Course description (from catalog): Broad investigation of the world's culture regions. Basic cultural, demographic, economic, political, and physical patterns, with current events highlighted.

Class meeting place and time, attendance: many students are off campus; no required face-to-face meetings; attendance is noted through quiz/discussion participation; regular login is highly recommended. For the official policy see: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class-attendance-and-excused-absence-6.7.pdf


Grading: 90-100% = A; 80-90% = B; 70-80% = C; 50-70% = D.

90% weekly quizzes (~7.5% per quiz) – Twelve daily quizzes related to modules; quizzes are made available on calendar dates below; they are due anytime, including late night (11:59pm), on the next bold date on the calendar (usually the next day) – for example, Introduction to Geography, open May 13th, is due anytime Tuesday, May 14th. No late submissions accepted but lowest 20% (three) of quizzes are dropped. Missing four or more quizzes will add a zero to your average!

10% discussions – students respond to material posted in five discussion areas, worth 2% each. This is a relatively easy area in which to receive full credit. Further guidelines are posted in the discussion areas.

Calendar

May 13th Introduction to Geography
May 14th Physical Geography
May 15th Human Geography
May 16th Regional Geography
May 17th Sub-Saharan Africa (Discussion 1 due)
May 20th North Africa/Southwest Asia

May 21st South and East Asia (Discussion 2 due)
May 22nd SE Asia/Oceana
May 23rd Russia/Eastern Europe (Discussion 3 due)
May 24th Western Europe
May 27th South and Middle America (Discussion 4 due)
May 28th North America (Disc.5 due) (Disc.6 due 29th)

Acceptable Student Behavior: Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Please see student conduct policy D-34.1K: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf Course-specific policy: Final grades may be dropped 5% or more for not following class protocol. Examples include, but are not limited to, incivility in online discussions, such as disrespectfully claiming another student’s post is ignorant, stupid, etc.

Make-up quizzes/exams/Drop Policy: Students will not be given a make-up exam without written documentation of unavoidable issues submitted prior to the exam. Students should note drop deadlines in the schedule of classes. For the official policy see: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-add-drop_6.10.pdf

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54) Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in later semesters the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for computing grade point average. For official policy please see: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades.pdf
Academic Integrity (A-9.I) Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www2.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Student (Course) Learning Outcomes (SLOs) (most of these will be covered in each world region)
After successfully completing this course, a student will be able to:

1. Identify on a map the world's major culture regions, such as religion, language, dominant economic sector, continents and subcontinents.
2. Describe and/or graphically illustrate the demographic transition, including example nations in each stage and dominant economic sectors that relate to each stage.
3. Describe and/or illustrate the population pyramid and how it differs among developed/developing nations.
4. Identify areas of the world's major political trends such as democracy, oligarchy, devolution, balkanization, supra-nationalism, high and low social services, changing gender roles, and human rights issues.
5. Identify on a map the world's major physical patterns, including climate and landform processes such as glaciers, plate tectonics, and river systems for each region.
6. Identify on a map the location of the major global hotspots for biological and cultural diversity.
7. Describe globalization, including positive and negative examples from each world region or continent.
8. Identify locations and underlying geographic and historical issues behind major current events

Program Learning Objectives (PLOs) Geography
PLO 1. The student will be able to prepare written and verbal presentations presenting geographical research using the analyses and synthesis of appropriate documents and primary data.
PLO 2. The student will possess geographic literacy as evidenced by the identification of the major concepts involved with human spatial and ecological relationships.
PLO 3. The student will be able to apply geographical knowledge and skills to a variety of settings.
PLO 4. The student will recognize implicit assumptions behind claims of knowledge about the spatial world, will be able to evaluate and distinguish between strong and weak arguments, and draw conclusions from a set of premises.
PLO5. The student will be able to read geographic research and identify methodological strengths and weaknesses.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLOs</th>
<th>Supported Course Objective</th>
<th>Skill Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLO1</td>
<td>1-8</td>
<td>Basic</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLO2</td>
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<td>Basic</td>
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<td>PLO3</td>
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<td>PLO4</td>
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<td>PLO5</td>
<td>1-8</td>
<td>Basic</td>
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GEO 1303 “World Regional Geography” (3 credits; fully online) spans 2.5 weeks. Students have daily reading assignments of modules, are expected to take daily 20-25 question online quizzes based on reading, and are required to participate in five online discussions, in each posting once about the material and once in response to a student. These activities are estimated to average four to five hours of work per week.