

Geography 101: World Regional Geography

Instructor: Dr. Claire Jantz
Office: 116 Shearer Hall
Phone: 717-477-1399
E-mail: cajant@ship.edu
Website: <http://webspace.ship.edu/cajant>

Office Hours:
MW 1:00-3:00
T 3:00-4:00
Or by appointment

Mission statement for the Geography-Earth Science Department

The Geography-Earth Science Department at Shippensburg University is committed to student learning and personal development through innovative teaching, high quality field application, and use of geotechnology in all aspects of departmental programs. These commitments will deepen students' appreciation of Geography-Earth Science, encourage life-long learning, and enable Geography-Earth Science majors to teach at the middle/secondary level, to enter a geography-earth science related professional career, or to pursue a higher degree.

Textbook (required):

World Regional Geography without Subregions, 5th ed (2011). By Lydia M. Pulsipher and Alex Pulsipher. W.H. Freeman and Company: New York.

Textbook website: <http://bcs.whfreeman.com/pulsipher5e/>. The textbook website provides valuable study tools, self-tests and quizzes. It is an excellent resource to help you prepare for quizzes, exams, and discussions.

Course description:

This course offers a broad introduction to world regions, and we will approach the study of these regions from a geographical perspective. For each region of the world, we will investigate the landforms and physical geography, natural resources, climate, population patterns, human impacts on the environment, economy, cultural landscapes, and patterns of development.

Course objectives:

- To understand the geographic approach and basic geographic concepts
- To build geographic literacy
- To learn to use maps to study and understand geographic patterns of human and natural phenomena
- To understand world events in a geographic context and to analyze current events in a scholarly manner
- To practice and improve writing, reading, and note-taking skills

General Education Objectives:

Shippensburg University provides students with a general education that prepares them not only for their classes within their majors but most with "an awareness and understanding of the principles and intellectual skills associated with the disciplines contained in each category which are necessary for a comprehensive education and for a well-educated individual" (Shippensburg University Undergraduate Catalog 2011). This course is a category D general education course (the Political, Economic, and Geographic Sciences). Objectives for category D courses are:

- Use geographic tools (e.g. graphs, maps, data sets, models, etc.)
- Investigate interactions among individuals, sub-groups or states
- Compare and contrast interactions among individuals, sub-groups or states
- Demonstrate an international perspective when examining the policies that individuals, sub-groups and states adopt under various scenarios of interaction

Course Structure, Grading, and Other Requirements

Course structure, readings and lectures: The course schedule will closely follow the topics in the textbook. The readings will be supplemented and augmented by lecture material, classroom activities, and current events assignments. To achieve your best grade in this class, it is therefore strongly recommended that you complete all readings, attend every class, participate in class, and take notes. This course is not designed to be hard, but we will cover a great deal of material. If you get behind, it may be difficult to catch up later. If you find you are having difficulty with the material, come see me during office hours or schedule an appointment. It is important that you are proactive and address problems early!

Grading: Your grade will be based on your performance on the following exams, quizzes and assignments:

Three 100-point exams	300
Attendance	50
Current events assignment	25
On-line quizzes	40
Map quizzes	80
Homework/In-class assignments	50
Total points	550

To determine your final grade, your total points will be converted to a percentage score and will be assessed with the +/- system using this scale:

Percentage	Grade
93-100%	A
90-92%	A-
88-89%	B+
83-87%	B
80-82%	B-
78-79%	C+
70-77%	C
60-70%	D
<60%	F

Exams: There will be three non-cumulative 100-point exams (see schedule), for a total of 300 points (~55% of your total grade). You are expected to take exams at the scheduled time. Only very unusual circumstances (e.g. family emergency, serious illness) are acceptable reasons for missing an exam and **MUST** be documented. The exams dates are noted on the course schedule. If you know you will miss an exam due to a University sanctioned event or a religious holiday, you **MUST** notify me prior to the exam date. Make up exams may differ from the original. Make up exams will only be allowed for excused absences and must be taken as soon as possible either before or after the scheduled exam date. During an exam, all materials, including books, papers, cell phones, etc., must be put away. If classes are cancelled on an exam day, the exam will be given on the first meeting when classes resume.

Attendance: Attendance is critical for you to achieve your best grade and is therefore required. Fifty points (~9% of your total grade) is allotted for attendance. I will periodically take attendance at each class meeting. After three unexcused absences, each additional absence will result in a *10% deduction from your attendance grade (5 points)*. Please note that there is a difference between an explained absence and an excused absence. An explained absence is "My car broke down" or "I have a doctor's appointment" and will still be counted as an absence—but remember you get three "freebies." An excused absence is an absence due to a University sanctioned event or a religious holiday. Family and health emergencies will also be considered. It is your responsibility to provide me with proper documentation for your absence. If extenuating circumstances arise that will result in multiple absences (more than 3), please contact me or your college Dean for advice.

On-line Quizzes: There will be nine 5-point quizzes given on-line on D2L throughout the semester (due by 5pm on the scheduled due date). These quizzes will consist of a set of multiple choice/true-false/matching questions (usually 10 questions). Your lowest quiz score will be dropped, so on-line quizzes will constitute 40 points (~7% of your final grade). You will have a one-week window to complete each on-line quiz. There are NO make ups for missed quizzes. There is a quiz study guide posted on D2L.

Map quizzes: There will be 9 10-point map identification/matching quizzes. These will be taken in class on the dates noted on the schedule. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped, so map quizzes will constitute 80 points (~15% of your final grade). Make up quizzes will only be allowed for documented, excused absences. There is a quiz study guide posted on D2L.

Homework/In-class assignments: Throughout the semester there will be occasional homework or in-class assignments for you to complete, each worth 5 or 10 points each for a total of 50 points (~9%). Some of these will be completed through D2L or on-line. These will be announced in class and on D2L.

Current events assignment: This exercise will be fully explained in an additional handout.

Late policy: A late penalty will be applied to assignments turned in late, at a rate of a 10% grade reduction per day (including weekend days). I will not accept any assignments that are more than one week late. Assignments should be handed directly to me or to the Geography-Earth Science Department secretary, Judy Mentzer (Shearer Hall 104, 8:00-4:30), who will date-stamp your assignment and put it in my box.

Electronic resources:

D2L: Electronic materials for this class are distributed via D2L. Most of the documents that are handed out in class will also be available on Blackboard, including this syllabus and the course schedule. Announcements and grades will also be posted. You are *strongly* encouraged to take advantage of this resource.

E-mail: I may send important announcements to your Shippensburg University e-mail account. You will be held responsible for this information and should therefore check your e-mail regularly. I am generally very responsive to e-mails from students, although please allow 24 hours for a response from me before re-sending a question or request. I often will not respond to e-mails over the weekend. Please use professional etiquette when writing an e-mail to me and I will do likewise when I respond. *In e-mails, please include your full name and class meeting time.*

Regarding lecture materials: I will use PowerPoint lectures regularly in this class and will post those files as PDF documents on Blackboard. These lecture slides *are not* a substitute for taking good notes in class. Because my lecture material is constantly under development, PowerPoint slides may not be available until after the lecture.

Academic Integrity:

I expect your work in all facets of this course to adhere to University and Geography Earth-Science Department standards of academic honesty. If you are unfamiliar with University policies regarding such matters, please review the Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism sections at the following web page: <http://www.ship.edu/catalog/>. Note that academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to:

1. Submitting another student's work as your own; also providing another student with your work.
2. Bribing or attempting to bribe, faculty or staff personnel in order to attain an unfair academic advantage.
3. Possessing course examination materials prior to administration of the examination by the instructor without the instructor's consent.
4. Using unauthorized materials or devices such as crib notes during an examination.
5. Providing and/or receiving unauthorized assistance during an examination.
6. Using a substitute to take an examination or course.
7. Allowing others to conduct research for you or prepare your work without advance authorization from the instructor, including, but not limited to, the services of commercial term paper companies.

8. Intentionally and without authorization falsifying or inventing any information or citation in an academic exercise, such as making up data in an experiment or observation.

As stated in the student handbook, plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. Shippensburg University will not tolerate plagiarism and I will make every effort to discourage it, including using plagiarism detection software on D2L. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of another writer's own words, facts, ideas, or other materials in your own writing. When other writers' words or materials—even short phrases or specific terminology—are used, you should put these words inside quotation marks and you should then cite the source of the quotation either in the text of your writing or in footnotes. When the ideas of another writer are restated in your own words (paraphrased), you should also indicate the source of the paraphrased material in your own text or in footnotes. Citations should also be made for borrowing from media other than printed texts, such as websites, lectures, interviews, broadcast information, or computer programs.

Failure to adhere to these academic honesty policies will constitute an alleged instance of academic dishonesty, and I will pursue resolution through the Dean of Students. For first-time offenders, documentation of the offense will be placed in your confidential student file; multiple offenses may result in expulsion from Shippensburg University.

Some additional important notes:

1. Disruptive behavior of any sort, including disruptions caused by personal electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, hand-held computers, laptops, IPODS, etc.), will not be tolerated under any circumstances and will result in grade reductions up to and including an “F” and/or expulsion from the course. During exams, NO electronic devices of any kind are permitted.
2. When you are in class, your cell phones should be turned off or in silent mode (not vibrate). Students SHOULD NOT send text messages during class. NO TEXTING!! If you are observed texting in class, I reserve the right to deduct points from your grade.
3. Laptops if used in class should ONLY be used for note taking; no web browsing, FB, or on-line shopping, etc.! Violation will result in a forfeit of laptop privileges and the potential for grade reductions.
4. Please come to class on time. Consistently arriving late to class will result in grade reductions at my discretion.
5. For your privacy, I do not discuss grades over the telephone or via e-mail, so please do not ask. I will not return phone calls or e-mails on this subject.
6. If a due date for an exam or assignment is missed due to a University closure (for weather or other reasons), the activity will be due / made-up during the first class period after the closure. Please note that only the President’s office makes such decisions, and class will or will not be held on the basis of the President’s decision. Information regarding closures or schedule changes is available at 717-477-1200 or on the University’s webpage (<http://www.ship.edu>).
7. Accommodations can be made for those students with documented disabilities and who wish accommodations to be made. Please do the following during the first week of classes so that we can discuss your situation and make arrangements that fit your personal needs: (a) Schedule an appointment with me and, in preparation for our meeting, please: (b) Write down some suggestions that will allow us to structure a way for you to: maximize your class participation; complete the readings, assignments, and examinations to the best of your ability and in a comfortable way; and/or attend to any other issues that are relevant in your particular case.
8. If you expect to be absent during the semester for the observance of specific religious holidays, please provide me, in writing (e-mail is okay, but not by phone), with the dates on which you will be absent by the end of the first week of classes.

Geo 101: World Geography
Spring 2012 Course Schedule (tentative)

WEEK 1, Jan. 16-20		
<i>Monday 1/16</i> NO CLASS (MLK Day)	<i>Wednesday 1/1</i> <u>Topic:</u> Course introduction <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 1	<i>Friday 1/20</i> <u>Topic:</u> Foundations of geography and regional geography <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 1
WEEK 2, Jan. 23-27		
<i>Monday 1/23</i> <u>Topic:</u> Foundations of geography and regional geography <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 1	<i>Wednesday 1/25</i> <u>Topic:</u> Foundations of geography and regional geography <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 1	<i>Friday 1/27</i> <u>Topic:</u> Middle and South America <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 3 Due: Quiz 1, Chapter 1
WEEK 3, Jan. 30 – Feb. 3		
<i>Monday 1/33</i> <u>Topic:</u> Middle and South America <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 3	<i>Wednesday 2/1</i> <u>Topic:</u> Middle and South America <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 3	<i>Friday 2/3</i> <u>Topic:</u> Middle and South America <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 3 Due: Quiz 2, Chapter 3 Due: Current events—Middle and South America
WEEK 4, Feb. 6-10		
<i>Monday 2/6</i> <u>Topic:</u> Middle and South America <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 3	<i>Wednesday 2/8</i> <u>Topic:</u> Europe <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 4	<i>Friday 2/10</i> <u>Topic:</u> Europe <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 4 Due: Quiz 3, Chapter 4 Due: Current events—Europe
WEEK 5, Feb. 13-17		
<i>Monday 2/13</i> <u>Topic:</u> Europe <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 4	<i>Wednesday 2/15</i> <u>Topic:</u> Europe <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 4	<i>Friday 2/17</i> EXAM 1, Chapters 1, 3 and 4
WEEK 6, Feb. 20-24		
<i>Monday 2/20</i> <u>Topic:</u> Russia and the Newly Independent States <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 5	<i>Wednesday 2/22</i> <u>Topic:</u> Russia and the Newly Independent States <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 5	<i>Friday 2/24</i> <u>Topic:</u> Russia and the Newly Independent States Due: Quiz 4, Chapter 5 <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 5
WEEK 7, Feb. 27 – Mar. 2		
<i>Monday 2/27</i> NO CLASS (conference)	<i>Wednesday 2/29</i> NO CLASS (conference)	<i>Friday 3/2</i> <u>Topic:</u> Russia and the Newly Independent States <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 5 Due: Current events—Russia and the NIS

WEEK 8, Mar. 5-9		
<i>Monday 3/5</i> <u>Topic:</u> North Africa and Southwest Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 6	<i>Wednesday 3/7</i> <u>Topic:</u> North Africa and Southwest Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 6	<i>Friday 3/9</i> <u>Topic:</u> North Africa and Southwest Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 6 Due: Quiz 5, Chapter 6 Due: Current events—N Africa and SW Asia
WEEK 9, Mar. 12-16		
<i>Monday 3/12</i> NO CLASS (Spring Break)	<i>Wednesday 3/14</i> NO CLASS (Spring Break)	<i>Friday 3/16</i> NO CLASS (Spring Break)
WEEK 10, Mar. 19-23		
<i>Monday 3/19</i> <u>Topic:</u> North Africa and Southwest Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 6	<i>Wednesday 3/21</i> <u>Topic:</u> Sub-Saharan Africa <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 7	<i>Friday 3/23</i> <u>Topic:</u> Sub-Saharan Africa <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 7 Due: Quiz 6, Chapter 7 Due: Current events—Sub-Saharan Africa
WEEK 11, Mar. 26-30		
<i>Monday 3/26</i> <u>Topic:</u> Sub-Saharan Africa <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 7	<i>Wednesday 3/28</i> <u>Topic:</u> Sub-Saharan Africa <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 7	<i>Friday 3/30</i> EXAM 2, Chapters 5, 6 and 7
WEEK 12, Apr. 2-6		
<i>Monday 4/2</i> <u>Topic:</u> South Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 8	<i>Wednesday 4/4</i> <u>Topic:</u> South Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 8	<i>Friday 4/6</i> <u>Topic:</u> South Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 8 Due: Quiz 7, Chapter 8 Due: Current events—South Asia
WEEK 13, Apr. 9-13		
<i>Monday 4/9</i> <u>Topic:</u> South Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 8	<i>Wednesday 4/11</i> <u>Topic:</u> South Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 8	<i>Friday 4/13</i> <u>Topic:</u> East Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 9
WEEK 14, Apr. 16-20		
<i>Monday 4/16</i> <u>Topic:</u> East Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 9	<i>Wednesday 4/18</i> <u>Topic:</u> East Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 9	<i>Friday 4/20</i> <u>Topic:</u> East Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 9 Due: Quiz 8, Chapter 9 Due: Current events—East Asia
WEEK 15, Apr. 23-27		
<i>Monday 4/23</i> <u>Topic:</u> Southeast Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 10	<i>Wednesday 4/25</i> <u>Topic:</u> Southeast Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 10	<i>Friday 4/27</i> <u>Topic:</u> Southeast Asia <u>Reading:</u> Ch. 10 Due: Quiz 9, Chapter 10 Due: Current events—Southeast Asia
WEEK 16, Apr. 30 – May 4 Finals week, exam time TBA EXAM 3, Chapters 8, 9, and 10		