



University of North Alabama
Department of Geography

GE 102-02 World Regional Geography
Spring 2013

Time and Location: 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.; M-W; Wesleyan Hall 222

Instructor: Dr. Bill Strong

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Office Hours: MWF 10:00 – 11:00
MW 3:15 – 4:15
TR 8:30 – 9:30
Or by Appointment

Course Description: World Regional Geography is described in the UNA Catalog as, “*The geographic method of inquiry used to examine, describe, analyze, and explain the human and physical environments of the major regions of the world.*” This course introduces students to the human, physical and environmental diversity existing across the broadly categorized twelve geographic realms in the world, that are classified broadly on the basis of their overall human, social, economic and political development patterns. You will be introduced to basic geographic concepts that will help you understand different cultures, people, environments, and appreciate the geographic perspective as related to regions of the world, and understand what makes each place geographically unique.

This course also fulfills part of your requirement under *Area IV: General Education Component for History, Social and Behavioral Sciences*. For students majoring in Education, this course supports the standards of the Alabama K-12 Social Studies Course of Study (instruction in the five themes of geography – location, place, relationships within places, movement, and regions – satisfies the Alabama Department of Education standards for geography, referenced as 290-3-3.21).

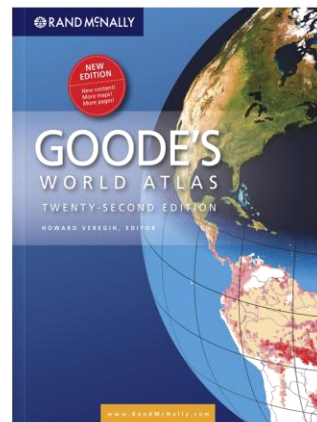
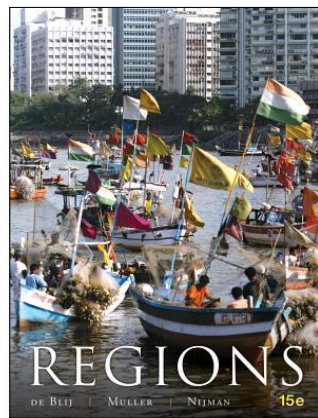
Course Objectives: The primary objective of this course is to introduce and give the student a knowledge of basic geographic characteristics of major world realms and regions so the student can have a better understanding of current global and regional events and issues, for example, ethnic tension in Eastern Europe, ongoing political and ethnic conflict in Middle East and in Southwest Asia, and the emergence of the Pacific Rim of Asia as a major economic force. By the end of the course the student will:

| Alabama Quality Teaching Standards (AQTs) for GE102 | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Standard Code | | Standard Description | Assessment | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(a)1. | Gain Knowledge of: | The physical and human characteristics of places | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(a)2. | | The concept of regions as a means to interpret Earth's complexity. | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(a)3. | | How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions. | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(a)6. | | The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface. | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(a)7. | | The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics. | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(a)8. | | The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface. | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(a)9. | | How human actions modify the physical environment. | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(a)10. | | How physical systems affect human systems. | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(b)1. | | Demonstrate the ability to: | Use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective. | Atlas exercise, map quizzes |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(b)2. | | | Use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context. | Pre- & post-test, exams |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(b)3. | Analyze the spatial information about people, places, and environments on Earth's surface. | | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(b)4. | Describe the processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement. | | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(b)5. | Examine how the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface. | | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(b)6. | Examine the changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources. | | Pre- & post-test, exams | |
| 290-3-3- | | Interpret the past and present and to plan | Pre- & post- | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|--|-------------------------|
| .21(1)(b)7. | | for the future. | test, exams |
| 290-3-3-.21(1)(b)8. | | Ask geographic questions and to acquire, organize, and analyze geographic information to answer those questions as they engage in the study of substantive geographic content. | Pre- & post-test, exams |

Course Texts:

1. de Blij, H.J., Peter O. Muller, and Jan Nijman. 2012. **Geography: Realms, Regions and Concepts**. New Jersey: John Wiley and Sons, 15th Edition.
2. Veregin, Howard. **Goode's World Atlas**. Chicago: Rand-McNally and Company, 22nd Edition.



Suggested Reading: Along with your text, any newspaper or news magazine with a large amount of international news such as *USA Today*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *National Review*, or *The Economist*. You can also get the free app named Zite which will provide you with various news items according to your particular requests. I use it on my iPhone and iPad. Getting into the habit of reading a newspaper or magazine will help increase your knowledge of the world substantially.

Grading: The course grade will consist of three (3) exams plus the final exam. The final is **not** cumulative, but will be based on the selected items from the semester. Exams will consist of multiple choice, true-false and atlas questions. There will also be five (5) map quizzes and an atlas practical exercise. The dates of the quizzes will be announced in class and also posted on the course outline. Grading values are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 3 Exams = | 60% |
| 5 Map Quizzes = | 15% |
| Final Exam = | 25% |
| Total= | 100% |

Grading will be based on the following scale:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 59 and below |

Missed Exams and Make-ups: *You are expected to take each exam at the date and time specified.* If, for some reason, you are unable to take an exam during the time scheduled, you must make a request *in writing* for a make-up. *You are not automatically entitled to a make-up exam;* your request will be considered by the instructor and may or may not be approved. Make up exams must be taken within one week of the original exam date

Class Attendance: Regular and punctual attendance at all scheduled classes and activities is expected of all students and is required as integral to course credit. My policy is whenever a student's cumulative absences for any reason – excused or unexcused – exceed the equivalent of four weeks of scheduled classes and activities in a semester, 12 absences, no credit may be earned for the course (see Class Attendance under General Regulations in the UNA Catalog or UNA Student Handbook).

Accommodation Statement: It is the policy of the University of North Alabama to afford equal opportunity in education to qualified students. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University offers reasonable accommodations to students with eligible documented learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as compared to an average person in the population. It is the responsibility of the student to contact Developmental Services prior to the beginning of the semester to initiate the accommodation process and to notify instructors within the first three class meetings to develop an accommodation plan. Appropriate, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements, but no fundamental or substantial alteration of academic standards will be made. Students needing assistance should contact Developmental Services. If you have a disability that may prevent you from meeting the course requirements, contact the instructor within the first three class sessions to file a Student Disability Statement and to develop an accommodation plan. Course requirements will not be waived but accommodations will be made to allow you to meet the requirements, provided that you are timely in working with the instructor to develop an accommodation plan. The course outline should guide you in your studies and in arranging to take the exams on the specified dates. Occasionally you will find some minor variations between the lecture material and the course schedule so please feel free to call or e-mail whenever you have a question. As instructor, I reserve the right to modify the outline when necessary.

Students: Keeping up with class readings and assignments is critical. However, I am very approachable and always willing to help. Please visit with me in my office at least once during the semester. I am glad that you are here and hope that this course is fun, informative and more than you expect it to be. Welcome to the “World of Geography.”

Dr. Strong