**Regional Geography of the World**
**GEO103-lec-01**
**Spring 2021**

**Class Time & Location:** MW 12:30p-1:50p in Spencer 249
**Instructor:** Kyle B. Carpenter
**Office:** Spencer 254
**E-Mail:** kcarpenter@uarichmountain.edu
**Phone:** 479-394-7622 ext. 1342
**Office Hours:** Monday & Wednesday 11:00a-12:30p & 3:00-5:00p; Tuesday & Thursday 9:00a-11:00a; Friday 10:00a-2:00p

***This syllabus is intended as a set of guidelines. Your instructor reserves the right to make modifications in the content, schedule, and requirements as necessary to promote the best educational environment possible within the prevailing conditions affecting this course.***

## Texts:

**White, George, et.al, *Essentials of World Regional Geography*, 3rd ed. 2014.**

## Class Focus: Instructor's Overview of the Class

### Course Description

This course illustrates world conditions as they exist in the environment and in various cultures. It introduces map reading of the various continents and other important geographical concepts. This course requires at least one paper utilizing citations.

### Program Outcomes

Students will increase their

- writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills,
- understanding of different cultures and societies across the globe and how both have changed over time, and
- technological and research skills.

### Rationale

This course provides the means by which students will accomplish the Program Outcomes outlined in the college catalogue as evidenced by the listed course

objectives. This course will allow students to utilize geographical knowledge, research, collaboration, and presentation skills in future college endeavors and throughout their life. It offers a vast survey of world regional geography. Students are introduced to the multiplicity and diversity of regional space. They discover and develop themes like natural environments, human geography, population, politics, economics, and human rights. They also investigate the sources and methods of geographic knowledge. Students will sharpen their reading and study skills as well as their ability to express themselves verbally and in writing. They will also demonstrate their abilities to analyze and synthesize information in order to become better critical thinkers.

**Course Objectives**

By the end of the semester students should be able to:

1. Understand the concept of the spatial perspective and how it applies to geography.
2. Explain the basic spatial distribution of physical and human earth phenomena.
3. Utilize demographic data to show human population patterns, consequences, and forecasts.
4. Recognize economic factors and the influences of globalization.
5. Demonstrate the interconnectedness between humans and their environment.
6. Improve reading and critical thinking skills by various independent reading projects and writing at least one scholarly paper.
    a. Components include:
        i. Proper grammar
        ii. Proper documentation (citations)
        iii. Understanding and using reliable sources

## TENTATIVE SEMESTER READING AND TESTING SCHEDULE

Week 1- Jan. 11: Procedures, Syllabus, Intro to Regional Geography
Jan. 13: Procedures, Syllabus, Intro to Regional Geography

Week 2- Jan. 18: What is Geography?
Jan. 20: Regions and Human Geography
-Journal 1 due Jan. 20

- Read Chapter 1 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 3- Jan. 25: Europe's Physical Geography
Jan. 27: Europe's Human Geography
-Journal 2 due Jan. 27
- Read Chapter 2 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 4- Feb. 1: Russia's Physical Geography
Feb. 3: Russia's Human Geography
-Journal 3 due Feb. 3
- Read Chapter 3 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 5- Feb. 8: Contemporary Geographic Issues in Russia
Feb. 10: East Asia's Physical Geography
-Journal 4 due Feb. 10
- Read Chapter 4 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 6- Feb. 15: East Asia's Human Geography
Feb. 17: Southeast Asia's Physical Geography
-Journal 5 due Feb. 17
- Read Chapter 5 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 7- Feb. 22: Southeast Asia's Human Geography
Feb. 24: Midterm Project Workshop
-Journal 6 due Feb. 24
- Read Chapter 5 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 8- Mar. 1: South Asia's Physical Geography
Mar. 3: South Asia's Human Geography
-**Midterm due Mar. 3**
- Read Chapter 6 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 9- Mar. 8: Southwest Asia's Physical Geography
Mar. 10: Southwest Asia's Human Geography
-Journal 7 due Mar. 10

- Read Chapter 7 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 10- Mar. 15: North Africa's Physical Geography
Mar. 17: North Africa's Human Geography
-Journal 8 due Oct. 26
- Read Chapter 7 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 11- Mar. 22: Spring Break
Mar. 24: Spring Break
-Read excerpt from *Shadow of the Silk Road*

Week 12- Mar. 29: Sub-Saharan Africa's Physical Geography
Mar. 31: Sub-Saharan Africa's Human Geography
-Journal 9 due Mar. 31
- Read Chapter 8 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 13- Apr. 5: Central America's Physical Geography
Apr. 7: Central America's Human Geography
-Journal 10 due Apr. 7
- Read Chapter 10 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 14- Apr. 12: South America's Physical Geography
Apr. 14: South America's Human Geography
-Journal 11 due Nov. 23
-Read excerpt from *Shadow of the Silk Road*

Week 15- Apr. 19: North America's Physical Geography
Apr. 21: North America's Human Geography
-Journal 12 due Nov. 30
- Read Chapter 11 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Week 16- Apr. 26: Final Project Workshop
Apr. 28: Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica
- Read Chapter 9 in *Essentials in World Regional Geography*

Finals Week: Final Projects due w/presentations

## Class Requirements

**Course Structure & Content:**

This class is based on lectures in-class and on Zoom, reading, discussion, and supplemental material located on Moodle. See attached class and Zoom norms. Make sure to keep up with your **schedule** in the syllabus and create regimented schedules for yourselves so you do not miss assignments. Also, always make sure to follow the syllabus and the Moodle course modules as they guide you. Finally, make sure to follow all directions as they are given. This means you should take the time to read thoroughly all the instructions of all the assignments. A huge part of your grade in this course relies on you taking personal responsibility for your work. Manage your time and follow instructions and you will succeed.

**UARM Credit Hour Calculator**

For every course credit hour, you should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of class of concentrated attention on course-related work. This includes but is not limited to preparing for class, attending class, reading, studying, homework, etc. For a three hour course, a typical student should spend at least nine hours dedicated to the course.

**Assignments**

**1. Journal Entries:** Write a one paragraph (150-300 words) response to a prompt found on Moodle. The paragraph needs to include a clear, articulate thesis backed up with evidence from class lectures, podcasts, and the textbook materials. The evidence you use needs to be cited utilizing Chicago Style footnote citations. Further information on formatting and citations can be found on Moodle.

**2. Discussions:** In every in-class period, we will have an academic discussion about various geographic sources. In those discussions, you will fill out a worksheet related to those sources. These worksheets count toward your overall grade.

**3. Midterm Project:** Research Paper

For your midterm paper, choose one country from a region we will study up to the midterm date. Complete a research paper on that country. Your midterm paper

should be between 1000-1200 words long, be typed in 12-point font, and double-spaced. Find detailed instructions for your midterm paper on Moodle.

**4. <u>Final Project</u>:** "The Trans Eurasian Expedition Itinerary"

Utilizing all the information and skills you gained in class, you will develop a thematic itinerary describing the necessary information needed to travel between cities in Eurasia. The trip must be overland and must cross at least two of the regions we discussed in class. Your itinerary must have a physical or cultural (human) geographic theme. You will develop a portfolio describing your thematic itinerary to submit via Moodle and present to the class during Finals week. Find detailed instructions for your final project on Moodle.

## Grading Criteria

One midterm project, one final project, 12 journal entries, 24 discussion worksheets and a short extra credit assignment will be used to determine grades. The two projects are both worth 100 points each. All journals will be worth 20 points each, which totals 240 points. All discussions will be worth 10 points each, which totals 240 points. All extra credit goes into a separate category. The total number of points in this class is 680. The point breakdown is as follows:

**612-680=A,**
**544-611=B,**
**476-543=C,**
**408-475=D,**
**407 and below=F**.

I will announce all assignments in class. Students need to be present if they are to benefit from instruction and know the exact dates of all assignments. However, much of the information you need can be found on Moodle. Journals will be due Wednesday nights at 11:59 pm Central Time on Moodle.

## <u>Late Work</u>

-You must turn in Discussion Worksheets by the end of class. I will not accept late Discussion Worksheets. We will have 26 class discussions. 24 of them will count toward your grade If you miss additional classes with an unexcused absence, you will receive a zero on that assignment. If you have an excused absence, I will give you an additional writing assignment to make up for your Discussion Worksheet.

-I will take a 10% per day deduction off late Midterms and Journals. If you turn in a Journal or Midterm more than nine (9) days late, it will receive a zero.
-There can be no late Finals. You must turn your Final Projects in on time!

**Voluntary Extra Credit:** There will be a 10-point extra credit assignment.

**Scholastic Dishonesty**

Scholastic dishonesty is unacceptable and is not tolerated. Actions taken by individual instructors in response to a case of scholastic dishonesty by students may include (1) assigning a zero for the paper, project, exercise or test and/or (2) requiring the student to resubmit another paper, project, or exercise or to retake the test. In cases of serious or repeated scholastic dishonesty, the student may be referred to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs or his designated representative for disciplinary review subject to possible disciplinary action. Scholastic dishonesty is defined as misconduct including, but not limited to, plagiarism, cheating and collusion. Additionally, I will treat assignments that include excessive artificial syntax as plagiarized. Assignments with artificial syntax look they were generated by machine learning technologies rather than human thought.

**Diversity and Inclusion**

In our structured and unstructured discussions and dialogues, we also will have many opportunities to explore some challenging issues and increase our understandings of different perspectives. Our conversations may not always be easy; we sometimes will make mistakes in our speaking and our listening; sometimes we will need patience or courage or imagination or any number of qualities in combination to engage our texts, our classmates, and our own ideas and experiences. Always we will need respect for others. Thus, an additional aim of our course necessarily will be for us to increase our facility with the sometimes difficult conversations that arise as we deepen our understandings of multiple perspectives – whatever our backgrounds, experiences, or positions.

**Communication**

The primary form of electronic communication in this course will be by email. You must check your UA Rich Mountain email regularly. I highly recommend you set up your UA Rich Mountain email to push to your phone so that you get notifications that you received an email. If you need to contact me, the best way is also via email. However, during my office hours you can visit my office or call my office phone at ext. 1342.

**COVID-19 Protocols**: For your protection, and the protection of others, please adhere to the following COVID-19 protocols until further notice:

**Face Mask Policy**: As per the Executive Order from the governor of Arkansas, all students are required to wear a proper face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth while on campus and in class. Masks with holes or masks that do not completely cover nose and mouth are not acceptable. Any student that does not have a proper mask will leave class and be referred to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for possible disciplinary action.

**Food and Drink**: Food and drinks, including water are not allowed in the classroom at any time. This eliminates the need to remove masks and potentially expose others.

**Attendance**: Daily attendance is mandatory, either in-class or through Zoom. Students are expected to adhere to the flex schedule outlined by the instructor regarding the days students are to appear in-class and those days in which students are to attend via Zoom. In the event a student is quarantined, the students will automatically shift to an all-Zoom attendance format for the 14-day period. Students are to notify their instructors of any quarantine orders, and a doctor's note is required. In the event the instructor is quarantined, the entire class will shift to an all-Zoom/online format for the 14-day period. Students will be notified accordingly. Any potential absence is to be shared with the instructor.

**Technology Concerns**: Students with access concerns are expected to communicate with their instructors. Additionally, students can access the wi-fi from the South parking lot near the Ouachita Center. Students with access issues are encouraged to access course Zoom sessions from the parking lot, if needed. Students would be expected to drive to campus under normal classroom conditions. While it is not ideal, it does ensure reliable access and regular course participation. Students may use personal cell phones/devices to attend Zoom sessions. However, students have the option to check out campus computers from the library (Johnson Learning Commons).

**Social Distancing**: Students are to follow the social distancing guidelines as outlined by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADE) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Additionally, UARM staff have clearly marked hallways, arranged classroom furniture, and removed keyboards from workstations to adhere to such guidelines.

**Seating arrangements**: Students are not to sit at workstations where keyboards have been removed. Furthermore, due to contact-tracing regulations required by the ADE and CDC, students are to sit in the same seat/location each time they come to class.

**Cleaning procedures**: Students are expected to assist in keeping the classroom clean. Students are to clean their workstations each day upon entry and before leaving. Disinfecting wipes will be provided. Students are expected to wear gloves when using computers and keyboards, as these objects are more difficult to clean without damaging them. Gloves will be provided. To prevent cross-contamination, students are to remove and dispose of gloves upon leaving the classroom.

**Title IX**: The University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain (UA Rich Mountain) is committed to providing an environment that emphasizes the dignity and worth of every member of its community and that is free from harassment and discrimination based upon race, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, age, pregnancy, physical, mental disability, or genetic information. Such an environment is necessary to a healthy learning, working and living atmosphere. Accordingly, all acts of discrimination, harassment, retaliation and sexual misconduct as defined by this Policy are prohibited. All complaints or concerns should be submitted to the Title IX coordinator at 479-394-7622 ext. 1460

**Disability Policy**: It is the policy of UA Rich Mountain to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to state and federal law. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations should contact the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Office, 394-7622 ext.1400.

**Arkansas Clean Air Act**: In compliance with the Arkansas Clean Air Act, UA Rich Mountain is a smoke and tobacco free facility. Students and guests are to refrain from the use of all tobacco products while on campus.

**Student Misconduct**: Students committing misconduct are subject to disciplinary sanction(s) and or restrictions. Misconduct or prohibited behavior includes, but is

not limited to endangerment, harassment, disruption, sexual misconduct, dishonesty, illegal drugs and/or alcohol, fire or safety issues, gambling, property violations, computer violations or other violations as listed in detail in the UA Rich Mountain catalog.

**UA Rich Mountain Mission**: UA Rich Mountain provides transformative education to all learners.

**See Something … Hear Something … Say Something**
Suspicious behavior should be reported to Deputy on campus at (479) 394-7622 ext. 1700 OR through an anonymous email link found on the college webpage. The Deputy Sheriff's office is located in the Spencer Building across from the library.