GGS 101: MAJOR WORLD REGIONS

Fall Semester 2016

10:30 AM – 1:15 PM

GGS 101 fulfills Mason Core requirement in Global Understanding

FACULTY: Patricia Boudinot

OFFICE: Exploratory Hall, Room 2201

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday 8 am to 10 am and/or by appointment before class

EMAIL: pboudino@gmu.edu, the best way to contact me

TELEPHONE: (703) 993 1331

HONOR CODE “Students members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal and/or lie in matters related to academic work.”

I in this course, you are not to:

• Access sources/information during an on-line exam/quiz
• Give help or information/work to a friend/classmate

Read the Honor Code for a list of definitions and examples

TEXTBOOK: The textbook is recommended.

Major World Regions by H.J. De Blij, Peter O. Muller and Jan Nijman, Wiley Edition
Please note that this textbook can only be found at the GMU bookstore as it is a custom textbook.

The information in this custom textbook is originally from Geography; realms, Regions and Concepts, 16th edition by H.J. De Blij, Peter O. Muller and Jan Nijman, Wiley Edition

CONTENT: “Patterns, problems and prospects of the world’s principal human-geographic regions. Emphasis will be made on a real differentiation and the role geographic differences play in the interpretation of the current worldscene.”
In the changing World, this course will encourage students to make important connections across boundaries.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
At the end of this course, every student will be able to:

1. master spatial awareness by using geographical tools
2. describe and then explain a geographic document such as map/photograph/chart
3. Identify, evaluate and properly cite resources appropriate to the field, such as audio/visual/online/print materials, or artifacts.
4. Understand global patterns.
5. Understand the interconnectedness, difference, and diversity of a global society.
6. analyse global problems or issues

EVALUATION:

Course Orientation Quiz

Please review the syllabus.
The Course Orientation Quiz will be taken in class on Wednesday September 7.
There will be 8 questions each worth .25 point.
By answering all the eight questions correctly, the students will obtain 2 extra credit points.

Test

There will be 3 tests this semester.
Each test will display 41 questions, including one extra credit, each worth .5 point.
Each question, worth .5 points, will be multiple choice or True/False.
For each test you will need a dark green scantron form and a pencil … please no pen.

Please make a note of the following schedule and PLEASE plan ahead … NO MAKE-UP allowed.

Exam Schedule:

Test 1 (week 4) you will review Weeks 1, 2 and 3.

Test 2 (week 8) you will review Weeks 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Test 3 (week 12) you will review Weeks 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Exercise

Five exercises are scheduled this semester.
Each exercise is worth 4 points.
Each exercise will be submitted in Blackboard.
Each exercise will open on Thursday at 6 am and is due no later than the following Wednesday at 10 am: at this date and time, any missing exercise will be graded as zero.
**Final Project**

You will build a one week trip either in **South America or in East Asia**. The description of the Final Project can be found in the “Syllabus and Documents”.

The Final Project will be submitted in Blackboard no later than Tuesday December 13, 2016 at 11:59 pm

**Grading percentage:**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercises</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**Grade cutoffs will be as follows:**

A 90% – 100%

B 80% - 89.99%

C 69% - 79.99%

D 60% - 68.99%

F less than 60%

**EXPECTATIONS:** A classroom is a learning place so please arrive on time. Leave drinks and snacks outside the classroom and turn off the cellphones and the pagers. I remind you that I do allow laptops in class but please use them in an appropriate way: I mean that laptop in class has NOTHING to do with chatting, surfing, browsing, checking your personal emails or anything else other than taking notes from the lecture. In event of class cancellation, the class will resume where we left off. Adjustments will be made later and you will be notified via email. I do expect that your GMU email address is active as I will communicate with you via email and I will only be using the GMU email address as it does appear on the Patriotweb site. I do expect that you access blackboard. I do expect the students to understand that I will enter the grades on Patriotweb twice a semester: midterm grades and final grades.

**Last day to drop with no tuition penalty:** Tuesday September 6, 2016
**Last day to add class:** Tuesday September 6, 2016

SCHEDULE (adjustments might be possible)

The readings below refer to the recommended textbook. As the textbook is recommended, the readings appearing are recommended as well. In addition to these recommended readings, there are mandatory readings such as articles and sites. The mandatory readings appear in the reading assignments in Blackboard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 0</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>08/24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>World on maps Page 9 and Page 10 Geographical Perspective page 10 to Page 12 What do geographers do? Page 42</td>
<td>Exercise 1</td>
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<td>08/31</td>
<td>Geography</td>
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<td>Due on 09/07 no later than 10 am</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Population</td>
<td>Realms of population: Page 23 to Page 25</td>
<td>Course Orientation Quiz</td>
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<td>09/07</td>
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<td>Demographic transition: Page 198 to Page 201</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Geography of Development Page 34 to 39</td>
<td>Exercise 2</td>
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<td>09/14</td>
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<td>Due on 09/21 no later than 10 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Test 1</td>
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<td>09/21</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>North America’s Physical Geography: Page 99-101</td>
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<td>09/28</td>
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<td>Cultural Foundations Page: 103</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>The Federal Map Of North America: Page 104-107</td>
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<td>Urbanization And The Spatial Economy: Page</td>
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| Week 6 10/05 | Middle America | Geographical Features: Page 121-125  
Physical Geography: Page 125-127  
Cultural Geography: Page 127-130 | Exercise 3  
Due on 10/12 no later than 10 am |
|---|---|---|---|
| Week 7 10/12 | South America | States Ancient And Modern: Page 139-142  
The Cultural Mosaic: Page 142-144  
Economic Geography: Page 145-148  
Urbanization: Page 149-152 | |
| Week 8 10/19 | South America | Discussion | Test 2 |
| Week 9 10/26 | Sub Saharan Africa | Historical Geography: Page 159-165  
Postcolonial Africa: Page 165-166  
Africans And Their Land: Page 169-173 | |
| Week 10 11/02 | Europe | Geographical features Page 46 to Page 50  
Contemporary Europe Page 54 to Page 57 | Exercise 4  
Due no later than 11/09 at 10 am |
| Week 11 11/09 | Russia | Russian roots Page 80 to Page 81  
Building the Russian Empire Page 82 to Page 87  
The new Russia Page 87 to Page 92 | |
| Week 12 11/16 | South Asia | Population Geography: Page 237-241  
South East Asia’s Emerging Markets: Page | Test 3 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 13</th>
<th>Happy Thanksgiving</th>
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<th>Happy Thanksgiving</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/23</td>
<td><strong>East Asia</strong></td>
<td><strong>China’s Historical Role In East Asia: Page 217-221</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exercise 5</strong> Due no later than 12/07 at 10 am</td>
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<td><strong>Japan’s Historical Role In East Asia: Page 221-223</strong></td>
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<td><strong>East Asia’s Economic Stature: Page 225-226</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Geopolitics In East Asia: Page 226-228</strong></td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td><strong>The Green Revolution</strong></td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/30</td>
<td><strong>Final project is due no later than Tuesday 12/13 at 11:59 pm</strong></td>
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Thanks for choosing GGS 101.

I wish you an enjoyable semester.

PB