

GEOG 3312: The Geography of Europe

Fall 2015, CRN# 85794, 3 Credit Hours

Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:00 PM to 5:15 PM, Burruss Building 383

First Day of Classes: August 17

Last Day of Classes: December 7

Final Exam: Friday, December 11, 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM

Instructor Info:

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Office: Social Science Building 4051B

Fall Semester 2015 Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (or by appointment).

I encourage you to email me as I will check my email several times each week-day to answer questions, clarify lectures, assignments, and to make appointments. If you want a quick response, please email me directly, not through D2L because I have faster access to email.

Required Textbook:

The EU & Neighbors: A Geography of Europe in the Modern World, second edition, by Brian W. Blouet, from Wiley publishing. ISBN: 978-0470943403

Other readings: To add further context to textbook concepts, class discussions, and ongoing current events in the region, a select set of supplemental readings may be made available at the discretion of the instructor. These readings may be drawn from newspapers, magazines, academic journals, etc., and would be made available online.

Official Course Catalog Description:

A geographical survey of Europe and its environs, with emphasis on the tremendous diversity found in both the physical and human geography of the region. Economic, political and cultural geography are examined within the framework of the forces that are rapidly restructuring the landscapes of Eastern and Western Europe. **Prerequisites:** GEOG 1101 (World Regional Geography) or GEOG 2105 (Social Issues: Perspectives in Geography)

Additional Course Info:

The geography of Europe is an upper level course in regional geography, thus students should have taken world regional geography as a prerequisite to this class to understand this social science discipline. The textbook which I have selected for this class explores the history of the modern European Union. The EU serves as the central framework for the teaching of this course. We will analyze the following thematic components of modern Europe: environment, culture, population, economics, and political geography. We will study the various member states of the European Union as well as their neighbors. Students must be familiar with maps in the course thus be able to locate places on the maps of Europe as well as able to interpret various thematic data represented on choropleth maps.

Course Goals:

This course on The Geography of Europe utilizes the history of the evolution of the European Union (EU) as the central framework to challenge students to accomplish the following goal: students must be able

to identify, define, and contrast the environment, culture, population, economics, urban, and political geography of the member states of the EU through the usage, interpretation, and analysis of data represented on maps.

Grade Breakdown:

Grade Component	Points	Percent
Participation	50	10%
Ten Quizzes	100	20%
Country Project	100	20%
Country Project Current Events	50	10%
Exam 1	100	20%
Exam 2	100	20%
COURSE TOTAL	500	100%

Exams: Two exams each worth 20 percent of the final course grade.

Exam #1 covers the systematic concepts from the class discussions and textbook (Chapters 1-6).

Exam #2 (Final Exam) covers the regional concepts from the class discussions and textbook (Chapters 7-16).

Quizzes (20 percent of total course grade): There will be 10 quizzes throughout the semester each worth 10 percent of the total quiz grade (10 points each). The overall total quiz grade is worth 20 percent of the final course grade. Quizzes may be based on textbook reading, map quizzes on geographic literacy of Europe, or a combination of both. Quizzes may be administered either in-class or online on the D2L course site at the discretion of the instructor.

Country Project (20 percent of total course grade): Students will analyze one or more of the following systematic themes: 1. Physical Environment; 2. Cultural and Historical Geography; 3. Population, Distribution, Density, Migration, and Aging; 4. Rural and Urban Settlements; 5. Economic Geography; and/or 6. Political Geography, and apply to a specific EU state (country). Each student will select his or her particular focus country near the beginning of the semester so that project work may be ongoing throughout the semester. Project deliverables include a paper (maximum 10 pages double spaced) and visual component (such as a powerpoint presentation, blog, or other form of website) summarizing the paper. The country project is worth 20 percent of the total course grade.

- *Country Project Outline:* due by September 16 (10 percent of project grade). One page of what you plan to include in your final paper and present in class in regards to your country and the specific theme(s) through which you choose to analyze your country.
- *Country Project Powerpoint/Blog/Website:* due by December 2 and presentations will take place on December 2 and December 7 (40 percent of project grade). If you choose to create a powerpoint, it must include 12 slides and include the following items; if you choose to create a blog or website then you must still include the following information but in a manner appropriate to a blog or website format:
 - Introduction slide: student names and e-mail addresses, project title (includes country), and presentation date.
 - Bibliography slide: the last slide with your citations to scholarly, professional, and reputable references using a standard citation format such as MLA, APA, Chicago style, etc.

- Maps and images/photographs appropriate to the theme(s) you choose to apply to your country. Each map/image/photo must include a citation to its original source in a small textbox located under map or image on slide.
- *Country Project Paper*: due by December 7 (50 percent of project grade). 10 pages, including cover page and bibliography using a standard consistent citation format citing to scholarly, professional, and reputable references; double-spaced, one-inch margins, times new roman font.

Country Project Current Events (10 percent of total course grade): each week throughout the semester (after selecting your focus country), please post one link to a current event news item related to your particular focus country from a reputable news source. Please post the link in the appropriate discussion forum on the D2L course site. When you post the link, please provide a one paragraph description of the news article and how it relates to the particular week's topic(s) of discussion in class or to the particular theme(s) you are using to analyze your focus country for your project. Feel free to appropriately comment on each other's news article posts on D2L. Throughout the semester, we may have random in-class discussions based on selected current event news items students are posting on D2L. (10 percent of final course grade).

Participation (10 percent of total course grade): Active participation in class discussions and all other components of the course is important. 10 percent of final course grade.

Tentative Course Schedule (Please read the designated reading for a particular week by the beginning of that week to be able to fully participate in class discussions and to complete quizzes):

Week	Required Reading, General Topics for the Week, and Assignment(s) Due
Week 1: August 17 & 19	August 17: First Day of Class Chapter: Introduction: European Union Introduction to European Geography and European Union. Overview of course project components and use of D2L for various course components.
	Systematic Geography: Thematic analysis of Europe and its Neighbors
Week 2: August 24 & 26	Chapter 1: Physical Environments August 26: Guest Speaker: Jan Morian, KSU Education Abroad Advisor Due: Select country of focus for course project by August 26. Country sign-up sheet will be available in class. Only one to two students per country so that we can have most countries covered by all the different course projects.
Week 3: August 31 & September 2	Chapter 2: Cultural and Historical Geography
Week 4: September 7 & 9	Chapter 3: Population, Distribution, Density, Migration and Aging September 7: Labor Day Holiday, no class.
Week 5: September 14 & 16	Chapter 4: Rural and Urban Settlement Due: Country Project Outline due by September 16.
Week 6: September 21 & 23	Chapter 5: Economic Geography: Agriculture, Industry, and Services

Week 7: September 28 & 30	Chapter 6: Political Geography September 29: KSU Education Abroad Fair, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Carmichael Student Center University Rooms September 30: Exam 1 covering Chapters 1 to 6.
	The European Union: The States and Regions of this Supranational Organization
Week 8: October 5 & 7	Chapter 7: France and the BeNeLux Countries October 6: KSU "Year of the Portuguese Speaking World" Day, Carmichael Student Center University Rooms A-E. October 7 is last day to withdraw without academic penalty
Week 9: October 12 & 14	Chapter 8: Germany and Italy
Week 10: October 19 & 21	Chapter 9: Denmark, Ireland, and the United Kingdom
Week 11: October 26 & 28	Chapter 10: Southern Europe: Greece, Spain, and Portugal
Week 12: November 2 & 4	Chapter 11: Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, and Finland
Week 13: November 9 & 11	Chapter 12: Eastward Expansion 2004: The Baltics, Poland, The Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, and Slovenia Chapter 13: Eastward Expansion 2007: The Balkans
Week 14: November 16 & 18	Chapter 14: Belarus, The Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, and Russia Chapter 15: Turkey, Cyprus, Malta, and Gibraltar November 15-21: Geography Awareness Week: 2015 Theme is "Explore! The Power of Maps." For more info, see: http://education.nationalgeographic.com/programs/geographyawarenessweek/ November 18: GIS Day. For more info, see: http://www.gisday.com/
Week 15: November 23 & 25	Fall Break: No Classes. Happy Thanksgiving!
Week 16: November 30 & December 2	Chapter 16: The European Union and the Wider World Due: Project presentations due December 2 (please submit presentation file to instructor by this date) December 2: Project presentations
Week 17: December 7	December 7: Last Day of Class Project Presentations Due: Country Project Paper due by December 7
Final Exam (Exam 2)	December 11 at 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM Exam 2 covering Chapters 7 to 16.

Academic Integrity:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs and is also available here:

<http://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/>

Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious or intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or service, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.

*Note on Plagiarism: Please do not copy any sentences or paragraphs directly from books, journal articles, lectures, newspaper articles, websites, or other people's work. This kind of action is considered as plagiarism. Please write in your own words or using appropriate citations and give credit and attribution to other people's work and ideas. Please give the source of each citation, and list it in the References section of your paper. For more information, please see: **Why is cheating/plagiarism wrong and what will happen if I'm accused of academic misconduct?:***

<http://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/why-cheatingplagiarism-wrong-and-what-will-happen-if-i%E2%80%99m-accused-academic-misconduct>

Office of the Registrar: <http://www.kennesaw.edu/registrar/policies/>

ADA Statement: http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html. Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments is requested to notify the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Verification from KSU Student Disability Services is required. All discussions will remain confidential.

KSU Library Services:

The KSU Library System assists all students, faculty and staff with their research, including using library databases to find articles, accessing books and other materials in our catalog, and for specialized research needs. Librarians are available for in-person walk-up assistance at library help desks, one-on-one research appointments, and 24x7 via library chat. For more information on library locations, hours, and how to access our services please visit <http://library.kennesaw.edu/>.