offers services such as priority registration, book grants, transportation assistance, individualized counseling, tutoring, and community referrals to eligible students. Our staff is available to assist and support students in navigating personal, psychological, academic, and/or career-related issues through empathy, cultural-competence, and a commitment to equity and social justice. Also under the umbrella of EOPS is the CARE (Cooperative Agency Resources for Education) Program, designed to serve single parents and assist with addressing issues that are particular to this population. Students that are single parents receiving TANF/Cash Aid assistance may qualify for our CARE program. For additional information about the EOPS or CARE Programs please contact our Program Office 760.335-6407 and/or visit our Program website www.imperial.edu/students/eops for eligibility criteria and application procedures. We look forward to serving you! - EOPS/CARE Staff

Student Equity Program

The Student Equity Program strives to improve Imperial Valley College's success outcomes, particularly for students who have been historically underrepresented and underserved. The college identifies strategies to monitor and address equity issues, making efforts to mitigate any disproportionate impact on student success and achievement. Our institutional data provides insight surrounding student populations who historically, are not fully represented. Student Equity addresses disparities and/or disproportionate impact in student success across disaggregated student equity groups including gender, ethnicity, disability status, financial need, Veterans, foster youth, homelessness, and formerly incarcerated students. The Student Equity Program provides direct supportive services to empower students experiencing insecurities related to food, housing, transportation, textbooks, and shower access. We recognize that students who struggle meeting their basic needs are also at an academic and economic

disadvantage, creating barriers to academic success and wellness. We strive to remove barriers that affect IVC students' access to education, degree and certificate completion, successful completion of developmental math and English courses, and the ability to transfer to a university. Contact: 760-355-5736 or 760-355-5733, Building 100. The Student Equity Program also houses IVC's Homeless Liaison, who provides direct services, campus, and community referrals to students experiencing homelessness as defined by the McKinney-Vento Act. Contact: 760-355-5736, Building 100.

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.