

# **GEOG200 World Regional Geography**

Summer 2022

**Instructor:** Jia Feng

**Office Hours:** Appointment by emails

**Website:** TBD

**Lectures:** M-F, 8:30-11:30 am, Classroom TBD

## **Course Description:**

Geography is the study of places and the relationships between people and their environments (National Geographic Society). GEOG200 World Regional Geography introduces how the field of geography understands the world through the interactions between the physical world and its different people across space and time through a regional perspective. In the past century, our world has witnessed various new technological innovations, the spread of economic and political ideologies, and the movement of people and goods across the globe. However, the interconnectedness of the world is not new since countries have long been connected through trade, conquest, and colonialism. Accordingly, a regional and local understanding of the world has become extremely important for us to understand a wide variety of social, economic, political, and environmental issues under the contemporary configuration of the globalized world.

**Course Text:** *(textbook information is tentative. Required books will be purchased and provided by the THINK program to students in this course)*

*Regions* by Jan Nijman, Michael Shin, and Peter O. Muller, 18<sup>th</sup> edition by Wiley

Recommended textbooks *(not provided by THINK and not necessary for the course):*

**Fundamentals of World Regional Geography**, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition -- Joseph J. Hobbs

**World Regional Geography**, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition -- Joseph J. Hobbs

**Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World** -- Rowntree & Lewis

**Geography: Realms, Regions, and Concepts** -- Harm J. de Blij and Peter O. Muller

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. define what constitutes a region in terms of the physical and cultural landscape.
2. place each geographic region within a global context in terms of human social behavior and cultural, demographic, religious and other societal concerns.
3. write a research-based paper focused on a specific region and analyze multiple connections between the region described and other locations around the globe.

### **Course Requirements: (tentative)**

In this fast-paced, three-week class, we will have a total of 12 morning quizzes, 1 short paper, and 5 class activities as the required assignments.

10 best of the 12 morning quizzes	300 points (30 points each)
Short paper:	100 points
5 class activities:	50 points
Total:	450 points

#### **1. Morning quizzes (not cumulative)**

The 20-minute morning quizzes will take place on the mornings of Tuesdays to Fridays. Each quiz will have a question session (multiple choice, T/F, short answer) and a map session. Each quiz will have about 20 questions and be given at the beginning of each class. Please bring a pen or pencil to finish the quiz. Among the total of 12 morning quizzes, the 10 highest scores will be used to calculate your final grade. Your exam sheet will be returned to you on the following morning.

#### **2. Short paper**

Around the second week of this class, you will be assigned a short paper for you to link what we have learned in the class, such as climate, culture, demography, migration, economy, and landform, with a

dish/food product/snack/drink of your choice. You will be asked to write a 5-6 page, double-space paper that helps explain why this specific dish/food product/snack/drink was invented and got popular from its source region and the connection between the item and all their raw resources.

### 3. Class activities

In this class, we will have 5 class activities that we will complete together, in teams, or individually during our class time. Some of them might involve outdoor activities while some will be completed in the classroom. Each activity will count for 10 points towards the final grade.

Theoretically, you could earn a total of up to 450 points in this class and your final grade will be calculated based on the following scheme:

A	93	418.5	A-	90	405
B+	87	391.5	B	83	373.5
B-	80	360	C+	77	346.5
C	73	328.5	C-	70	315
D+	67	301.5	D	63	283.5
D-	60	270	F	0	0

**NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THIS CLASS.**

### Classroom Etiquettes and Academic Integrity Policy

All viewpoints are valid in a discussion; therefore, you are expected to be respectful of others even if you disagree with their statements or opinions. By being receptive to new, and perhaps different ideas, you will enhance your own learning experience. Please be prompt, courteous, and civil.

You are expected to follow the University's policies on academic integrity available at:

<https://www.unr.edu/administrative-manual/6000-6999-courses-curricula-and-organizational-change-process/6502-academic-standards>

### Deadlines

The assignments are required to be handed in on time. Five percent of your grade will be subtracted for each day that an assignment is late. Cancellation or switching time for presentation is generally not

allowed. An unexcused absence from a scheduled presentation will cost 50% of your grade for the assignment. The only exceptions to this policy will be due to serious illness, or participation in university-approved athletic competitions, and written verification will be required in such cases. Group presentations will occur as scheduled in class, and cannot be changed. You'll get an F if you fail to complete the film review or class essay in the class.

## WebCampus

You are expected to closely follow the course modules on WebCampus. This class depends heavily on WebCampus for updates on schedule, communication, announcements, distribution of reading materials and/or other course materials, and submission of assignments, news article and your writings. You are held responsible for information sent via e-mail or WebCampus course website.

## Course schedule (tentative)

	Dates	Topics	
Module 1	7/11/2022	Introduction to Geography, Maps	
Module 2	7/12/2022	Population, physiography, climate and agriculture, the U.S.	T
Module 3	7/13/2022	U.S. Cont'd	T
Module 4	7/14/2022	Canada and Australia	T
Module 5	7/15/2022	Middle America & Caribbean	T
Module 6	7/18/2022	South America	
Module 7	7/19/2022	Sub-Saharan Africa	T
Module 8	7/20/2022	Sub-Saharan Africa Cont'd	T
Module 9	7/21/2022	NASWA	T
Module 10	7/22/2022	South Asia	T
Module 11	7/25/2022	East Asia	
Module 12	7/26/2022	East Asia Cont'd	T
Module 13	7/27/2022	Europe	T
Module 14	7/28/2022	Europe	T
Module 15	7/29/2022	TBD	T

## University Policies

### Statement on COVID-19 Policies

#### Face Coverings

In response to COVID-19, and in alignment local, state, and U.S. Center for Disease Control guidelines, face coverings are required at all times in all UNR indoor public spaces, including classroom, laboratory, studio, creative space, or any type of in-person instructional activity, and public spaces. Furthermore, individuals who have not been fully vaccinated against COVID 19 are required to wear a face covering at all times while on campus, including all indoor and outdoor public spaces.

A “face covering” is defined as a “covering that fully covers a person’s nose and mouth, including without limitation, cloth face mask, surgical mask, towels, scarves, and bandanas” (State of Nevada Emergency Directive 024).

Students that cannot wear a face covering due to a medical condition or disability, or who are unable to remove a mask without assistance may seek an accommodation through the Disability Resource Center.

#### Social Distancing

In alignment with State of Nevada guidelines, social distancing is no longer required.

#### Disinfecting Your Learning Space

Disinfecting supplies are provided for you to disinfect your learning space. You may also use your own disinfecting supplies.

#### COVID-19, COVID-19 Like Symptoms, and Contact with Someone Testing Positive for COVID-19

Students testing positive for COVID 19, exhibiting COVID 19 symptoms regardless of vaccination status will not be allowed to attend in-person instructional activities and must leave the venue immediately. Students should contact the [Student Health Center](#) or their health care provider to receive care and who can provide the latest direction on quarantine and self-isolation. Contact your instructor immediately to make instructional and learning arrangements.

#### **Accommodations for COVID 19 Quarantined Students**

For students who are required to quarantine or self-isolate due to 1) COVID 19 infection or 2) exposure while not vaccinated, instructors must provide opportunities to make-up missed course work, including assignments, quizzes or exams. In courses with mandatory attendance policies, instructors must not penalize students for missing classes while quarantined.

#### Failure to Comply with Policy (including as outlined in this Syllabus) or Directives of a University Employee

In accordance with section 6,502 of the University Administrative Manual, a student may receive academic and disciplinary sanctions for failure to comply with policy, including this syllabus, for failure to comply with the directions of a University Official, for disruptive behavior in the classroom, or any other prohibited action. “Disruptive behavior” is defined in part as behavior, including but not limited to failure to follow course, laboratory or safety rules, or endangering the health of others. A student may be dropped from class at any time for misconduct or disruptive behavior in the classroom upon recommendation of the instructor and with approval of the college dean. A student may also receive disciplinary sanctions

through the Office of Student Conduct for misconduct or disruptive behavior, including endangering the health of others, in the classroom. The student shall not receive a refund for course fees or tuition.

### Statement on Academic Dishonesty

"The University Academic Standards Policy defines academic dishonesty, and mandates specific sanctions for violations. See the University Academic Standards policy: [UAM 6,502](#)."

### Statement of Disability Services

*Use either the traditional or online statement, in addition to the last sentence regarding third party materials.*

#### *For Traditional and Seated Classrooms:*

"Any student with a disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me or the [Disability Resource Center](#) (Pennington Achievement Center Suite 230) as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodations."

#### *For Online Courses:*

"If you are a student who would normally seek accommodations in a traditional classroom, please contact me as soon as possible. You may also contact the Disability Resource Center for services for online courses by emailing [drc@unr.edu](mailto:drc@unr.edu) or calling 775-784-6000. Academic accommodations for online courses may be different than those for seated classrooms; it is important that you contact us as soon as possible to discuss services. The University of Nevada, Reno supports equal access for students with disabilities. For more information, visit the [Disability Resource Center](#)."

**This course may leverage 3<sup>rd</sup> party web/multimedia content, if you experience any issues accessing this content, please notify your instructor.**

### Statement on Audio and Video Recording

#### *Student-created Recordings*

"Surreptitious or covert video-taping of class or unauthorized audio recording of class is prohibited by law and by Board of Regents policy. This class may be videotaped or audio recorded only with the written permission of the instructor. In order to accommodate students with disabilities, some students may have been given permission to record class lectures and discussions. Therefore, students should understand that their comments during class may be recorded."

#### *Instructor-created Recordings*

Class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to review and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live to view. Students who participate with their camera on or who use a profile image are consenting to have their video or image recorded. If you do not consent to have your profile or video image recorded, keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Students who un-mute during class and participate orally are consenting to have their voices recorded. If you do not consent to have your voice recorded during class, keep your mute button activated and only communicate by using the "chat" feature, which allows you to type questions and comments live.

## Statement on Maintaining a Safe Learning and Work Environment

The University of Nevada, Reno is committed to providing a safe learning and work environment for all. If you believe you have experienced discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking, whether on or off campus, or need information related to immigration concerns, please contact the University's Equal Opportunity & Title IX office at 775-784-1547. Resources and interim measures are available to assist you. For more information, please visit the [Equal Opportunity and Title IX](#) page.

*In addition to the required information listed above, it is strongly recommended that the syllabus include:*

- Methods for communicating with students outside the classroom regarding matters such as class cancellations, meeting times, or room changes
- More detail about what constitutes academic dishonesty, with a concrete list or examples of "dos and don'ts" in the context of the class
- **Statement for academic success services:** "Your student fees cover usage of the [University Math Center](https://www.unr.edu/university-math-center) (https://www.unr.edu/university-math-center), (775) 784-4433; [University Tutoring Center](https://www.unr.edu/tutoring-center) (https://www.unr.edu/tutoring-center), (775) 784-6801; and [University Writing & Speaking Center](https://www.unr.edu/writing-speaking-center) (https://www.unr.edu/writing-speaking-center), (775) 784-6030. These centers support your classroom learning; it is your responsibility to take advantage of their services. Keep in mind that seeking help outside of class is the sign of a responsible and successful student."