

World Regional Geography -- Fall 2003
Geography 110 –008 MWF 11:15 – 12:05
Instructor: Dr. David J. Keeling Office: 304
Phone: 745-4555 Email: david.keeling@wku.edu
Graduate Assistant: Sara All (EST 358)

Text: World Regional Geography: Global Patterns, Local Lives, Second Edition, by Lydia Mihelic Pulsipher and Alex Pulsipher. A good world atlas is also strongly recommended for this course. Both can be found at the bookstore on campus, and probably the others as well. **IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO READ AND STUDY THE TEXTBOOK TO RECEIVE A PASSING GRADE IN THIS CLASS!**

Geography 110 - World Regional Geography is a 3-hour course that fulfills the Category E, World Cultures, requirement for general education. It is also a requirement for the Geography Major and Minor.

Course Objective: World Regional Geography has become a standard general education course in many colleges and universities due to the importance of producing geographically literate college graduates.. This course is an introduction to geographical concepts as they apply to the world's regions. During the semester we will conduct a general survey of the political, social, economic, physical, and ecological systems of the world while applying the five main themes of geography: Location, Place, Human Environment Interaction, Movement, and Regions.

Grading Scale: 90 - 100% = A, 80 - 89% = B, 70 - 79% = C, 60 - 69% = D, 0 - 59% = F. The Instructor reserves the right to curve or not to curve final grades depending upon the class average and individual attendance. A total of 500 points are available during the semester.

Exams and Quizzes: There are six exams (including the final exam) throughout the semester. Each exam is worth 60 points (total 360 points). Exams cannot be made-up unless the absence is excused. *Advanced notice is required* except in emergency situations for any missed exam. Exams will be announced at least one week in advance. Ten quizzes (10 points each) are given throughout the semester during the regular class period (one for each chapter). Quizzes CANNOT be made up if you miss one or more. The two lowest-scoring quizzes are dropped.

Geographic Research Assignment: Students will complete one research essay worth 60 points (details are provided later in a separate handout). Your typed essay will be at least three pages in length. It will have an introduction, two opposing points of view, your personal point of view (formed after careful research), and a conclusion. Spelling, grammar, sources and content will all be analyzed during the grading process.

Class Attendance and Participation: Regular class attendance is very important in this course. Although much of the material for exams comes from the book, there will also be a significant amount from the lectures, presentations, slides, and videos. Poor attendance almost always results in a poor grade. If you find that you cannot attend class on a regular basis, it may be better to withdraw from the course. Because of the importance of class participation, five percentage points will be deducted from your final grade for every absence after the 3rd absence (e.g., if you miss 5 classes, you are penalized 10%, or one letter grade). If you have more than 6 absences you will automatically fail the class. We will be staying the whole class period unless I run out of things to say, so please be courteous and do not start putting your stuff away until class is over, as this is disruptive and rude. If you need to leave before class concludes, you **MUST** discuss this with me before class begins. **PLEASE TURN OFF PAGERS AND CELL PHONES DURING CLASS. Receipt of this syllabus constitutes a contract between you and the Department**

Schedule Change Policy: The Department of Geography and Geology strictly adheres to University policies, procedures and deadlines regarding student schedule changes. It is the sole responsibility of the students to meet all deadlines in regard to adding, dropping, or changing the status of a course. Only in exceptional cases will a deadline be waived. The student schedule exception appeal form shall be used to initiate all waivers. This form requires a written attachment of appropriate documentation. Poor academic performance, general malaise, or undocumented general stress factors are not considered as legitimate circumstances.

World Regional Geography

Date	Tentative Schedule*
August 18 -22	Thinking Critically about Geography and Chapter 1: <i>Geography: An Exploration of Connections</i>
August 25- 29	Chapter 2: <i>North America</i>
Sept. 2-5	Continue Chapter 2 and Exam I (Sept. 1 Labor Day)
Sept. 8-12	Chapter 4: <i>Europe</i>
Sept. 15 - 19	Chapter 4: <i>Europe</i>
Sept. 22 – 26	Exam II and Chapter 5: <i>Russia and the Newly Independent States</i>
Sept. 29- Oct. 1	Continue Chapter 5 (Oct. 2-3 Fall Break)
Oct. 6-10	Chapter 3: <i>Middle and South America</i>
Oct. 13-17	Chapter 3 continued and Exam III
Oct. 20-24	Chapter 6: <i>North/Africa Southwest Asia</i>
Oct. 27-31	Chapter 7: <i>Sub-Saharan Africa</i>
Nov. 3-7	Exam IV and Chapter 7: <i>Sub-Saharan Africa</i>
Nov. 10-14	Chapter 8 and Chapter 9: <i>South Asia and East Asia</i>
Nov. 17-21	Chapter 9 continued and Exam V
Nov. 24 –25	Chapter 10: <i>Southeast Asia (Nov. 26-28 Thanksgiving Holiday)</i>
Dec. 1-5	Chapter 10 continued and Chapter 11: <i>Oceania: Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific</i>
Dec. 8-12	Final Exam: Tuesday December 9, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

*Your instructor reserves the right to change the schedule as needed.