

WORLD GEOGRAPHY
Geography 1303, Section A9
Spring 2010

Blinn College -Bryan Campus
Course Information Sheet

Instructor: Ms. Susan C. Slowey

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Course webpage: <https://ecampus.blinn.edu/>

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Office Hours: 9-10 am on M,W,F 2-3 pm on TR

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the major geographical realms and regions of the world, providing a general overview of the land and people. Attention will be focused on the relation of aspects of the physical environment and human activities to location. Major topics of discussion may include: culture, religion, language, landforms, climate, agriculture, and economic activities.

PREREQUISITES:

There are no prerequisites.

CORE CURRICULUM

This is a Core Course in the 42-Hour Core of Blinn College. As such, students will develop proficiency in the appropriate Intellectual Competencies, Exemplary Educational Objectives, and Perspectives. www.blinn.edu/corecurriculum.htm

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the completion of the course, the student will:

- Define geography
- Examine the regions found throughout the world
- Explain the concept of culture and how it differs throughout the world
- Examine how the identity of a region is shaped by culture
- Examine the relationship between culture and the physical environment
- Analyze the relationship between power and place; specifically the impact of European colonization throughout the developing world
- Compare and contrast the different physical environments around the world
- Compare and contrast the global migration flows; both current and historic
- Analyze the increasing interconnectedness of our globalized society

TEXTBOOKS, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS:

Textbook: Rowntree, Lewis, Price, Wyckoff. *Diversity Amid Globalization: World Regions, Environment, Development*. 4th edition. Prentice Hall 2008 (required)

Atlas: Goode's World Atlas (recommended)

ADA STATEMENT:

Information regarding procedures for documenting disabilities can be obtained from the Counseling Office. Reasonable accommodations will be made for documented disabilities. Students must present documentation as soon as possible for the instructor to arrange accommodation.

ATTENDANCE:

The College District believes that class attendance is essential for student success; therefore, students are required to promptly and regularly attend all their classes. Each class meeting builds the foundation for subsequent class meetings. Without full participation and regular class attendance, students shall find themselves at a severe disadvantage for achieving success in college. Class participation shall constitute at least ten percent of the final course grade. It is the responsibility of each faculty member, in consultation with the division chair, to determine how participation is achieved in his or her class. Faculty will require students to regularly attend class and will keep a record of attendance from the first day of class and/or the first day the student's name appears on the roster through final examinations. If a student has one week's worth of unexcused absences during the semester, he/she will be sent an e-mail by the College requiring the student to contact his/her instructor and schedule a conference immediately to discuss his/her attendance issues. Should the student accumulate two weeks worth of unexcused absences, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from class.

Please see the Blinn College Student Handbook for the officially recognized excuses for student absences.

CIVILITY STATEMENT

Members of the Blinn College community, which includes faculty, staff and students, are expected to act honestly and responsibly in all aspects of campus life. Blinn College holds all members accountable for their actions and words. Therefore, all members should commit themselves to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the personal dignity, rights, and freedoms of every member of the College community, including respect for College property and the physical and intellectual property of others.

OTHER POLICIES:

No food and drinks in the classroom. Appropriate dress is required.

Blinn College does not tolerate cheating, collusion or plagiarism. Procedures for dealing with these acts are outlined in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy.

ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS MUST BE TURNED OFF UPON ENTERING ANY CLASSROOM, LIBRARY OR THE LEARNING CENTER.

Please be aware that arriving late or leaving class (and returning) is disruptive to other students as well as the instructor.

I expect all of you to show respect during this class. Behaviors such as talking during lecture, reading or working on outside material and passing notes is unacceptable.

READINGS

- Please read this section very carefully and be aware of the implications for your successful progress in this course. Geography 1303 is designed to allow you a successful and enjoyable introduction into the many facets of Geography at the college level. It is designed to challenge you as well as keep you stimulated. In spite of this, the course should not be too difficult for you if you keep up with the assigned readings.
- Class lectures and discussions will not necessarily cover the same materials as are in the text. Lectures will often amplify the materials in the text as may course handouts. Class time will be used to present or amplify basic concepts and applications in the text. HOWEVER, examinations will be derived from class lectures, handouts, AND THE TEXT!

COURSE OUTLINE--*Tentative*

DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT
Jan 19	Introduction	
Jan 21	Diversity Amid Globalization	Ch. 1
Jan 22	Last day to register	
Jan 26	"	"
Jan 28	Changing Global Environment	Ch. 2
Feb 2	North America	Ch. 3
Feb 4	North America/Latin America	Ch. 3 & 4
Feb 9	Latin America	Ch. 4/Assign 1 due
Feb 11	The Caribbean	Ch. 5
Feb 16	Exam 1	
Feb 18	SubSaharan Africa	Ch. 6
Feb 23	"	"
Feb 25	Southwest Asia/North Africa	Ch. 7
Mar 2	"	"
Mar 4	Exam 2	
Mar 9	Europe	Ch. 8/Assign 2 Due
Mar 11	"	"
Mar 23	Russia	Ch. 9
Mar 25	"	"
Mar 30	Exam 3	Assign 3 due
Apr 1	Central Asia	Ch. 10
April 2	Holiday	
Apr 6	East Asia	Ch. 11
Apr 8	"	"
Apr 13	South Asia	Ch. 12
Apr 15	"	"
Apr 16	W drop date	After this date, all drops are WF
Apr 20	Southeast Asia	Ch. 13
Apr 22	"	"/Assign 4 in class
Apr 27	Exam 4	
Apr 29	Australia	Ch. 14

May 11
Dec. 6

Wrap up and review for the final
Final Exam at 7:45am in this room

GRADING

- The grading scale for this course is listed below. The distribution is based on a normal scale: 90%=A, 80%=B, 70%=C, 60%=D. Students will be constantly informed of the progress throughout the course.
- If a grade is borderline, within 1/2% point, it will automatically be rounded up to the next higher grade.

Three Major Exams	300 pts.	Grade Distribution for Spring 2010
Final Exam	150 pts	A = 540
Four Assignments	100 pts	B = 480
Ten Quizzes	50 pts	C = 420
TOTAL PTS AVAILABLE	600 pts	D = 360

EXAMINATIONS:

- Throughout this course, your grade will consist of four major exams and a final exam. Each major exam is worth 100 points, and may consist of multiple choice, true/false questions, fill in the blank and short answers. Exams will be answered using **scantron 882**. Of the four major exams, **the exam with the lowest grade will be dropped**. If a student misses an exam, they have the option of selecting the missed exam to be their dropped exam grade. **The final exam is comprehensive and will be worth 150 points**. The format will be the same as the major exams.
- **It is the instructors policy that all students take examinations on the scheduled date**. All deviations from this must be scheduled in advance. In instances of emergencies, the STUDENT MUST inform the instructor as soon as possible. **Failure to take an examination at the scheduled or agreed upon time will result in a score of 0**.
- Students are allowed to make-up exams if they have an excused absence. The exam must be made up within two days of the student's return to class. All make-up exams will be in the essay format and consists of ten questions. **Quizzes that are missed cannot be made-up**. However, if the absence is excused, then the quiz is excused. Please see your instructor about excused absences.

ASSIGNMENTS/QUIZZES:

- You will also have five homework assignments worth twenty-five points each. These assignments will cover important concepts presented in the course as well as current issues relating to geography. You can turn in your assignments on the due date in class or using Angel(ecampus). I will drop the lowest assignment grade. **NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
- Finally, there will be unannounced quizzes given. These quizzes are designed to increase the student's level of participation and organization of the material that will be covered. The total points allotted for quizzes will be fifty points. **Only the top ten quiz scores will be counted**.
- All projects may be handwritten if legible (ie. If I can read them), but must reflect self-respecting college level submissions. There will be NO torn pages, scribbled words, etc. IF I RECEIVE THE SAME VERBIAGE ON MORE THAN ONE PAPER, THOSE STUDENTS WILL EACH RECEIVE A SCORE OF 0.

ECAMPUS:

There is an online component to this course. It will contain copies of the Course Information Sheet, the powerpoints, your map lists, etc.

To begin:

- Log into eCampus and click on you're the **Geog 1303** course.
- After you log in, you will see the course homepage. You will see the Course Syllabus there along with other useful information. These items are helpful **BUT NOT** the course content.
- To access the Course Content, click on the **LESSONS tab** in the top menu
- You will see folders on the lessons page. These include: helpful hints, Week 1, Week 2, Week 3, etc **EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO DO EACH WEEK IS LOCATED IN THE WEEKLY FOLDER**.
- Click on Week 1 and read the **WEEKLY TO DO LIST** to see what you need to complete during the first week of class. **Failure to read this page means that you may miss important work that cannot be made up**.

If you have any questions, please email using eCampus as I will be checking that email regularly.