



SYLLABUS

Norman J. Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Department of Geography & Anthropology

GEOG 1130-W01: World Regional Geography

Spring 2024: January 8 to April 30, 2024

Course Information

Class meeting time: Asynchronous Online

Modality: Asynchronous Online

Location: Online on D2L

Instructor Information

Name/Title: Dr. Paul N. McDaniel, Associate Professor of Geography

Pronouns: He/Him/His

E-mail: paul.mcdaniel@kennesaw.edu

Faculty Web: Visit [Dr. McDaniel's FacultyWeb](#) page

Office Location: Math & Statistics Building (MS) 236 (a [SafeSpace](#))

Drop-In Office Hours & Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

[Department of Geography & Anthropology](#) Main Office:

Social Sciences Building (Kennesaw Campus) room 4042. Phone: 470-578-2373.

Preferred Method of Communication

If you have questions about our course, please send your messages to Dr. McDaniel at paul.mcdaniel@kennesaw.edu. I will do my best to respond within 24 hours, Monday to Friday, during regular business hours (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM). For messages that arrive over the weekend (after 5:00 PM on Friday) or during holidays, I will respond the next business day. While I will also respond to messages sent through the D2L email message platform within the online course, it may take longer for me to respond than via regular KSU email. Email is a primary form of communication for businesses and other professional settings such as at a university. Knowing when and how to write effective emails is critical because email often provides the first impression of you and your communication skills (i.e., sending a professional email within a professional setting is not the same as sending a text message to a friend). As such, please refer to the KSU Writing Center's [Guide on Writing Professional Emails](#).

Course Description & Purpose

An introduction to world regions through the context of human geography. The course focuses on basic geographic concepts to analyze social, economic and political issues at local, regional and global scales. Elements of fundamental physical geography will be discussed to illustrate the spatial relationships between the physical environment and human geography.

Course Objectives

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify, describe, and compare the basic patterns related to and the diversity of the physical geography environment, human geography, culture, population, economic, urban, and political geography found globally and locally within and among major world regions through the usage, interpretation, and analysis of data represented on maps.

2. Apply knowledge of basic geographic processes and concepts in different world regions to the study of the themes of physical geography and environmental issues, population and settlement, cultural coherence and diversity, geopolitical framework, and economic and social development.
3. Identify, describe, and analyze current events related to the thematic and world regional study of topics such as population, culture, economy, environment, and development.
4. Compare and contrast global patterns and broad geographical concepts and how these patterns affect environments and people at the local level, whether in a foreign landscape or their home culture, within different world regions.
5. Identify the importance of geographic knowledge in understanding the everyday functioning of our planet, and its crucial role in informing policy decision-making.
6. Develop abilities to think critically about how various world regions are connected spatially.
7. Practice communicating effectively through written online discussions.

Required Textbook/Supporting Materials

Required Text:

Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World, 6th Edition, by Price, Rowntree, Lewis & Wyckoff. 2020. Pearson. ISBN: 9780135198896. Available as an e-textbook.

- Within this textbook, in addition to reading the main text in each chapter, please also be sure to read the various case study boxes that highlight particular examples of geography in each region, each with consistent headings: Humanitarian Geography; Working Toward Sustainability; Globalization in Our Lives; Exploring Global Connections; Sights of the Region; Sounds of the Region; Tastes of the Region. Please also be sure to view the supplemental videos for each chapter that are accessed via the QR codes embedded throughout the text in each chapter.

NOTE: This section of GEOG 1130: World Regional Geography is part of a KSU Bookstore textbook program called [Day One Access](#). Prior to classes starting, you should have received an e-mail from KSU University Stores with pricing and your personalized link to opt-out (please check your junk folder if not in your inbox). You will also receive a reminder on the first day of class and then another reminder email the day prior to the opt-out deadline. You will access the ebook through the D2L course site on the content tab in Module 0: Start Here. The purpose of Day One Access is to make sure that you have access to the digital course materials on the first day of class at a highly competitive rate. Your Owl Express account has already been charged for these materials, and you will have through drop/add to opt out and receive a refund. Should you opt out, the refund will be processed and you will no longer have access to the materials. Please check your email for the link to opt out if you choose to do so. The opt out deadline is January 12. Please note, should you opt out you will need to purchase your required materials directly from the publisher or other sources. If you need any help, please contact DayOne@kennesaw.edu.

Recommended Texts: To add further context to textbook concepts, class discussions, and ongoing current events, 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, book chapters, etc., and would be made available to students online via D2L. Please note that every attempt will be made to include the research and work done by researchers and scholars who have contributed to geographic thought who are often underrepresented in academia.

Technology requirements: You will need access to a computer with an internet connection to access the D2L course site. To view some course materials, you will also need Adobe Reader to view PDF files, MS PowerPoint to view the lecture slides, MS Word or another word processor to view some course documents. To function in this online course, you will also need to be able to use basic Internet functions, be familiar with using KSU's Desire2Learn (D2L) online learning management system, and regularly check your KSU email and D2L messages and announcements.

Course Policies and Expectations

Attendance

Class Participation. For this class, you should be diligent about reading the required textbook as class activities (lectures, quizzes, exams, discussions) are based on content directly from the textbook. Regular participation and meeting course graded activity deadlines are an essential component to succeeding in this class. Consider our class an assemblage of individuals that is unique and irreplaceable. Irregular participation not only hurts a student's course work, but it weakens the class as a whole. If you need to miss a graded activity deadline for a reasonable reason, please let me know via email along with a valid excuse (such as a doctor's note). If you have an unplanned missed deadline, please let me know about the reason via email as soon as possible after the missed due date occurs along with documentation for the reason for missing the due date.

Financial Aid Attendance Compliance: You are responsible for determining your enrollment status in all classes to protect your financial aid monies. NOT ATTENDING A CLASS FOR WHICH YOU ARE REGISTERED IS NOT THE SAME AS **WITHDRAWING FROM THE COURSE**. You must complete an online withdrawal to be removed from a course. If you stop attending class but do not complete an online withdrawal BEFORE the last day to drop without academic penalty, you will receive a grade of WF, which counts as an F in calculating your grade point average and counts as a completed course for determining your financial aid award.

Interaction and Engagement

This course provides regular and substantive interaction between the learners and the instructor by providing direct instruction via the instructor-created and recorded audio/video lectures, assessing and providing timely feedback on student coursework, providing information and responding to questions about the content, and facilitating discussions regarding the content of the course. The faculty member will also be monitoring student academic engagement and success (via the various required course activities and the tools provided by D2L) and promptly and proactively engage in substantive interaction with a student when needed on the basis of such monitoring, or upon request by the student.

AI Use Allowed, but Not Required

This policy statement and text is from the KSU Syllabus Template: In this class, you are welcome to use AI for any purpose. However, you should note that all AI generative tools still tend to make up incorrect facts and fake citations, code generation models tend to produce inaccurate outputs, and image/art generation tools can produce copied work or offensive products. You will be responsible for any inaccurate, biased, offensive, or otherwise unethical content you submit regardless of whether it originally comes from you or an AI tool. If you use an AI tool, its contribution must be credited in your submission. The use of an AI tool without acknowledgement is cheating and constitutes a violation of the KSU Code of Academic Integrity.

Grading & Evaluation Policies

All graded activity due dates are clearly listed in multiple locations to help you stay organized and on schedule for successful completion of all course components. Due dates are clearly listed in the course grade activity chart below in this syllabus, in the module weekly schedule further below in this syllabus, in D2L on each individual activity page, and in the online D2L course calendar. Reminders of upcoming due dates are also posted as announcements in D2L and are also sent via D2L message. Typically, I will do my best to grade items and return feedback to you in the grade item submission area within D2L within one week of the due date for the item.

Late Work Policy

Late work may be accepted at the discretion of the instructor through either making pre-arrangements for a late submission with a valid excuse or for an unplanned missed due date with a valid excuse. Simply submitting a graded activity late without communicating with the instructor as to the reason why it was submitted late is unprofessional. Saying you were confused about due dates or simply forgot about the course requirements is also unprofessional. It is crucial to highlight that in professional settings, meeting deadlines and understanding expectations are fundamental. These skills transcend specific courses or majors and are vital in any career path. I encourage you to reflect on the importance of carefully reviewing course materials and their requirements, seeking clarification when needed, and managing deadlines effectively. Developing these skills during your academic journey is invaluable as they directly translate into success in your career. Late work most likely will not be accepted more than one week after the stated due date for a particular item. However, "life happens" and so it may be necessary for you to submit something late due to an unforeseen circumstance. Such issues are taken into account, but please communicate with the professor. So that final course grades can be submitted to the university on schedule, no late work will be accepted after the last official day of class for the term as stated in the official university calendar unless there is a valid reason (such as pre-arranged accommodations or a valid documented excuse such as a doctor's note).

Final Course Grading Scale

500 Total Possible Points. Final course grades will be assigned based upon the total points earned from the items described in detail below (exams, quizzes, discussions, and participation) out of 500 total possible points, computed to a percentage according to the grade guideline below. To determine your percent grade, simply add up the total points you have earned in the course, then divide by the total possible points in the course (500 total possible points), then multiply by 100 to arrive at your percent grade out of 100 percent.

A = 90% to 100% B = 80% to 89% C = 70% to 79% D = 60% to 69% F = 0% to 59%

I will round up final course grades if they are $>$ or $= 0.5$ or above, for example, an 89.6 is an A, but 79.2 is a C.

Exam 1 (100 points)

Covers Chapters 1 through 7. The exam consists of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points.

- Due: February 25 by 11:59 PM

Exam 2 (100 points)

Covers Chapters 8 through 14. The exam is non-cumulative and consists of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points.

- Due: April 30 by 11:59 PM

Quizzes (100 points)

There will be ten multiple choice quizzes throughout the course, each with 5 questions worth 2 points each for a total of 10 points for each quiz and an overall total of 100 points for the total quizzes grade for the course.

- Quiz 1: January 21
- Quiz 2: January 28
- Quiz 3: February 4
- Quiz 4: February 11
- Quiz 5: February 18
- Quiz 6: March 3
- Quiz 7: March 24
- Quiz 8: March 31
- Quiz 9: April 7
- Quiz 10: April 14

Discussions (100 Points)

There will be four online discussion forums throughout the course. Each is worth 25 points for a total of 100 points. You must respond in detail (see discussion grading rubric guidelines below) to the discussion topic prompt/question and respond in one paragraph each to at least 2 other classmates' responses to create a dialogue around the topics that the entire class is participating in.

- Discussion 1: January 21
- Discussion 2: February 11
- Discussion 3: March 10
- Discussion 4: April 29

Grading Rubric for Each Discussion Activity

	Exemplary	Midpoint	Unsatisfactory
Content	10 points Post contains unique and novel ideas. Shows you have thought critically about the material and addresses all questions in the prompt.	5 points Post is substantial but does not show much critical thinking about the topic. Mainly summarizes the main point or restates what has already been said by others.	0 points Post has little substance, off topic, does not contribute to the discussion.
Reference and Support	5 points The post has clearly and explicitly referenced material to the readings and personal experiences to reinforce the opinion/statements.	2.5 points Some material or personal experiences are referenced.	0 points There is no clear support for the statements.
Length of Post	5 points Post is 350 words or more.	2.5 points Post is 201 to 349 words.	0 points Post is less than 200 words.
Meaningful Responses to At Least Two Other	5 points Two responses are each 50 words or more and show strong evidence of thought.	2.5 points Responses are 25 to 49 words OR don't show strong evidence of thought OR less	0 points No response posts.

	Exemplary	Midpoint	Unsatisfactory
Students' Posts		than two responses.	
Total	25 points	12.5 points	0 points

Participation (100 points)

Active and timely participation in class discussions and all other components of the course is important. Consider our class as an assemblage of individuals that is unique and irreplaceable. Irregular participation not only hurts a student's course work, but it weakens the class as a whole. Students are expected to participate in all class activities and discussions, complete all components, and complete assigned readings by the beginning of the week in which the reading is assigned (refer to schedule presented in this syllabus) in order to actively participate in the class each week. As a reminder, D2L keeps a log of the date and time of everyone's interaction with each course component. As such, it is easy for the instructor to monitor student participation and online course engagement throughout the semester. The participation grade is based on regular and consistent active participation throughout the semester and will be assigned on the last official day of class for the semester. If due dates are missed, please refer to the Late Work Policy earlier in this syllabus.

Communication Rules/Online Course Etiquette

In any classroom setting there are communication rules in place that encourage students to respect others and their opinions. In an online environment the do's and don'ts of online communication are referred to as **Netiquette**. This [netiquette resource](#) may prove useful to students.

How to Succeed in this Class

To succeed in this class, you will need to log on daily, and refer to the detailed schedule in this syllabus which lists the course modules week-by-week and the due dates for discussions, reading quizzes, and exams. The D2L course calendar also specifies due dates for all course items. An online class can be both challenging and exciting. You need to have and make the time to complete all the activities, participate in discussions, and be proactive and open-minded to learning. You also need to be self-motivated and self-disciplined to succeed.

What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism is defined as the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. If you are unaware or uncertain about how to properly cite a particular source, check out the RCHSS ODE's Plagiarism Resources (for [MLA](#) and [APA](#)) for more information.

Institutional Policies

Federal, BOR, & KSU Course Syllabus Policies

There are numerous federal, University System of Georgia (USG) Board of Regents (BOR), and KSU course syllabus policies that outline students' rights and responsibilities. Students are responsible for visiting the KSU website that lists these and for being familiar with all of the policies listed. For detailed information, visit the [Course Syllabus Policies](#) page.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Policy

Kennesaw State University provides program accessibility and reasonable accommodations for persons defined as disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as amended. Students who require accommodation in facilities, services, programs or activities should contact the Assistant Director for Disabled Student Services to arrange an individual assistance plan. Accommodations may include classroom accessibility, modified computer equipment, disability-accessible parking, assistance with note-taking sign language interpreting or captioning services, class materials in alternate format, library and laboratory assistance, and other accommodations. Determination of appropriate accommodations to be provided will be based upon documentation of the disability. Members of the public who require specific accommodations in facilities, services, programs or activities should contact the office sponsoring the service, program or activity at least five days in advance to arrange individual accommodations. Should a student require assistance or have further questions about the ADA, please contact either the ADA Compliance Officer for Students at 770-423-6443; the ADA Compliance Officer for Facilities at 470-578-6224; or the Director of Human Resources, ADA Compliance Officer for staff and faculty at 470-578-2666. For more information, visit KSU's [Institutional Policies](#) page.

KSU Non-Discrimination Statement

Kennesaw State University (KSU) is committed to maintaining a fair and respectful environment for living, work and study. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, Board of Regents policy, and University policy, the University prohibits harassment of or discrimination against any person because of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, ethnicity or national origin, religion, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status by any member of the KSU Community on campus, in connection with a University program or activity, or in a manner that creates a hostile environment for members of the KSU community. For more information, visit KSU's [Office of Institutional Equity](#) page.

Codes of Conduct

All students are responsible for knowing the information, policies and procedures outlined in the Kennesaw State University Codes of Conduct. The KSU Codes of Conduct include: the general Student Code of Conduct, the Residential Code of Conduct, and the Code of Academic Integrity. Kennesaw State University reserves the right to make changes to this code as necessary and once those changes are posted online, they are in effect. Students are encouraged to check online for the updated versions of all policies. For more information, visit KSU's [Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity](#) page.

KSU Student Resources

A wealth of resources is available on campus for students. Visit the [KSU Student Resources](#) page and [KSU Required Syllabus Information](#) page for detailed information about: Coronavirus (COVID-19); Technology Assistance; Student Support and Wellness; Academic Resources (including Grade Appeals). You can also access information regarding [Financial Aid](#), [the Registrar](#), and [the Bursar](#) by visiting their websites. KSU's [Online Learning Support](#) division is also available if you need assistance with online courses.

KSU Writing Center

You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the KSU Writing Center, a free resource to help you improve any kind of writing in any subject. Friendly, experienced peer writing assistants work with you one-on-one to develop strategies for topic development, revision, editing, source documentation, and much more. Appointments are available online in real time as well as on both campuses (K-English 242 and M-Johnson 237) and can be scheduled one hour to two weeks in advance. The Writing Center also offers specialized support for graduate students and includes the English Language Program (formerly the ESL Center), which provides a variety of tutoring, advising, and mentoring services for students whose primary language is not English. For more information, visit the [KSU Writing Center](#) page to reserve your appointment and to learn more about Writing Center services and online resources.

Course Schedule

Below is an outline of the content and activities in each module of the course. Dates below indicate the date the module begins. Due dates are listed within this schedule below, in the Grading and Evaluation Policies section earlier in this syllabus, and are also clearly listed in the online D2L course calendar and on each graded activity item within D2L. All due dates for activities are in Eastern Time and are due by 11:59 PM on D2L on the specified due date.

Week	Modules	Readings/Content/Activities/Items Due	Due Dates
Week 1: January 8-14	0: Start Here 1: Introduction: Geography of a Changing World	Course introduction, background, and overview of course requirements and activities Read Geography.com website for general overview of the discipline of geography. Ch. 1: Geography of a Changing World	
Week 2: January 15-21	2: Physical Geography and the Environment	Ch. 2: Physical Geography and the Environment Due: Quiz 1 Discussion 1: Introductions	January 21: Quiz 1 Discussion 1

Week	Modules	Readings/Content/Activities/Items Due	Due Dates
Week 3: January 22-28	3. North America	Ch. 3: North America Note: Following the first two chapters of the book, each regional chapter is organized into five consistent thematic sections, making navigation and cross-regional comparisons easier. Themes consistent across each region-specific chapter, presented consistently in the following order, include Physical Geography and Environmental Issues, Population and Settlement, Cultural Coherence and Diversity, Geopolitical Framework, and Economic and Social Development. Due: Quiz 2	January 28: Quiz 2
Week 4: January 29-February 4	4. Latin America	Ch. 4: Latin America Due: Quiz 3	February 4: Quiz 3
Week 5: February 5-11	5. The Caribbean	Ch. 5: The Caribbean Due: Quiz 4 Discussion 2: Chapters 1-5	February 11: Quiz 4 Discussion 2
Week 6: February 12-18	6. Sub-Saharan Africa	Ch. 6: Sub-Saharan Africa Due: Quiz 5	February 18: Quiz 5
Week 7: February 19-25	7. Southwest Asia and North Africa 7.1 Midterm Exam	Ch. 7: Southwest Asia and North Africa Due: Exam 1 (Midterm Exam). Exam 1 covers Chapters 1-7, and consists of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points. Due by 11:59 PM on D2L. Note: A midterm course grade will be assigned by the midterm grade due date identified on the Spring 2024 KSU academic calendar. This midterm course grade is based on all your graded activities for this course up to this point in the semester for assessing mid-semester performance prior to the last day to withdraw without academic penalty. You may view your midterm course grade in Owl Express. Note that only your final course grade will be officially recorded on your academic transcript.	February 25: Exam 1 (Midterm Exam)
Week 8: February 26-March 3	8. Europe	Ch. 8: Europe Due: Quiz 6	March 3: Quiz 6
Week 9: March 4-10	9. Eurasia	Ch. 9: Eurasia Due: Discussion 3: Chapters 6-9 March 5: Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty	March 10: Discussion 3
Week 10: March 11-17	Spring Break	SPRING BREAK	

Week	Modules	Readings/Content/Activities/Items Due	Due Dates
Week 11: March 18-24	10. Central Asia	Ch. 10: Central Asia Due: Quiz 7	March 24: Quiz 7
Week 12: March 25-31	11. East Asia	Ch. 11: East Asia Due: Quiz 8	March 31: Quiz 8
Week 13: April 1-7	12. South Asia	Ch. 12: South Asia Due: Quiz 9	April 7: Quiz 9
Week 14: April 8-14	13. Southeast Asia	Ch. 13: Southeast Asia Due: Quiz 10	April 14: Quiz 10
Week 15: April 15-21	14. Oceania	Ch. 14: Oceania Note: During this week Dr. McDaniel is away participating in the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers .	
Week 16: April 22-29	14. Oceania (continued) Review Week	Ch. 14: Oceania Review Due: Discussion 4: Chapters 10-14 April 29: Last day of classes for Spring 2024 semester!	April 29: Discussion 4
Week 17: April 30	15. Final Exam	Exam 2 (Final Exam). Exam 2 covers Chapters 8-14, and consists of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points. Due April 30: Exam 2 (Final Exam) Due by 11:59 PM on D2L Dr. McDaniel will be calculating and submitting final course grades on May 1.	April 30: Exam 2 (Final Exam)