

# **GEO-101-02/05: World Regional Geography**

Spring 2015

Bunker Hill Community College

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30am – 9:45am / 10:00am – 11:15am

Classroom: H152/H120

Instructor: John Patrick Connors

E-mail: [jp201162@bhcc.mass.edu](mailto:jp201162@bhcc.mass.edu)

Office Hours: Thursdays 11:30 – 12:30

Office Location: B336

## **Course Overview**

This course examines the geographical context of major social, cultural, economic, and political issues in selected regions of the world and develops a mastery of maps and other graphic aids as means of learning and communication. Major regional emphases vary from semester to semester among areas of Eastern Europe, the former USSR, the Middle East, the Orient, Latin America, and Africa. The course meets “World View” General Education Requirement. Area 3. Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in Academic Reading III (ESL098) or Reading Skills II (RDG095) and Writing Skills II (ENG095) or exemption by placement testing.

## **Course Outcomes**

- To learn about and engage in academic discussions of important global and regional issues.
- To learn to read maps, charts, graphs and other resources to gain greater understanding of land, people and places.
- To improve critical thinking, oral and written communication skills in an academic environment.

## **Course Materials**

*Required Textbook:* Rowntree, Les, et al. *Globalization and Diversity: 4th Edition*, Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishing.

It is extremely important that you complete the reading assignments in this textbook as it will be used in close combination with all other course activities and you will be responsible for all material from the text on exams and quizzes.

Additional readings and supplementary materials will be made available online via the course Moodle site.

## Course Format

The course will be a combination of lecture, discussion, group assignments, and multimedia assignments on the course web site, available on Moodle.

### Exams

You will complete a mid-term and a final exam. These exams will be comprehensive, including all course material covered through the date of the exam. The mid-term will cover all material during the first half of the semester, and the final will include all information covered during the *entire* semester. The exams will be a mixture of multiple-choice, short answer, and essay questions. Students that require alternative accommodations to complete exams should refer to the Students with Disabilities section below for instructions.

### Video Responses

Throughout the course of the semester, we will be using an array of multimedia materials, including online videos. You will be asked to watch four videos outside of class and to provide a 500-1000 word response to these videos.

### Final Project

The objective of the final project is to understand how different global actors (firms, non-governmental organizations, or public agencies with global reach) are shaping specific regions. This will be a group assignment, and each group will be asked to complete a paper and provide an in-class presentation. Groups will be assigned based on interests of the class.

The final project will be broken into smaller components throughout the semester, and your final grade will be based on all of these components. You will provide a project proposal (10%), an annotated bibliography (10%), a written paper (50%) and an oral presentation (30%).

### Grading

Attendance & Discussion	20%
In-class Participation	10%
Discussion Lead	10%
Video Responses	20%
Each Response	5% (x4)
Exams	30%
Mid-term Exam	15%
Final Exam	15%
Final Project	30%
Written Paper	15%
Oral Presentation	9%
Annotated Bibliography	3%
Project Proposal	3%

## **Course Expectations**

### Attendance and lateness

Participation and punctuality is important to success in this course. Students should make efforts to arrive on time to class. A record of your attendance will be kept and consistent lateness will result in a reduced grade for the participation component of this course. If arriving late to class, please come in quietly and be respectful to the class in progress.

### Mobile Phone and Digital Device Policy

The use of electronic devices for purposes other than taking notes is forbidden in the classroom. Anyone using electronic devices in a way that is distracting to their classmates or the instructor will be asked to leave the class. Distracting use of electronics includes listening to music, talking on the phone, texting, visiting social media sites, wearing headphones, and watching videos.

### Classroom Conduct

Although I attempt to maintain an informal classroom atmosphere any student behavior that disrupts the learning process of the class will not be tolerated. Disruptive behavior includes private conversations during lectures, cheating on exams, plagiarism, racial and sexual harassment, damage to college equipment, intoxication, or any other activities that infringe on the rights of other students to learn. Depending on the severity of the activity, disruptive behavior may result in actions ranging from a warning to administrative withdrawal from the class.

### Due Dates

The assignments are due via Moodle by 11:59pm on the specified due date, unless otherwise noted. You are responsible for submitting all assignments by the due dates specified on the syllabus, even if the instructor does not provide any additional reminders. Late submissions will receive a reduced grade.

### Assignments

Assignments must be typed with a word processor and submitted electronically via Moodle as Word Document or a PDF. Please visit one of BHCC's public computer labs if you do not own a computer. Print or e-mailed submissions will not be accepted. I highly recommend that you save electronic copies of your reports for your personal records.

## **BHCC Policies**

### Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing equal access to the educational experience of all students in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. A student with documented disability should

schedule an appointment with the Office of Students with Disabilities (D-Building Room D106) in order to obtain appropriate services. Learning accommodations outside of the standard course requirements cannot be provided without written notification from the Office for Students with Disabilities.

### Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating is defined as taking credit for work done by another person; knowingly giving, receiving or using unauthorized assistance during tests or exams, copying or purchasing other's work; arranging for others to do your work. Plagiarism consists of submission of work of an author without giving acknowledgement and credit to the course; paraphrasing the work of their authors without crediting the sources; using direct quote from any text without acknowledgement of the author and source. Cheating and Plagiarism will result in course dismissal and disciplinary proceedings by the college for violation of the BHCC Student Code of Conduct.

### Sustainability

BHCC is committed to a mission that advances sustainability, environmental conservation and scholarship on sustainability topics and to help prepare the next generation of leaders in a new clean energy economy. We seek to position Bunker Hill Community College at the vanguard of the field and help it make the environmental, social, health, and economic benefits of sustainability a reality on our campus and around the world to better serve our diverse community.

### Grading

94-100 = A

90-93 = A-

87-89 = B+

83-86 = B

80-82 = B-

77-79 = C+

70-76 = C

60-69 = D

0-59 = F

## Syllabus

<i>Week</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Reading and Assignments</i>
1 Jan 20, 22	Introduction Physical Geography Global Change and Global Issues	Rowntree et al. Chapter 1
2 Jan 27, 29	Global Environmental Change Climate Change	Reading: Rowntree et al. Chapter 2
3 Feb 3, 5	Europe Cultural Hegemony	Reading: Rowntree et al. Chapter 8 Assignment: Video Response 1
4 Feb 10, 12	North America Neoliberalism	Reading: Rowntree et al. Chapter 3
5 Feb 17, 19	Russia Political Economy Utopianism	Reading: Rowntree et al. Chapter 9 Assignment: Video Response 2
6 Feb 24, 26	Latin America and the Caribbean Colonialism and Post-colonialism	Rowntree et al. Chapter 4 Rowntree et al. Chapter 5 Assignment: Final Paper Proposals
7 Mar 3, 5	Mid-term	
8 Mar 10, 12	Sub-Saharan Africa Sustainable Development	Rowntree et al. Chapter 6
9 Mar 24, 26	Southwest Asia and North Africa Culture and Conflict	Rowntree et al. Chapter 7 Assignment: Annotated Bibliography
10 Mar 31, Apr 2	Southeast Asia Moral Economy	Rowntree et al. Chapter 13 Assignment: Video Response 3
11 Apr 7, 9	East Asia	Rowntree et al. Chapter 11
12 Apr 14, 16	South Asia and Central Asia	Rowntree et al. Chapter 10 Rowntree et al. Chapter 12
13 Apr 21, 23	<b>*Online Classes*</b> Australia and Oceania	Rowntree et al. Chapter 14 Assignment: Video Response 4
14 Apr 28, 30	Global Governance Counter Hegemony	Final Papers Due April 28
15 May 5, 7	Final Presentations	
16 TBD	Final Exam Week	

## **Important Dates**

January 27 – Last day for add/drop

\*February 5 – Video Response 1

\*February 19 – Video Response 2

\*February 26 – Final Paper Proposals Due

March 5 – Mid-Term Exam

March 6 – Warning Grades Posted Online

March 16-22 – Spring Break

\*March 26 – Annotated Bibliography Due

\*April 2 – Video Response 3

April 9 – Last day for course withdrawal

April 21 – Online Class

\*April 23 – Online Class; Video Response 4

\*April 28 – Final Papers Due

May 11 – Last Day of Classes

May 12-15 – Final Exams