



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2024	Instructor Name:	Curtis Blondell
Course Title & #:	Geography 108: World Regional Geography	Email:	Curtis.blondell@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20483	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	Online	Office #:	Alicia Arellano, staff secretary (760) 355-6144
Class Dates:	February 12 – June 7	Office Hours:	Online (Zoom), or in person by arrangement Thursdays 12:00-1:00pm
Class Days:	Everyday, 24hrs online	Office Phone #:	N/A
Class Times:	24hrs daily	Emergency Contact:	Alicia Arellano, staff secretary, Behavioral & Social Science Department, Imperial Valley College 380 E. Aten Rd. Imperial, CA 92251 (760) 355-6144
Units:	3	Class Format/Modality:	Asynchronous-Online Only

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. (C-ID: GEOG 108) (CSU/UC).

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

None.

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.
2. Analyze current spatial geographic events using the Five Themes of Geography.
3. Analyze the global economy in terms of regional production patterns.

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's thematic maps.
4. Appraise the impact and implications of regional problems on world political and economic orders.
5. Discuss globalization and sustainability by viewing the world's changing economic patterns.
6. Explain regional environment concerns as they relate to the course topics.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

1. de Blij, H.J and Muller, P.O.. 2013. Geography Realms, Regions, and Concepts. 16 John Wiley & Sons. ISBN: 1118673956.

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2. White, G.W. Dymond, J.P. Chacko, E. Scheidt, J. and Bradshaw, M., 2013. Essentials of World Regional Geography. 3rd McGraw Hill. ISBN: 0073369357.
3. Finlayson, C., 2019. World Regional Geography. 1 Independently Published. ISBN: 1077115032, 9781077115033.
4. Rowntree, L., Lewis, M., Price, M., Wychoff, W. . 2015. Diversity Amid Globalization . 6 Pearson. ISBN: 0-321-91006-0, 978-0321910066.

Other text resources:

Goode's World Atlas. 22nd Edition, Pearson Prentice Hall.

College Atlas of the World, 2nd Edition, Wiley Publishing & National Geographic.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

In this course, we will utilize several methods of instruction, including lectures, the textbook, multimedia presentations, current events, various research topics and discussion.

Lectures: Typical class meetings will consist of lectures, usually in the form of power point presentations. Students must attend/view all lectures having completed 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 the required text.

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

During the course of the semester, each student will need to complete multiple research assignments dealing with either current events, cultural specifics, demographic specifics, or environmental specifics relating to the various regions covered in the course. Instructions for completing these assignments can be found within the course modules on Canvas.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Midterm Exam: 100 points

Final Exam: 100 points

Quizzes: 11 quizzes worth 10 points each – 110 points

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

Research Assignments: 4 reports worth 20 points each – 80 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

Extra Credit: No extra credit except what is assigned at the instructor's discretion.

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Late Work Policy:

- Acceptance of late work is accepted at the discretion of the instructor.
- Late exercises or quizzes will be subject to a late penalty at the instructor's discretion.
- Makeup up exams (for absences that the instructor deems are a **valid** reason) must be arranged with the instructor, per IVC policies.
- **A request to retake an exam due to a failed internet connection or failing to take an exam within the allotted time will result in at minimum a 20- point deduction from the final score of the exam.**

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

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 importance 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 or utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) 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.



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Course Policies

Contacting your instructor:

Always send me email from your IVC email account, or via Canvas Inbox. Private emails may get lost in the IVC spam filter. The best email is: Curtis.blondell@imperial.edu.

ALWAYS make sure Subject Line Includes: Your Name, along with the name of this class. It is very important to let me know who you are and that you are taking this class, so I know the context of your email.

I make an effort to respond to emails ASAP, typically within hours. Do NOT expect an immediate response. If 48 hours pass and you do not get a response, send me another email.

Online Drop Policy:

As you may expect, attendance in an online class is a little bit different than in a live section. However, this class observes all of the IVC attendance policies related to enrollment and financial aid. Please see the IVC General Catalog if you need to review the following policies.

First Day Drops:

Because we do not have a firm meeting schedule in online classes, I consider you having attended the first day of class by accessing the Canvas site within 3 days of the first day of the term. If you do not access the site, or contact me by this time, then unfortunately you might be dropped from the course.

Late Work Policy:

Per the course syllabus, a student's grade is derived from points earned via the following assessments: Exams, Assignments, Reading Quizzes, and Discussion Posts, and other. It is each student's responsibility to complete assignments on time. Please refer to the following policies regarding late work.

Exams:

Exams (midterm and final) MUST be taken within their respective availability timeframes to receive credit. Please review the syllabus course (last page) for these times. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have a stable internet connection prior to starting an exam. **A request to retake an exam due to a failed internet connection or failing to take an exam within the allotted time will result in at minimum a 20-point deduction from the final score of the exam.**

Assignments and Reading Quizzes:

All assignments and reading quizzes may be completed up until the last day of the course (**or** otherwise indicated by the instructor) to be counted for points in the course. **Late point deductions will be assessed.**

Discussion Forum Posts:

Activity on the course's discussion forums must be completed by the end of the semester to be considered for credit. **Late deductions will be assessed.**

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.

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 (!!!!)].

Other Course Information

This course requires significant time dedication as students will be working individually. Helper videos have been created. However, students must be proactive in reaching out for assistance from the instructor. This can be done by emailing the instructor and arranging a Zoom consultation if necessary.

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

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- **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. Aside from resources you may find at IVC, a good writing resource is the [Purdue Owl](#) website.
 - **[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 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 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 building 1536 for appointments or more information.
 - The mission of the [IVC Military and Veteran Success Center](#) is to provide a holistic approach to serving military/veteran students on three key areas: 1) Academics, 2) Health and Wellness, and 3) Camaraderie; to serve as a central hub that connects military/veteran students, as well as their families, to campus and community resources. Their 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.
 - **[The Extended Opportunity Program and Services \(EOPS\)](#)** offers services such as priority registration, personal/academic counseling, tutoring, book vouchers, and community referrals to qualifying low-income students. EOPS is composed of a group of professionals ready to assist you with the resolution of both academic and personal issues. Our staff is set up to understand the problems of our culturally diverse population and strives to meet student needs that are as diverse as our student population. Also under the umbrella of EOPS our CARE (Cooperative Agency Resources for Education) Program for single parents is specifically designed to provide support services and assist with the resolution of 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 on CARE please contact [CARE](#).



EOPS provides additional support and services that may identify with one of the following experiences:

- Current and former foster youth students that were in the foster care system at any point in their lives
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Formerly incarcerated students

To apply for EOPS or for information on EOPS services, please contact [EOPS](#).

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Note that this syllabus is subject to modification during the course.

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 February 12 – February 17	Module 0: Syllabus & Introduction Introduce yourself in Canvas by February 15 (required or be dropped)	➤ Acquire course materials (download free textbook). ➤ Become familiar with Canvas and the course. ➤ Introduce yourself in Canvas by February 15 (required)
Week 2 February 20 – February 24	Module 1: Introduction to Basic Geographic Concepts	➤ Read Preface & Introduction. Module 1 Discussion and Quiz due February 24 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 3 February 26 – March 2	Module 2: Europe	➤ Read Chapter 2 Module 2 Discussion and Quiz due March 2 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 4 March 4 – March 9	Module 3: Russia and the former Soviet Union	➤ Read Chapter 3 Module 3 Discussion and Quiz due March 9 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 5 March 11 – March 16	Module 4: North America	➤ Read Chapter 4 Module 4 Discussion and Quiz due March 16 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 6 March 18 – March 23	Module 5: Mexico, Central & South America	➤ Read Chapter 5 Module 5 Discussion and Quiz due March 23 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 7 March 25 – March 30	Module 6: Sub-Saharan Africa	➤ Read Chapter 6 Module 6 Discussion and Quiz due March 30 at 11:59 p.m.



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
April 1 – April 6	Spring Break!	Enjoy!!
Week 9 April 8 – April 13	Midterm Review	➤ Research Assignment #1 due April 20 at 11:59 p.m. ➤ Research Assignment #2 due April 20 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 10 April 15 – April 20	MIDTERM EXAM	➤ Midterm exam due April 20 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 8 April 22 – April 27	Module 7: North Africa and Southwest Asia	➤ Read Chapter 9 Module 6 Discussion and Quiz due April 27 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 11 April 29 – May 4	Module 8: South Asia	➤ Read Chapter 8 Module 8 Discussion and Quiz due May 4 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 12 May 6 – May 11	Module 9: East Asia	➤ Read Chapter 9 Module 9 Discussion and Quiz due May 11 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 13 May 13 – May 18	Module 10: Southeast Asia	➤ Read Chapter 18 Module 10 Discussion and Quiz due May 18 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 15 May 20 – May 25	Module 11: Oceania	➤ Read Chapter 19 Module 11 Discussion and Quiz due May 25 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 16 May 28 – June 1	Review for Final	➤ Research Assignment #3 due June 7 at 3:00 p.m. ➤ Research Assignment #4 due June 7 at 3:00 p.m.
FINAL WEEK June 3 – June 7	FINAL EXAM	Final Exam due June 7 at 3:00 p.m. All course work due at 3:00 p.m.

Subject to change without prior notice