# Geography 106- World Regional Geography Cuyamaca College, Fall 2015

**Instructor: Christa Farano, MA Section: 1342**

**Units: 3**

**Class Meeting Times: TTH 8:00-9:15; H224**

**Required Text: *Globalization and Diversity; Rowntree; 4th Ed.***

# Mailbox: F100

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**Website:** [**http://homework.sdmesa.edu/cfarano**](http://homework.sdmesa.edu/cfarano)

**Course Description:**

This course provides a critical survey of the physical, political, and economic characteristics of the major geographical regions of the world. The regions examined are Europe, North America, Latin American, Africa, Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Rim. Analysis of concepts such as spatial distribution of particular phenomena, factors that change regions, and human and environment interactions are explored. This course is designed to serve as an elective in the social sciences as part of a general education requirement for transfer students.

# Student Learning Outcomes

Students who complete GEOG 106 will be able to:

1. Think critically in reading, writing, and/or speaking about topics in World Regional Geography, thereby identifying problems, theses, arguments, evidence and conclusions.
2. Write or speak about topics in World Regional Geography, thereby addressing problems, formulating theses, making arguments, analyzing and weighing evidence, and deriving conclusions.
3. Demonstrate an ability to understand one's role in society, take responsibility for one's own actions, and make ethical decisions in complex situations.
4. Articulate similarities and contrasts among cultures, times, and environments, demonstrating an understanding of cultural pluralism.

# Materials:

Required: Please bring the textbook: Globalization and Diverstiy by Rowntree, 4th Ed.; Prentice Hall Inc. to every class. Slides and films will be presented in class, and represented on all tests. Lecture notes are located on my website under “Downloads.” Scroll down to “Handouts,” click on “World Regional.” Website: [http://homework.sdmesa.edu/cfarano.](http://homework.sdmesa.edu/cfarano)

Recommended: Goode's World Atlas

# Grading Policy:

All students will receive a letter grade unless prior arrangements for credit/no credit have been made. There will be no "incompletes." Grading will be based on a point system as described below:

Total possible points: Approximately 250 points (assuming 3 exams, 4 in-class assignments, five floating points, and two homework assignments). Final letter grades will be assigned as follows:

90% of total points = A

* 1. 89% of total points = B 70-79% of total points = C 66-69% of total points = D

Less than 60% of total points = F

# Exams – up to 195 points

**METHODS OF EVALUATION**

There will be four (4) examinations worth 65 points each. The lowest test score will be dropped, and will not be factored into the final grade. Tests will use a combination of objective, short answer formats, map identification and short essay formats. Exam questions may be drawn from readings in the textbook, lecture materials (including handouts or other supplements), homework assignments, slides, in-class activities, and films. **THERE WILL BE NO TEST MAKE-UPS. BUT THERE’S GOOD NEWS!** If you miss an exam due to an emergency and/or planned absence, I will automatically drop the missed exam for you. The purpose of dropping one exam is to accommodate those who are victims of an unexpected emergency/absence. Most students take all four exams and drop the lowest of the four exams they prepared for and completed on test days.

# In-Class Assignments – up to 25 points

Up to 4 assignments (5 pts each) will be completed in class throughout the semester. These assignments are due at the end of the same class period in which they are assigned and cannot be made up. Professor may award one point to students who bring their lecture notes to class (download from website under "Downloads- World Regional Geography," or one point for impromptu in-class assignments. Please bring your lecture notes to each class to maximize preparedness.

# Homework Assignments

* + 1. **Map Packet - up to 15 points - due on Tuesday, October 15- date of exam #2** Completion of a map packet which includes a subset of features from world regions covered in class. Map packets will receive a two-point deduction for each class period that it is late**.** Maps are on my website under “Downloads,” then scroll down to maps. All FOUR map sets are due (10 pages total).

# 2 . Film Assignment – up to 15 points – due on Thursday, Dec 12 – date of final exam

Select 5 films from Attachment A and **type** up answers to the questions. No handwritten submittals.

# Extra Credit – ANY COMBINATION UP TO 15 POINTS – DUE ON LAST DAY OF CLASS

1. Supplementary Article Review and Write-up – up to 15 points (1 point per write-up)

Find an appropriate reading (in addition to the required textbook) and include a copy of the document read along with a one-page TYPED write-up on how it relates to the study of World Regional Geography. Appropriate outside readings may include, but are not limited to the following:

* + Professional periodicals, such as, The Journal of Geography, The Annals of the Association of American Geographers, and Journal of Cultural Geography, Journal of Economic Geography.
  + Articles relating to world regional geography in newspapers such as The New York Times and The Los Angeles Times.
  + Reports from government agencies, such as, The United Nations Statistical Abstract or The World Bank newsletters.

1. Attend a Religious [or Cultural] Function– up 5 points

The Southern California area has thousands of places of worship or cultural gathering places. The task is to expose yourself to a cultural group that is unfamiliar to you (or one that you want to know more about). In doing so, you will attend a formal or informal function hosted by a declared religious or cultural group. If you haven’t visited a Jewish, Baha’i or Buddhist temple, or an Islamic mosque, now is the time. If you haven’t attended a service at a Christian, Catholic or Mormon church, here’s your chance. Get to know more about Native American Kumeyaay forms of cultural expression.

Oktoberfest or Cinco de Mayo functions are sometimes good choices too. Use your imagination! The two most distinctive traits that help us paint a picture of one’s cultural geography are religion and language, but there are a lot of other expressions of culture such as clothing style, housing style, food, music, or others forms of art. Please submit a two-page, double-spaced summary of your experience and how it has expanded your knowledge of cultural geography. Include the name of the event (i.e. Sunday mass) and location name (i.e. Mormon temple in La Jolla), the address, and some documentation (i.e. a church bulletin or other handout, or a picture of you at the site, etc.)

1. Attend a local lecture – 5 points per lecture write-up – Due the last day of class or before.

Locate and attend a local lecture related to a topic studied in World Regional Geography. The museums in Balboa Park offer free lecture series, as does Scripps, UCSD, SDSU, USD, and tens of other venues around town. Run the venue by me ahead of time so I can share it with the class if appropriate. You will submit a one page typed review of the lecture. In the report, please tell me how what you learned relates to the study of World Regional Geography. You must attach a brochure, receipt, or a picture for verification purposes.

1. World Regional Food Extravaganza – 5 points – held during last few weeks of class

Bring a dish representing a world culture (doesn’t have to be homemade). Share the origin of the food on classroom wall maps and what is special about it. We’ll have a sign-up sheet after exam #3.

# Attendance Policy/ Adding and Dropping:

Class attendance is strongly advised. District policy states that you may be dropped from the class if you miss the first day and your seat given away to another student. If you miss three class meetings in a row, then you may be dropped from the course if I don't hear from you. If you miss class, make arrangements with a classmate to keep you informed on lecture topics, handouts, and assignments. Even though I have the authority to drop you from my class, it is your responsibility to add, drop, or withdraw from classes before the deadline!!! Don't rely on me to do it for you!!!!

# Accommodation:

Students with physical or learning disabilities will be accommodated with lecture/test materials by mutual agreement between individual students and the instructor. Please present any relevant paperwork at the beginning of the course.

# Statement of Retention:

It is Mesa College's policy to encourage learning through student retention. Therefore, if you are considering dropping this course after you have invested some time in it, please consult with me after class or make an appointment to see me.

# Tentative Lecture Schedule and Related Reading Assignments from Rowntree

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TOPIC** | **CHAPTER(S)** |
| **UNIT 1** | |
| Globalization and Diversity | 1 |
| Changing Global Environment | 2 |
| North America | 3 |
| **TEST 1 – Tuesday, September 17** | |
| **UNIT 2** | |
| Latin America | 4 |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 6 |
| Southwest Asia and North Africa | 7 |
| **TEST 2 – Tuesday, October 15– First homework assignment due- ALL FOUR MAP SETS** | |
| **UNIT 3** | |
| Europe | 8 |
| Russia | 9 |
| East Asia | 11 |
| **TEST 3 – Tuesday, November 12** | |
| **UNIT 4** | |
| South Asia | 12 |
| Southeast Asia | 13 |
| Australia and Oceania | 14 |
| **FINAL EXAM on Thursday, December 12 - Second homework and extra credit due** | |

***Holidays for this class: Thursday, November 28***

NOTE: This is a tentative syllabus; the content is subject to change by the instructor as the course progresses, and as is necessary and appropriate.

# ATTACHMENT A

**Required Film Assignment for World Regional Geography**

* **Select five films (3 points each) for 15 total points**
* **Submit one to two pages TYPED response per film**
* **Due on the LAST DAY OF CLASS**

**THESE ARE THE FILMS ALLOWED:**

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (Ch 2): An Inconvenient Truth, The Eleventh Hour, Wall. E., NORTH AMERICA: Smoke Signals, Dances With Wolves, Lincoln

LATIN AMERICA: The Motorcycle Diaries, City of God, Apocalypto, Traffic, Proof of Life SUBSAHARAN AFRICA: Blood Diamond, The Gods Must Be Crazy, Last King of Scotland, Gorillas in the Mist, Sometimes in April, Out of Africa, Invictus

NORTH AFRICA, SW ASIA: Body of Lies, Kingdom of Heaven, Not Without My Daughter, Lawrence of Arabia, Kite Runner

EUROPE: Defiance, National Lampoon’s European Vacation, The Tunnel (Der Tunnel), Pride & Prejudice, Munich, Braveheart, Bend It Like Beckham

RUSSIA: Dr. Zhivago, Enemy at the Gates, Long Way Round (mainly Central Asia/Russia)

S ASIA: Ghandi, The Namesake, any Bollywood Film, Slumdog Millionnaire, Born Into Brothels, Bride and Prejudice

E/SE ASIA: Last Emperor, Last Samurai, The Weeping Camel, SE ASIA: The Deer Hunter, The Killing Fields, Platoon, Full Metal Jacket, Street Dreams (doc on sex trafficking not skateboarding)

THESE FILMS ARE FULL OF GEOGRAPHY. I WANT YOU TO SEE THE GEOGRAPHY. I AM NOT INTERESTED IN THE PLOT OR ACTORS. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FOR EACH FILM AND INCLUDE THE ORIGINAL OR XEROX OF THE FILM ORDER RECEIPT, A COPY OF THE CD COVER, SCREEN CAPTURE, WEBSITE, ETC. THE BURDEN IS YOU TO DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU OBTAINED AND WATCHED THESE VIDEOS. THIS IS A CREATIVE WRITING ASSIGNMENT. THERE ARE NO CORRECT ANSWERS PER SE. MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO COMMON PHRASES BETWEEN YOUR ESSAYS AND ANOTHER STUDENT’S OR A SCORE OF ZERO WILL BE ADMINISTERED AND YOU MAY BE EXCUSED FROM THE CLASS.

(One page minimum, typed, 3 points maximum each film.) YOU MAY SUBSTITUE TWO OF THE FILMS ABOVE FOR FILMS OF YOUR CHOICE.

# How does the film show the cultural and physical landscape of this region? PLEASE DESCRIBE IT.

1. **Describe the particulars of scenes in the film that are depicted in the book or lecture. MANY NEARLY IDENTICAL SCENES ARE DEPICTED IN THE LECTURE/BOOK.**
2. **How does the film show the cultural, economic or political milieu of the world region in which the film is set.**
3. **Give a rating from 1 to 10 on the appropriateness of this film for studying world geography through film. Why do you rate it as such? (ANY FILM AVERING BELOW 8 WILL BE THROWN OUT FOR NEXT SEMESTER).**
4. **Do you have any recommendations for additional films? Please include film name and world region.**