

GEOG 106-02: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY
MT HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE WINTER 2016
MONDAY/WEDNESDAY 12:40 – 2:00 PM IN AC 1608

Instructor: Lindsay Skog
Contact Email: Lindsay.skog@mhcc.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Office Location: AC 2680/2682

Course Topic & Goals

In this course we will explore eleven distinct, yet interconnected, world regions. My goal in presenting this course is to help you to gain a familiarity with the history, landforms, and social dynamics of world regions using geographic themes. To do this, you will be introduced to geographic concepts, tools, and themes, such as population, climate change, migration, and religion, which are useful in understanding and interacting with the world around you. In-class time will consist primarily of lectures, films, group discussions, and activities.

Course Objectives

Throughout this course you will learn to:

- Identify the major regions of the world and distinguish between their physical, social, political, economic, and cultural geographies
- Describe the ways in which these geographies are interconnected through processes of globalization
- Develop an appreciation for how processes of globalization produce uneven economic, development, and social geographies, as well as how they relate to global environmental challenges
- Communicate geographically using key terms, themes, and tools
- Identify, compare, and contrast map projections, as well as interpret their social contexts and political implications

Course textbook (required):

Digital Access Codes available at the MHCC Bookstore after 1/8/16

Marston, Sallie A., Paul L. Knox, Diana M. Liverman, Vincent J. Del Casino, Paul F. Robbins. 2014. *World Regions in Global Context: Peoples, Places, and Environments (Fifth edition)*. Pearson Prentice Hall Press.

Recommended:

Veregin, H., ed. 2010. *Goode's World Atlas (22nd Edition)*. Rand McNally.

**GEOG 106-02: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY
WINTER 2016**

Grading

Weekly Quizzes	20%
Assignments (10% each)	40%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Your final course grade will be determined based on the following rubric:

<u>Percentage grade</u>	<u>Course grade</u>	<u>Percentage grade</u>	<u>Course grade</u>
93-100	A	73-76	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	63-66	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-
77-79	C+	59 >	F

Student Responsibilities

You are responsible for your own learning; I am here to share my expertise and experience, guide you in your learning process, and cheer you on as you go! Ultimately, however, you will get out of this class what you put into it. In order to take advantage of all this course has to offer I expect you will:

- Attend all class meetings (NOTE: Attendance is required. I do take attendance. Two absences will result in a 10% reduction from your final course grade. Each subsequent absence will result in a 5% reduction. Chronic tardiness and/or early departures count as absences. Excused absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis and requests must be accompanied by documentation. Students are responsible for obtaining missed notes, announcements, and lecture material from other classmates.)
- Complete all readings
- Actively and thoughtfully participate. Invest time in this course
- Ask questions when you do not understand the material or assignment expectations
- Produce thoughtful and well-written assignments—this means paying attention to content, structure, and mechanics in all written assignments (do not just hit spell check and call it good!) NOTE: I do not accept late work

You can expect me to:

- Treat you with respect
- Respond promptly to your queries (within 24 hours, except for weekends or over holidays)
- Be available to meet with you during office hours, or by appointment
- Return graded material within a reasonable time
- Post lecture slides on the Course Portal by 10 AM on the day of the lecture

**GEOG 106-02: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY
WINTER 2016**

Classroom environment

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. In short, treat your peers and me with respect at all times and under all circumstances. I encourage you to voice your opinions and perspectives in a constructive and respectful manner. Disrespectful or abusive language or behavior will not be tolerated. Further, students may not engage in any activity that the instructor deems disruptive or counterproductive to the goals of the class (See Computer and Cell Phone policy below). Instructors have the right to remove offending students from class. Repetition of the offense may result in expulsion from the course.

Assignments (40%)

All assignments are due in class, in person. Do not email me your assignments. Late work will not be accepted. All assignments should be typed in 12 point font, double spaced, and with 1 inch margins. Please print double-sided, when possible, to save paper. Details of assignments will be discussed in class.

NewsCards (5; 2% each; 10% total) Throughout the term, you will prepare 5 NewsCards (ideally 4x6 notecards, but a half sheet of paper will be fine too) with two paragraphs each. The first will summarize a current news article you've located about the region we are exploring on the day the NewsCard is due. The second paragraph will relate the article to our reading for that region. Be specific. Point to at least one way in which the article ties into a concept or theme from that day's reading. You may locate articles through the BBC, The Washington Post, the New York Times, or The Oregonian. These may be hand-written in your MOST LEGIBLE HANDWRITING. Be prepared to discuss your article in small groups.

Assignment 1: Academic Journal Article Hunt For this assignment, I will send you on a hunt for an article from an academic geography journal. Once you have located the article, you will read it and provide answers to a series of questions designed to help you tease out the ways in which the author(s) communicates her or his argument and evidence geographically.

Assignment 2: Academic Journal Article Analysis For assignment 2, you will use the skills you learned in Assignment 1 to locate an academic article focused on a topic of your choosing. You will send me three possible articles for approval. You will then complete a short write-up about the article in which you will summarize the key points, arguments, evidence, and conclusions.

Assignment 3: Travel Log For this assignment, you will create your own travel log. This may take the form of a journal entry, a small poster, a brochure, a letter, or any other form you can imagine (though please talk to me first if you would like to do something outside of the list included here). You are to pick a place you've traveled to (in other words, you can choose your

GEOG 106-02: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY WINTER 2016

hometown, or a place within the US, or a place abroad), or somewhere you'd like to visit. You are to narrate that place to us through your travel log. Describe at least three of the following factors about the place you choose: environment, society, history, economy, demographics, culture, or politics, and the ways in which these are connected to larger regional and global dynamics. On the last day of class we will have a mini-conference in which you will take turns presenting your travel logs to your classmates.

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes (20%) At the end of each week you will take a quiz covering the readings, lectures, discussions, and films shown that week. The objective of the quizzes is to be sure you have a clear understanding of the main points we covered that week. Quizzes will average 5-10 questions and may be multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, or ask you to compose a short paragraph. Quizzes will draw from assigned readings, recent lectures, and films. Quizzes will be available on the course portal by 10 AM on Thursday each week and must be completed by Sunday at 11:59 PM each week.

Midterm and Final Exam (40%, 20% each) The mid-term and final exams will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. Exam questions will be taken from lectures, films, and the reading assignments. Details of the exams will be covered in class.

Course and College Policies

Computer and Cell Phone Policy No screens. Computers, Ipads, etc will not be allowed in class, except during group discussions in order to review readings online. If you feel that you learn best by taking electronic notes on your computer, please see me following the first day of class for special arrangements. Please silence or turn off your cell phone during class. Texting and other forms of social media while in class will not be tolerated.

Academic Honesty Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic dishonesty are regarded as serious offenses. Instructors have the responsibility to submit, in a written report to the Associate Vice President of Student Life, any such incident that cannot be resolved between the instructor and student. Depending on the nature of the offense, serious penalties may be imposed, ranging from loss of points to expulsion from the class of college. In this course, cheating or plagiarism—in any form—will result, at a minimum, in a zero grade for the assignment, quiz, or exam. Student rights and responsibilities can be located in the MHCC Student Handbook.

Americans with Disability Act If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact the Disability Services Office for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Disability Services Office is located on the Gresham campus in

**GEOG 106: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY
WINTER 2016**

AC 2182. Please call the following numbers for more information: 503-491-6923 or 503-491-7670 TDD.

Equal Opportunity It is the policy of MHCC to provide equal educational opportunity and employment opportunities and to provide service benefits to all students and employees without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability or any other status or characteristic protected by applicable state or federal law.

Affirmative Action Inquires regarding application of these and other regulations should be directed to either the College's Affirmative Action Office at 503-491-7200 or 503-491-7202 TDD; the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Education, Seattle, Washington; or to the office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor, Seattle, Washington.

Safety and Security Considerations There are Public Safety officers on duty 24 hours every day. They patrol the entire campus in marked vehicles. In the event of an emergency dial "7911" from any campus phone. There are 20 emergency and information telephones places through the campus. They are located at the front flagpoles, at the main gym entrance, and at various points on both the upper and lower levels of the main academic center.

Public Safety officers are available to escort you through our "Safe Walk" program. Officers are available at any time through the campus switchboard. Dial "7310" from any campus phone to reach an officer.

Closed-circuit cameras monitor broad areas of the campus at all times.

**GEOG 106: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY
WINTER 2016**

CLASS SCHEDULE—REVISED 1/20/16

Assigned readings are to be completed before coming to the class for which they are assigned.

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
Jan 4 (M)	Class Cancelled		
Jan 6 (W)	Course Introduction World Regions		
Jan 11 (M)	Talking about and Representing the World	Chapter 1	
Jan 13 (W)	Europe Part I	Chapter 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due: NewsCard 1 • Week 1 Quiz (Due January 17) • Week 2 Quiz (Due Jan 17)
Jan 18 (M)	MLK Jr. Day—No Class		
Jan 20 (W)	Europe Part II		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due: Assignment 1 • Redo Week 1 Quiz (Due Jan 24)
Jan 25 (M)	Europe Part III		
Jan 27 (W)	The Russian Federation, Central Asia, and the Transcaucasus	Chapter 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due: NewsCard 2 • Week 4 Quiz (Due Jan 31)
Feb 1 (M)	Middle East and North Africa	Chapter 4	
Feb 3 (W)	Sub-Saharan Africa Part I	Chapter 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 5 Quiz (Due Feb 7)
Feb 8 (M)	Sub-Saharan Africa Part II Mid-term Review		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study for Mid-term. Bring questions to class • Due: NewsCard 3
Feb 10 (W)	Mid-term Exam in Class (No Week 6 Quiz)		
Feb 15 (M)	Latin America and the Caribbean	Chapter 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email me your article choices for Assignment 2 by Monday
Feb 17 (W)	South Asia	Chapter 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 7 Quiz (Due Feb 21)
Feb 22 (M)	East Asia	Chapter 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due: Assignment 2
Feb 24 (W)	High Asia		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due: NewsCard 4 • Week 8 Quiz (Due Feb 28)
Feb 29 (M)	Southeast Asia	Chapter 10	
March 2 (W)	The United States & Canada	Chapter 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 9 Quiz (Due March 6)
March 7 (M)	Oceania: Global Climate Politics	Chapter 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due: NewsCard 5
March 9 (W)	Bringing it all together Travel Log Presentations Final Exam Review		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due: Assignment 3 • Week 10 Quiz (Due March 13)
FINAL EXAM Monday, March 14, 12:00 – 1:45 PM ***Note: Daylight Saving Time Begins the day before the exam***			

Note: This schedule is subject to change. Any changes, including changes to the assigned readings, will be announced in class and posted to on the course portal.