

**GEOG 110: WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY
ONLINE WEB CLASS**

"Everything has to do with geography." – Judy Martz

SPRING 2021

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***This is an online asynchronous course, which means you work on the materials and turn things in on or before the due date. We will not have a specific time each week that we meet over zoom. Course materials will be available through Blackboard and submitted through Blackboard. A google shared drive will be used if need arises.**

OFFICE HOURS: 9-10am Monday and Wednesday; other times available by appointment

UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG DESCRIPTION: GEOG 110: World Regional Geography. (3) A general survey of the political, social, and ecological systems of the world. The course is concerned with the complexity and diversity of world peoples and cultures. **Colonnade E-SB / SB.**

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES: GEOG 110: World Regional Geography is an introductory course that explores world regions and geographic systems. The course is an introduction to geographical concepts as they apply to the world's regions. During the semester we will engage in a general survey of the political, social, economic, physical, and ecological systems of the world while applying the five main themes of geography: Location, Place, Human-Environment Interaction, Movement, and Regions. The text and associated lectures are intended to help you develop an appreciation for the diversity and uniqueness of the world's cultures as well as a deeper understanding of the complex geophysical differences of the world. Our goals are to explore world regions understand how each of these regions relate to other regions of the world, and how we influence and are influenced by these seemingly distant places. You will be challenged to view the world in new and innovative ways and to think critically about current global issues.

COLONNADE & GENERAL EDUCATION CREDIT: GEOG 110: World Regional Geography is a three-hour general education course. Geography majors are also required to take it.

- Student who enrolled at WKU prior to Fall 2014 – GEOG 110 fulfills general education World Cultures requirement (Category E).
- Students who enrolled at WKU Fall 2014 or later – GEOG 110 fulfills Colonnade, Explorations, Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Yousafzai, Malala. *I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*. The bookstore stocks the same book that the instructor uses, but there are other editions available that you can use. A good atlas is recommended, but not required.

Students have access to a variety of course materials through Blackboard. There will be podcasts, videos, news articles, and journal articles, among other items. Some of the posted material has accompanying questions, which will help you to understand the course material. Students will also take an active role in finding resources for the course. There is no textbook required for the course.

GRADING SCALE: Grade is determined using a percentage system.

A = 90-100% B = 80-89 % C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = 59% and lower

GRADE DETERMINATION:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Exams | 65% |
| Unit Assignments & Quizzes | 20% |
| Writing Assignments | 15% |
| Total | 100% |

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." – Benjamin Franklin

EXAMS: There will be 3 exams, which will be timed online exams and will include a variety of question types. Exam 1 will cover units 1-4, exam 2 will cover units 5-8, and exam 3 will cover units 9-12.

UNIT ASSIGNMENTS & QUIZZES: It is important that you review the unit material prior to working on the assignments and quizzes. There will be a variety of types of assignments and quizzes worth varying point values that will contribute to this part of your grade. Each unit will have at least one assignment that will cover the lecture material and posted resources. Some units will have more than one unit assignment. There will be a variety of question types and instructions will vary. The map quizzes cover place locations within each unit. There will be 6 map quizzes and each will cover 2 units, so expect one to be due with every even numbered unit. You will have one attempt at the map quizzes, they will be timed, and you will have to complete them in one sitting.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: There will be 2-3 written assignments, which are opportunities to show your knowledge of course material. Correct use of course terminology is expected in written work. Draw on both class resources and outside sources to produce and answer as necessary. All written answers require correct APA source citations and reference list of both class material and outside sources. The written assignments have to be written in your own words. The writing assignments are short so no quotes are allowed.

COURSE ORGANIZATION: There are 12 units, which include one introductory unit, ten world region units, and an *I am Malala* unit.

- Unit 1: Intro to regional geography
- Unit 2: North America
- Unit 3: Middle & South America
- Unit 4: Europe
- Unit 5: Russia & the Independent States
- Unit 6: North Africa & Southwest Asia
- Unit 7: Sub-Saharan Africa
- Unit 8: South Asia
- Unit 9: East Asia
- Unit 10: Southeast Asia
- Unit 11: Oceania
- Unit 12: *I am Malala*

“When ideas are shared, they don’t add up, they multiply.” – John Lehrer

COURSE OBJECTIVES: At the successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate a clear understanding of the following concepts:

- Understand the global geography framework and the concepts geographers use to explain interdependence among world regions and how those relationships change over time
- Be familiar with fundamental physical processes of weather, climate, geomorphology and biogeography and the environmental patterns they create
- Have a working knowledge of the processes of globalization and how global and local processes interact to affect particular places
- Understand the current political, social, and economic configuration of the world system in a historical perspective
- Apply fundamental concepts of geography, such as place, scale, region, and diffusion, that make up the “geographer’s toolkit” for analyzing patterns of human activity around the world.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” – Nelson Mandela

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

POLICIES FOR MAKING UP MISSED WORK:

Late work will be accepted up to one week from the due date for half credit.

“Action is the foundational key to all success.” – Pablo Picasso

PPTS, LECTURES, & RESOURCES: Use of the PPTs, lecture notes, and resources will help broaden your understanding of course material. The resources include reading of journal articles and websites, listening to podcasts and radio shows, and watching videos, among other resources related to course content. Some of the resources cover important material that is not covered in the lectures. Some of the resources have questions to consider listed with them to help you understand what is most important in the resource. Activities and assessments are based on the PPTs, lectures, and resources.

“The reading of all good books is like a conversation with the finest minds of past centuries.” – Rene Descartes

PLACE LOCATIONS: In this class, we learn about many places around the world. The place locations discussed in class lectures and the reading assignments will show up on the map quizzes

“The world is a book, and those who do not travel, read only a page.” – Saint Augustine

OGDEN STUDENT COURSE ATTENDANCE STATEMENT: The faculty and staff of Ogden College of Science and Engineering are committed to providing you with learning experiences and opportunities. You must assume ownership of your education and be an active participant in the classroom and laboratory to take advantage of these opportunities. Active participation requires you to attend class. Scientific studies have shown that attendance during scheduled classroom and laboratory meetings is directly correlated to your performance on assignments and exams and the potential to earn higher grades. Additionally, if you do not regularly attend class, you are missing important information about course topics, due dates, and assignment details that are crucial to your success in the course. Therefore, as a student enrolled in an Ogden course, you are expected to attend every class meeting and to inform your instructor regarding the reasons for any absences as soon as practical. Your instructor may incorporate class attendance/participation as part of the grading criteria.

ATTENDANCE POLICY & CLASS PARTICIPATION: Attendance is monitored through the students Blackboard activity. Falling behind and missing assignments will greatly jeopardize your grade.

“Eighty percent of success is showing up.” – Woody Allen

FIELD TRIPS: There may be required work outside of class that will take you to various local places. Due to the variety of topics covered in class, there is always a possibility of a field trip.

*Due to COVID-19, it is unlikely that you will be required to visit public places for any of the assignments.

“Wherever you go, go with all your heart.” – Confucius

TECHNOLOGY: Students should have basic computer skills, be able to navigate the Internet, and be able to send and receive e-mails.

- **Blackboard:** Blackboard will be used for announcements, PowerPoints, resources, and grades, among other things. You will be responsible for accessing Blackboard for assignments and for submitting work through Blackboard. Grades on Blackboard are for your information and may not reflect the most up-to-date grades; the instructor keeps a copy of the official grades for each student. *If you are unfamiliar with Blackboard, then it is important to go through the student tutorial.
- **Google Shared Drive:** A Google shared drive will be created if need arises.
- **E-mail:** Be sure to have access to your WKU e-mail address. This form of communication will be used to contact individuals during the semester. All students should be familiar with proper e-mail etiquette. E-mails are answered Monday through Friday during office hours.
- **Submitting Questions Electronically:** Questions that apply to the whole class should be submitted through discussion board in the general Q & A (question and answer) forum in Blackboard. Students can answer each

other's questions on discussion board. Examples of questions that apply to the whole class include: questions regarding assignments, the exams, and lecture material. Questions that apply only to you should be submitted via e-mail; for example: questions regarding grades or absences.

"Thanks to technology, we can instantly communicate across the world, but it still doesn't help us know what to say." - Jonathan Sacks

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR POLICY: Students need to be respectful of others in all interactions in the class. Most interaction will occur through discussion board, but online virtual meetings may arise during the semester.

"Behavior is the mirror in which everyone shows their image." - Johann Wolfgang von Goeth

CHEATING/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: There is ZERO tolerance for cheating. Students that are caught cheating will be dropped from the course with an F. This includes cheating on tests, copying another student's homework, forged excuses, and plagiarism in written papers, among other actions.

When writing, copying another person's work without giving credit is **PLAGIARISM** (this includes photographs, written words, and another student's paper). If you copy the exact words of another person and give credit, it is still plagiarism unless you indicate which words are yours and which are the other person's through the use of quotation marks. A good rule of thumb is not to use more than three consecutive words of another's work and rephrase the rest of the ideas into your own words. All assignments in this class are to be written in your own words. The writing assignments in this class are short, so no quotes are allowed.

"Time will inevitably uncover dishonesty and lies, history has no place for them." – Norodom Sihanouk

NO EXTRA WORK AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER: No extra work will be assigned at the end of the semester to increase an individual's grade. If you are on **academic probation** or need a specific grade in the course, then do your very best throughout the semester, do all the assignments, utilize the instructor as a resource, and come to all the classes.

SCHOOL CLOSURE ASSIGNMENTS: In the case of missed class(es) due to school closure, there may be assignments to make up missed class(es).

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

GEOG 110 MEETS THE LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE COLONNADE-EXPLORATIONS-SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES SUBCATEGORY IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.
 - In this course, students will increase their geographic literacy and acquire new geographic tools and analytical skills to use to better understand the complexities of the world in which we live. Students will explore geographical relationships by reading and interpreting maps and spatial data. They will develop a working knowledge of the global geography framework and the concepts geographers use to examine interrelationships among world regions and how those relationships change over time.
2. Apply knowledge, theories, and research methods including ethical conduct, to analyze problems pertinent to at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.
 - Students will apply fundamental concepts of geography, such as place, scale, region, and diffusion, to analyze patterns of human activity around the world. They will apply geographic theories and research methodologies to such topics as population growth, gender, economic development, globalization, natural resource use, and climate change, among others, as well as to address ethical issues inherent to global and local diversity.
3. Understand and demonstrate how at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences conceptualizes diversity and the ways it shapes human experiences.
 - Students will explore changing scientific and societal understandings of race, ethnicity, and gender as expressed in the spatial dynamics of cultural identity influenced by demographics, migration, and the formation of multicultural societies.
4. Integrate knowledge of at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences into issues of personal or public importance.
 - Students will gain capacity to act as an informed world citizen and participate in decision-making with knowledge that the local affects regional and global issues.

5. Communicate effectively using the language and terminology germane to at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.
- Students will learn the meanings and applications of geography terminology and effectively use geographic terminology in written and oral communications.

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.” – Albert Einstein

SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY: The student is responsible for meeting all deadlines in regards to adding, dropping, or changing the status of a course. Deadlines will be waived only in exceptional cases. The student schedule exception appeal form shall be used to initiate all waivers. This form requires a written attachment of appropriate documentation. Poor academic performance, general malaise, or undocumented general stress factors are not considered as legitimate circumstances. The last day to drop a course with a W is about halfway through the semester.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WHO REQUIRE ACCOMMODATIONS: In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services in DUC A-200 of the Student Success Center in Downing University Center. The phone number is 745-5004. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

CRITICAL THINKING INITIATIVE: This course contains critical thinking tactics to build critical thinking skills. Critical thinking activities include in-class work (either alone or in a group), essays and short writing assignments, and exam questions among other activities.

INTERNATIONAL CONTENT: This course provides students with many opportunities to explore world cultures.

“Diversification and globalization are the keys to the future.” – Fujio Mitarai

TITLE IX: Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU’s Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070)

at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040)

at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf. Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.

WKU Policy on Face Coverings in the Classroom: Out of respect for the health and safety of the WKU community and in adherence with the [CDC guidelines](#), the University requires that a cloth face covering (reusable or disposable) that covers both the nose and mouth must be worn at all times when in public areas within all buildings. Students must properly wear face coverings while in class regardless of the room size or the nature of the classroom activities. Students who fail to wear a face covering as required will be in violation of the WKU Student Code of Conduct and will be asked to comply or will face disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the University. Accommodations to face coverings must be determined by the Student Accessibility Resource Center and documented before a student may attend class.

COURSE SCHEDULE: The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change according to class progress. Assignments and due dates will be made available during the semester.

IMPORTANT CLASS & WKU DATES ARE POSTED IN BLACKBOARD WITH THE SYLLABUS AND UPDATED IN THE COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LAST UPDATED: 1/11/2021