

Parkland College

Geography Courses

Social Sciences and Human Services Courses

4-1-2018

Geography 140 World Geography Syllabus Spring 2018

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Recommended Citation

Ferguson, Brooke, "Geography 140 World Geography Syllabus Spring 2018" (2018). *Geography Courses*. 3.
https://spark.parkland.edu/geo_courses/3

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World Geography (GEO 140-001H)
Hybrid course - 3 credit hours
Monday/Wednesday 10:00-10:50am
Room D-233

Instructor: Brooke Ferguson

Office: D-184, (217) 351-2527

Office Hours: 8:30-9:30am Monday or by appointment

Email: BFerguson@parkland.edu

Please contact me through Parkland's email system (and not a private email account), and make sure to indicate which course you are in when emailing.

Course Overview:

Geography is the study of the physical and human processes which shape our world. As a world citizen, you should be able to identify the basic components of a world region and be aware of the issues they are facing. This knowledge is increasingly important as the world continues to become more globally interconnected.

The purpose of this course is to explore the world in which we live through the examination of several world regions. It would be impossible to cover all aspects of every part of the globe, therefore it is my goal as the instructor to provide you with an overview of several aspects which constitute the region: economics, politics, population trends, migration, the environment, physical regions, contemporary issues, and distinctive landscapes.

Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) Course Description: World places and peoples: world regions examined for their cultural response to the physical environment. Emphasis on technologically developed regions.

Course General Education Goals:

G1 Develop an informed appreciation of other cultures

G2 Develop an openness to new ideas

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course you will be able to:

O1 Define the term and concept of 'geography'

O2 Identify all countries of the world, as well as major cities and major physical features

O3 Understand the cultural elements of race, language, religion, economics, and politics

O4 Know how a region's population utilizes their environment and natural resources

O5 Understand how inequality (gender, racial, economic) operates in world regions

O6 Analyze maps displaying various features, human and physical, of a world region

Textbook:

Joseph Hobbs, Fundamentals of World Regional Geography, 4th Edition

An atlas is recommended (but not required) for this course

Grading:

Exams: There will be two midterm exams and one final examination on campus. Each exam covers a set of world regions, and therefore is not cumulative (including the final). Exams will be worth 50 points each. Exam material will be from the lecture notes, textbook readings, and class discussions/lectures; it is your responsibility to read the material and attend class. (Course Objective 1)

Map Quizzes: Ten map quizzes will be given on campus during the semester. Dates of these quizzes are on the semester schedule. Each quiz will be worth 20 points and will consist of country/city location and identification. (Course Objectives 2 and 6)

Media Response Assignments: Throughout the semester, we will view short videos (assigned both inside and outside of class) and which reinforce or highlight different issues. A written response to a video and participation in related class discussion are required. You must be in attendance to receive credit for these assignments. Each assignment will be worth 15 points. (Course Objectives 3, 4, and 5)

Misconception/Preconception Check: Twice during the semester (exact dates will not be announced to encourage attendance) you will be completing a misconception/preconception check of attitudes about a specific world region. A survey will be administered on Cobra for full credit on this assignment. Misconception/preconception checks will be worth 15 points each. (Course General Education Goals 1 and 2)

News Article Discussion Post: Each student will post a news article each week on Cobra, as well as respond to other students' postings. The topic for the week will be given in class on Monday, and posts must be made by 11:59pm on Friday of the week which we will cover that topic. News article guidelines will be posted to Cobra. Each discussion will be worth 15 points. (Course Objectives 3-6)

Course Grade Determination:

Exams	3	150
Map Quizzes	10	200
Media Responses	3	45
Misconception/Preconception Check	2	30
Discussion Posts	12	180

Total points possible for this course is 605. Points will be converted to a percentage to determine the final grade. Course grades will follow the standard grading scale: 100 - 90%(A), 89-80% (B), 79-70% (C), 69 60% (D), below 60% is a failing grade. There will be no extra credit opportunities at the semester's end.

Course Policies:

Attendance: I will not take a formal attendance; however, all assignments, quizzes, and exams hinge on your commitment to attending class. Class begins promptly at 10:00; being excessively late is rude and disruptive for everyone, and may result in missing a quiz or assignment hand-in. Phones, tablets, and like devices should be silent and put away during class (i.e., no texting or you will be asked to leave). Notes may not be taken on a laptop computer or lectures recorded without the instructor's permission. In the event of a class absence, you are responsible for getting notes and other important information from a classmate. Late work will not be accepted.

Decorum: All students in class, as well as faculty, are entitled to respect from others in the classroom regardless of race, sex, religion, ethnicity, gender, disability, or any aspect of their background. You should feel comfortable commenting on issues we may discuss while in the classroom. This course will cover several controversial and/or sensitive topics you should be prepared to encounter as an adult.

Missing A Quiz: In the event of an anticipated absence, you may take a quiz **before** you miss a class, not afterward. You must discuss and arrange this with me in advance to receive credit for any excused, missed work. I may ask for documentation of your absence before allowing a quiz to be taken outside of regular class time.

Students with Disabilities: If you have not yet registered with the Office of Disability Services, but believe you have a disability for which you may need an academic accommodation (e.g. an alternate testing environment, use of assistive technology or other classroom assistance), please contact the office at 217-353-2338 or disabilityservices@parkland.edu.

If you are a student that is already registered with the Office of Disability Services and you have questions or concerns, please contact § Kristen Stephens, Disability Services Coordinator (U263) at 217-353-2337 or kstephens@parkland.edu § Laura Wright, Disability Services Coordinator (U265) at 217-351-2588 or lwright@parkland.edu

General Help: If you have any questions about the policies, or any class work throughout the semester, please feel free to contact me or visit during office hours. I am happy to help you with any class concepts you may be struggling with. Additionally, don't wait until the end of the semester to check your grade. Grade information and other course documents will be posted to Cobra. Again, there will be no last-minute extra credit assignments to try and boost a bad grade.

Additional Policies: Please see the following [syllabus addendum](#) from the Vice President for Academic Services, containing policies which apply to all Parkland College students.

DATE	DAY	LECTURE	EXAM/QUIZ/DISCUSSION
8/21	Mon	Syllabus and Introduction	
8/23	Wed	Europe – Area and Population	
8/25	Fri		No Discussion This Week
8/28	Mon	Europe – Physical Geography	
8/30	Wed	Europe – Cultural, Historic, and Economic Geography	Map Quiz: Europe
9/1	Fri		Europe Discussion 1 Due by 11:59pm
9/4	Mon	No Classes	Labor Day
9/6	Wed	Europe – The European Core	
9/8	Fri		Europe Discussion 2 Due by 11:59pm
9/11	Mon	Europe – Northern Europe	
9/13	Wed	Europe – Southern Europe	Map Quiz: South Asia
9/15	Fri		Europe Discussion 3 Due by 11:59 pm
9/18	Mon	Europe – Eastern Europe	
9/20	Wed	EXAM 1	Exam 1: Europe
9/22	Fri		No Discussion This Week
9/25	Mon	Russia – Area and Population	
9/27	Wed	Russia – Physical Geography	Map Quiz: Russia/CIS
9/29	Fri		Russia Discussion 1 Due by 11:59 pm
10/2	Mon	Russia – Cultural, Historic, and Economic Geography	
10/4	Wed	Russia – The Core	
10/6	Fri		Russia Discussion 2 Due by 11:59 pm
10/9	Mon	Russia – The Far East/Siberia	
10/11	Wed	Russia – Central Asia	Map Quiz: N.Africa/SW Asia
10/13	Fri		Russia Discussion 3 Due by 11:59 pm
10/16	Mon	North America – Area and Population	
10/18	Wed	North America – Physical Geography	Map Quiz: Sub-Saharan Africa
10/20	Fri		North America Discussion 1 Due by 11:59 pm
10/23	Mon	North America – Cultural, Historic, and Economic Geography	
10/25	Wed	North America - Canada	
10/27	Fri		North America Discussion 2 Due by 11:59 pm
10/30	Mon	North America – Eastern U.S./The South	
11/1	Wed	North America -The Midwest	Map Quiz: U.S. and Canada
11/3	Fri		North America Discussion 3 Due by 11:59 pm
11/6	Mon	North America – The West	
11/8	Wed	EXAM 2	Exam 2: Russia/North America
11/10	Fri		No Discussion This Week
11/13	Mon	Developed Asia – Area and Population	

11/15	Wed	Developed Asia – Physical, Cultural, Historic and Economic Geography	Map Quiz: East Asia
11/17	Fri		Developed Asia Discussion 1 Due by 11:59 pm
11/20	Mon	Developed Asia – Japan and Taiwan, Developed China	
11/22	Wed	Developed Asia – South Korea	Map Quiz: Latin America
11/24	Fri		Developed Asia Discussion 2 Due by 11:59 pm
11/27	Mon	Australia and New Zealand – Area and Population, Physical Geography	
11/29	Wed	Australia and New Zealand – Cultural, Historical, and Economic Geography	Map Quiz: Southeast Asia
12/1	Fri		Australia and New Zealand Discussion 1 Due by 11:59 pm
12/4	Mon	Australia and New Zealand - Australia	
12/6	Wed	Australia and New Zealand – New Zealand	Map Quiz: Oceania
12/8	Fri		
12/11-15	Mon	EXAM 3	Exam 3: Developed Asia/Australia & NZ