

WORLD GEOGRAPHY
Geography 1303, Section N1, N3

Fall 2009

Blinn College -Bryan Campus
Course Information Sheet

Instructor: Ms. Susan C. Slowey

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

Office Phone: 979-209-7327

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

IMPORTANT: You need to use Mozilla's Firefox or Microsoft's Internet Explorer to take this course.

NOTE: Safari and Chrome cannot be used!!

<http://www.blinn.edu/disted/ecampus/pages/browsers.html>

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)

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.

For this course, attendance shall be taken weekly and failure to complete any graded work during that week is considered one unexcused absence. After you miss any two weeks worth of material, you may be dropped from the course.

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.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Just because you do not see your instructor or your classmates is no excuse to send angry hateful and disrespectful emails/postings. I want everyone to be polite and respectful of each other in this class. If you send angry/hateful/disrespectful postings, you will be contacted by the instructor and may face disciplinary actions.

OTHER POLICIES:

It is your responsibility to have a way to connect to the Internet. If for any reason you lose your Internet connection, you may use the Blinn College computers or any other computer to connect to this course. Your lack of connection to the net is no excuse for missing any work in this course and will result in a loss of grades.

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

Week of:	TOPIC	ASSIGNED READING	WORK
Aug 31	Intro/Diversity Amid Globalization	Ch. 1	Ch. 1 quiz/ Assign 1
Sept 7	Changing Global Environment	Ch. 2	Ch. 2 quiz
Sept 14	North America	Ch. 3	Ch. 3 quiz
Sept 16	Latin America/ The Caribbean	Ch. 4 & 5	Ch. 4 & 5 quiz
Sept 21	Exam 1		Exam 1// Assign 2
Sept. 28	SubSaharan Africa	Ch. 6	Ch. 6 quiz
Oct. 5	SW Asia/North Africa/ Exam 2	Ch. 7	Ch. 7 quiz/ Exam 2
Oct. 12	Europe	Ch. 8	Ch. 8 quiz Assign 3/
Oct. 19	Exam 3		Exam 3
Oct. 26	Russia	Ch. 9	Ch 9 quiz/Assign 4

Nov 2	East Asia	Ch. 11	Ch. 11 quiz
Nov 9	South Asia	Ch. 12	Ch. 12 quiz/Assign 5
Nov 16	Exam 4		Exam 4
Nov. 20	Last day to drop with "W", no record		
Nov 30	Southeast Asia	Ch. 13	Ch. 13 quiz
Dec. 7	Australia/Oceania	Ch. 14	Ch. 14 quiz
Dec 11-15	Final Exam (ends on Tuesday Night @ 11:55 p.m.)		

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 Fall 2009
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, there are three major exams and a final exam. Each major exam is worth 100 points, and may consist of multiple choice, true/false questions. Of the three major exams, the exam with the lowest grade will be dropped. Each exam will end on Sunday night @ 11:55pm.

Each exam is taken online using eCampus.

The final exam is comprehensive and will be worth 150 points. All students must take the final exam. The format will be the same as the major exams.

Failure to take an examination will result in a score of 0.

QUIZZES:

There are chapter 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 one hundred points which means that your three lowest quiz grades will be dropped.

ASSIGNMENTS:

There are five assignments available throughout the semester.. These are designed to help you understand key concepts of this course. Of the five assignments, your lowest assignment grade will be dropped.

EXTRA CREDIT:

There will be extra credit available throughout the semester. To find these, look in the Weekly Folders for the assignments.

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 Six Folders on the lessons page. These include: helpful hints, Week 1, Week 2, Week 3, and Week 4.
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.
- Each week you will have chapter quizzes and maybe an exam to take. All of these will be due the following

Sunday BY 11:55 p.m. Failure to complete these before the due date/time will result in a zero.

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