

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2016	Instructor Name:	Austen Thelen
Course Title & #:	World Regional Geography GEOG 108	Email:	austen.thelen@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20971		
Classroom:	Online	Office #:	1604 A
Class Dates:	February 16 - June 10, 2016	Office Hours:	Mondays and Wednesdays 3:30 - 5 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 - 9:30 am
Class Days:	All Days	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 video lectures, the textbook, learning unit activities, and discussion boards.

Lectures: Each module contains a set of lecture slides. The lectures vary in length and cover the themes of each learning unit. Students are required to review the lecture slides for each unit, and should watch the videos as well.

Textbook: All assigned readings from this course come from the required text. Students should read the assigned material that corresponds to each module.

Activities: Each module contains an activity, which enforces unit's content and key concepts. Activities consist of various questions and assessments that correspond with each unit's themes.

Discussion Boards: Students participate in each module's discussion board by posting original entries and responding to the entries posted by their classmates. Students must participate within a minimum of two separate discussion threads in each learning unit.

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, other than discussion posts or exams, in this course may be submitted after its due date, up until 11:59 pm on the last day of the course. Late quizzes lose 3 pts, late learning activities will lose 2% credit, per day late.

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 February 16 – February 19	Intro and Course Orientation	Read course syllabus, read course policies, attend live orientation session, or watch orientation video
Week 2 February 22 – February 26	Module 1: Geography Basics	Read Chapter 1, Participate in Discussion 1, Complete Quiz 1 and Learning Activity 1 by 11:59 pm on Feb 26
Week 3 February 29 – March 4	Module 2: Europe	Read Chapter 2, Participate in Discussion 2, Complete Quiz 2 and Learning Activity 2 by 11:59 pm on March 4
Week 4	Module 3: Russia and its Neighbors	Read Chapter 3, Participate in Discussion 3, Complete

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
March 7 – March 11		Quiz 3 and Learning Activity 3 by 11:59 pm on March 11
Week 5 March 14 – March 18	Module 4: East Asia	Read Chapter 4, Participate in Discussion 4, Complete Quiz 4 and Learning Activity 4 by 11:59 pm on March 18
Week 6 March 21 – March 25	Module 5: Southeast Asia	Read Chapter 5, Participate in Discussion 5, Complete Quiz 5 and Learning Activity 5 by 11:59 pm on March 25
Week 7 March 28 – April 1	Spring Break	
Week 8 April 4 – April 8	Module 6: South Asia	Read Chapter 6, Participate in Discussion 6, Complete Quiz 6 and Learning Activity 6 by 11:59 pm on April 8
Week 9 April 11 – April 15	Review Week	Review materials from modules 1-6 in preparation for the Mid-Term Exam
Week 10 April 18 – April 22	Mid-Term Exam	The Mid-Term Exam is available from 12:00 am April 16 to 11:59 pm on April 22
Week 11 April 25 – April 29	Module 7: North Africa and Southwest Asia	Read Chapter 7, Participate in Discussion 7, Complete Quiz 7 and Learning Activity 7 by 11:59 pm on April 29
Week 12 May 2 – May 6	Module 8: Sub-Saharan Africa	Read Chapter 8, Participate in Discussion 8, Complete Quiz 8 and Learning Activity 8 by 11:59 pm on May 6
Week 13 May 9 – May 13	Module 9: Australia and Oceania	Read Chapter 9, Participate in Discussion 9, Complete Quiz 9 and Learning Activity 9 by 11:59 pm on May 13

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 14 May 16 – May 20	Module 10: Latin America	Read Chapter 10, Participate in Discussion 10, Complete Quiz 10 and Learning Activity 10 by 11:59 pm on May 20
Week 15 May 23 – May 27	Module 11: North America	Read Chapter 11 Participate in Discussion 11, Complete Quiz 11 and Learning Activity 11 by 11:59 pm on May 27
Week 16 May 31 – June 3	Review Week	Review materials from modules 7-11 in preparation for the Final Exam
Week 17 June 6 – June 10	Final Exam	The Final Exam is available from 12:00 am on June 4 to 11:59 pm on June 10

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