

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

- A. Division: Science and Math
Department: Geography
Course ID: GEOG 120
Course Title: World Regional Geography,
Units: 3
Lecture: 3 hours
Prerequisite: None

B. Catalog Description:

An introduction to world geography emphasizing the nature of major world culture regions, their social structure, religions, governments and economics.

Schedule Description:

An introduction to world geography emphasizing the nature of major world culture regions, their social structure, religions, governments and economics.

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: One

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- A. Distinguish between formal culture regions and functional culture regions recognizing the concepts of culture boundaries, core areas and codes.
- B. List key culture traits that make the landscapes of each of the major culture regions of the world distinctive.
- C. Recognize the significant landforms of each of the major culture regions of the world.
- D. Describe the board climatic patterns that characterize the culture regions of the world.
- E. Compare and contrast the political, social and economic traits that characterize developed and technologically less developed regions of the world.
- F. Describe ways that humankind has developed to deal with the arid lands of the world.
- G. Outline the impact of humankind on the rainforests of the world, indicating the long-term implications.
- H. Compare and contrast market and command economic systems as they relate to the major culture regions of the world.
- I. Compare and contrast the basic elements of urbanism in First and Third World countries of the world.

IV. CONTENT:

World Geography classes are virtually all taught using the case study method. After an introductory unit dealing with the nature of regions and the basic elements of physical and cultural geography, each world regions is dealt with separately. Basic elements of physical, cultural and locational geography are outlined and then case studies, which typify the region, are presented. The case studies that are presented below are examples that might be used by an instructor.

A. Introduction to World Geography

1. The nature of a region
2. Physical geography for a world geography
3. Cultural geography for a world geography

B. Europe

1. Basic elements of European physical, cultural and locational geography
2. Case study: Supra-nationalism and devolution: The coexistence of French and German culture in France's eastern borderland.
3. Case study: The transformation of the industrial core: The new role of Liverpool as an entrepot for Eastern Europe
4. Case Study: Geographical consequences of the 1993 birth of Slovakia and the Czech Republic

- C. Russia and the Former Soviet Union
 - 1. Basic elements of Russian cultural, physical and locational geography
 - 2. Case study: Vologda: A rural community struggling to survive the transformation to a market economy
 - 3. Case study: Brastsk: the difficulties of industrial production in Siberia
 - 4. Case study: Dagestan: The question of independence in an ethnically mixed republic within the new Russia.
- D. Anglo America
 - 1. Basic elements of the cultural, physical and locational geography of the United States and Canada.
 - 2. Case study: Inner vs. edge cities: The pressure of suburban growth on agricultural communities in Chicago's rural-urban fringe.
 - 3. Case Study: Boston: The nature of Empowerment Zones to deal with problems of the inner city.
 - 4. Case Study: Quebec: The movement of French speakers to reverse the historic domination by the English language in Montreal.
- E. The Economically Developed Countries of the Western Pacific Rim
 - 1. The basic cultural, physical and locational geography of Japan, Singapore and Australia
 - 2. Case Study: Tokyo-Yokohama: The dynamics of a megacity
 - 3. Case Study: Singapore: Free trade zones, relative location and governmental subsidy of economical development
 - 4. Case Study: The rising importance of Asian influences in the economy of Australia
- F. Latin America
 - 1. The basic cultural, physical and locational geography of Middle America
 - 2. Case Study: NAFTA and free trade zones in northern Mexico
 - 3. Case Study: "Cycles of Conquest" in the highlands of Guatemala
 - 4. Case Study: The concept of sustainable development applied to the eastern edge of the Amazon region
- G. North Africa/Southwest Asia
 - 1. The basic cultural, physical and locational geography of the Middle East
 - 2. Case Study: The spatial dimensions of religious conflict in besieged Jerusalem
 - 3. Case Study: Dealing with aridity: agricultural productivity and food supply in Egypt
 - 4. Case study: Omanization: oil revenue, Muslim life and the problems of economic diversification
- H. Sub-Saharan Africa
 - 1. The basic cultural, physical and locational geography of Sub-Saharan Africa
 - 2. Case study: Agriculture in Rain Forest environments: The problem resulting from over reliance on Cacao production in Gabon
 - 3. Case study: The geography of disease and health care in Kenya
 - 4. Case study: Land reform policies in post-apartheid South Africa
- I. South Asia
 - 1. The basic cultural, physical and locational geography of South Asia
 - 2. Case study: Delhi: Land use in and dealing with the landless in the Indian capital
 - 3. Case study: Dealing with the monsoons: agriculture in the Ganges plain
 - 4. Case study: Language and religious as a shaping force in Indian life
- J. East Asia
 - 1. The basic culture, physical and locational geography of East Asia
 - 2. Case study: Shenyang: the development challenges facing China's industrial northeast
 - 3. Case study: Shanghai and the Chang Jiang: Locational advantages and historical president in the new China
 - 4. Case study: Quangdong Province: Nike's global production system and the Free Trade Zone

K. Southeast Asia

1. The basic cultural, physical and locational geography of Southeast Asia
2. Case study: Prospects for development in isolated Laos
3. Case study: The impact of tourism development on the society and economy of Bali
4. Case study: Ethnic diversity as a key to Malaysia's recent economic development

V. **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

- A. Lecture and discussion
- B. Group Work
- C. Videos and other multimedia presentations

VI. **TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:**

- A. Read assigned chapters from the text
- B. Do assigned homework questions, for example:
The climate of most of Great Britain is:
 - a. Temperate Marine
 - b. Humid Continental
 - c. Humid Subtropical
 - d. Mediterranean Subtropical
- C. Do map and essay: "What is so "Latin" about Latin America?"

VII. **EVALUATION:**

- A. Methods of Evaluations
 1. Examinations:
Examinations may include objective components such as multiple choice and/or true/false questions and will include critical thinking components with problem solving and/or essays
Typical Multiple Choice question:
On the Ganges Plain during the winter monsoon typical weather would be:
 - a. Very wet and quite cool
 - b. Very wet and quite warm
 - c. Very dry and quite cool
 - d. Very dry and quite warm
Typical Essay:
What resource management program is most critical to the economy of Iceland?
 2. Map and Essay exercises
 3. Homework collected and evaluated
- B. Frequency of evaluation:
 1. Examinations: three
 2. Map and Essay: ten
 3. Homework: eleven

VIII. **TYPICAL TEXTS:**

DeBlij and Muller, Regions 200 Geography: Realms Regions and Concepts, 9th ed., Wiley, 1999
Latz, Gil, The Power of Place: World Regional Geography, 2nd ed., Wiley 1999
Salter, Hobbs, Wheeler, Kostbabe, Essentials of World Geography, 2nd ed., Saunders, 1998

IX. **OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:**

None