

# GEOG 3312: The Geography of Europe: Perspectives from Italy on the European Union

Montepulciano, Italy, Session 1, May 17 to June 21, 2018

## Instructor

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*The professor reserves the right to revise this syllabus at his discretion.*

## Course Description

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 (Introduction to Human Geography) or GEOG 1130 (World Regional Geography). Typically, GEOG 1101 is a pre-requisite, but students in the Italy program could be allowed to co-enroll in both GEOG 1101 and GEOG 3312 concurrently. **Note:** This course may be taken as an upper division elective or related studies in many social sciences and humanities major and minor programs, international affairs, international business, education, and the European Union Studies Certificate program.



## Specific Course Section Description

Europe has profoundly shaped our modern world! In this course we will explore the geography of Europe while immersed in the landscape of Italy. Course coverage encompasses the entire region: its physical setting and environment, population and migration, languages and religions, cultures, and geopolitical organization within the framework of broader global processes restructuring the landscapes of modern Europe. Attention is also given to historic and contemporary features of the diverse urban environments in which most Europeans live, work, and play. While in Italy we will discuss and observe specific examples of concepts as they occur

on the rural and urban Italian landscape. We will also explore the history and geography 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 Objectives/Goals

The Geography of Europe utilizes the geography and history of the evolution of the European Union (EU) as the central framework to challenge students to accomplish the following goals. Students must be able to:

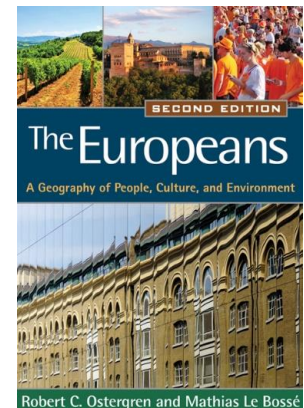
1. Explain how global patterns and processes impact Europe and how Europe impacts global patterns and processes.
2. Describe specific systematic geographic concepts and how these concepts impact environments, populations, cultures, economies, and policies at the national and local level in Europe.
3. Compare and contrast how larger geographic patterns and processes impact the local level in a foreign landscape compared to their home culture.
4. Identify, define and contrast the environment, culture, population, economics, and political geography of the member states of the European Union through the usage, interpretation, and analysis of data represented on different types of maps.

## Required Readings

### Textbook:

*The Europeans: A Geography of People, Culture, and Environment*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, by Robert C. Ostergren and Mathias Le Bossé, Guilford Press, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-59385-384-6.

**Additional readings:** To add further context to textbook concepts and class discussions a select set of supplemental readings *may* be made available at the discretion of the instructor. These readings may be drawn from current events, newspapers, magazines, academic journals, book chapters, etc., and would be made available as handouts in class or online via D2L.



## Grading

### Grade Breakdown:

Grade Component	Points	Percent
4 Reading Quizzes	100	20%
Weekly Journal Entries	200	40%
Visualizing Italy Presentation	100	20%
Participation	100	20%
<b>COURSE TOTAL</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Student learning will be evaluated via testing of course content and writing activities which engage course content and field trip synthesis/application.

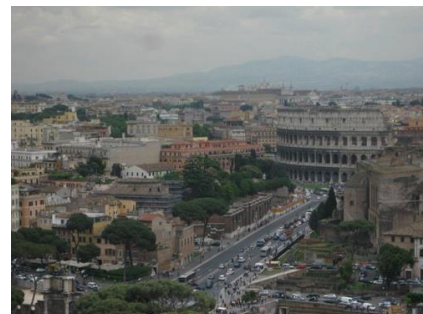
Final course grades will be assigned based upon the total points from the items above out of 500 total possible points, computed to a percentage according to the grade guideline below.

A = 90-100	D = 60-69.9
B = 80-89.9	F = <59.9
C = 70-79.9	

**Reading Quizzes (20 percent of total course grade):** There will be four reading quizzes throughout the course, each worth 25 points for a total of 100 points for the total reading quizzes grade. The overall total reading quiz grade is worth 20 percent of the final course grade. Each reading quiz covers textbook material for the particular week the reading quiz is assigned (see syllabus schedule).



**Journal Entries (20 percent of total course grade):** As we proceed through the course, we will be exploring many topics with local and global significance. During each week you will be expected to write at least two journal entries wherein you engage the learned course content with your experience here in Italy. It is expected that these journal entries will tie specifically to our fieldtrips, class discussions, and readings, and will not require additional resources. Such journal entries should make cohesive connections to the content and concepts we are discussing in class each week and examples of those concepts observed on the Italian landscape. Additionally, consider how your observations and experiences in Italy intersect with the systematic geography themes we cover in class and through which we are viewing Europe: 1. Physical and Environmental Geography; 2. Cultural and Historical Geography; 3. Population Geography, Distribution, Density, Migration, and Aging; 4. Rural and Urban Geography; 5. Economic Geography; 6. Political Geography. Journals/entries will be collected once a week to provide appropriate feedback to assure effective engagement with geography concepts and content. Each journal entry is worth 25 points for an overall assignment total possible 200 points (2 journal entries per week, for 8 total journal entries).



**Visualizing Italy Presentation (20 percent of total course grade):** Over the course of the class, you will be engaging significantly with a variety of topics in this course. You will select at



least two major course topics (for example, one of the major systematic geography themes we discuss in this course: 1. Physical and Environmental Geography; 2. Cultural and Historical Geography; 3. Population Geography, Distribution, Density, Migration, and Aging; 4. Rural and Urban Geography; 5. Economic Geography; 6. Political Geography). Through your travels and experiences at various locations during our field trips you will document (photography) visual manners of representing and demonstrating the manifestation of these concepts in Italy. You will then create a digital

presentation (can be in Powerpoint or can be in other image/video presentation software, or as a website/blog) to visually demonstrate the personification and diversity of such topics in Italy. This presentation should incorporate brief texts and use of appropriate course concepts. It can be effective to perhaps demonstrate some comparisons to U.S. culture, but this is not necessarily a requirement. This presentation essentially becomes a visual manner to expand upon your work in the journal entries where hopefully you find you have particular interests/areas that you are focusing upon in your experience in Italy.

**Participation (20 percent of total course grade):**

Active participation in class including attending class (attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester) and participating in class discussions and all other components of the course is important. Consider our class meetings an assemblage of individuals that is unique and irreplaceable. Irregular attendance not only hurts a student's course work, but it weakens the class as a whole. If you need to miss a class for a reasonable reason, please let me know via email ahead of your planned absence. If you have an unplanned absence, please let me know about the reason via email as soon as possible when the absence occurs.



Participation counts for 20 percent of the final course grade.

**Course Outline**

**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: May 17-24	Chapter 1: Introduction: Europe as a Culture Realm  Weekly Journal Entries due at end of week



<b>Week 2: May 28-31</b>	Part I: People and Environment Chapter 2: European Environments Chapter 3: Population Chapter 4: Human-Environment Interaction  Reading Quiz 1  Weekly Journal Entries due at end of week
<b>Week 3: June 4-7</b>	Part II: Culture and Identity Chapter 5: Language Chapter 6: Religion and Values Chapter 7: The Political Landscape  Reading Quiz 2  Weekly Journal Entries due at end of week
<b>Week 4: June 11-14</b>	Part III: Towns and Cities Chapter 8: Cities and Urban Life to World War II Chapter 9: Modern and Postmodern Urbanism  Reading Quiz 3  Weekly Journal Entries due at end of week
<b>Week 5: June 18-21</b>	Part IV: Work and Leisure Chapter 10: Making a Living Chapter 11: Consumption, Leisure, and Popular Culture Chapter 12: Epilogue: European Futures  Reading Quiz 4  Visualizing Italy Presentation due shortly after return to the U.S.

## Daily Itinerary and Field Trips

Date	Location	Bus Times	Meals	Itinerary
Thursday, May 17	Atlanta to Rome (Delta nonstop)		Dinner Breakfast,	
Friday, May 18	Rome to Montepulciano		Dinner Breakfast,	Orientation after breakfast, town tour,
Saturday, May 19	Montepulciano		Dinner	Enoteca lecture
Sunday, May 20	Montepulciano	13:00	Dinner	Survival Italian
Monday, May 21	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class Day trip: Faculty Choice (possible sites include the Duomo, St. Patrick's well, underground Orvieto...)
Tuesday, May 22	Orvieto	08:00, 16:00	Dinner	
Wednesday, May 23	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class

Thursday, May 24	Pisa + Lucca	07:00, 15:00, 17:30		Day trip: Faculty choice (traditionally Baptistry, and Duomo, afternoon is tower and cemetery)
Friday, May 25				Freetime
Saturday, May 26				Freetime
Sunday, May 27			Dinner	Freetime
Monday, May 28	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class
Tuesday, May 29	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class
Wednesday, May 30	Rome	07:00		Overnight trip: Vatican museum, St. Peter's, then in evening Pantheon, Piazza Navona, Campo de Fiore
Thursday, May 31	Rome	return by train		Overnight trip: Coliseum, Palatine Hill, Forum, then faculty choice.
Friday, June 1				Freetime
Saturday, June 2	Holiday - Republic Day			Freetime
Sunday, June 3			Dinner	Freetime
Monday, June 4	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class
Tuesday, June 5	Siena	08:00, 16:00	Dinner	Day trip: Faculty Choice; traditionally Duomo, Baptistry, Library, Crypt, San Francesco, Civic Museum
Wednesday, June 6	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class
Thursday, June 7	Florence	07:00, 17:00	Dinner	Day trip: Santa Maria Novella, Uffizi, The Academy (maybe on Thursday depending on ticket availability)
Friday, June 8				Freetime
Saturday, June 9				Freetime
Sunday, June 10			Dinner	Freetime
Monday, June 11	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class
Tuesday, June 12	Lake Trasimeno	08:00, 17:00		Day trip: Castiglione del Lago with museum and fort, Isola of Polvese (ferry, hiking, swimming)...
Wednesday, June 13	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class
Thursday, June 14	Florence	07:00, 17:00		Day trip: Faculty Choice (many possible sites including the Duomo, San Lorenzo, Galileo museum...)
Friday, June 15				Freetime
Saturday, June 16				Freetime
Sunday, June 17			Dinner	Freetime
Monday, June 18	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class
Tuesday, June 19	Montepulciano		Dinner	Class
Wednesday, June 20	Montepulciano		Dinner	
Thursday, June 21	Rome to Atlanta (Delta nonstop)			Lunch

## Course Expectations

### Expectations/Class Participation

For this class, you should be diligent about reading the required textbook as in-class discussions, quizzes, and exams are based on content directly from the textbook. Attendance will be taken on random class meeting days throughout the semester and will contribute to the participation grade.

Also, plagiarism and academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please see the statements on Academic Honesty and Plagiarism Policy in the University Policies section later in this syllabus.

## Late Assignments

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Late quizzes/exams will be accepted with a 10 percent reduction in the item's grade for each day that the item is late (i.e., if the item is 2 days late then the grade will be reduced by 20 percent).

## What is Plagiarism?

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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 on how to properly cite a particular source, please do not neglect to add the citation—that is considered plagiarism.

If you have questions on how to cite your work, please contact me immediately! For more information, please refer to the "Plagiarism Policy" under the *Policies* section of this syllabus.

## Turnitin

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Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on the Turnitin.com site.

## Help Resources

Please review the following university academic support services, student services, and resources, which can help you succeed in this course.

### Contacts to get Help

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Student Help Desk [studenthelpdesk@kennesaw.edu](mailto:studenthelpdesk@kennesaw.edu) or call 470.578.3555

D2L FAQ's [click here](#)

D2L Student User's Guide [click here](#)

### Additional Resources

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One-Stop-Shop for KSU Policies and Procedures:

<http://distanceed.hss.kennesaw.edu/elearning/onestopshop.html>

KSU Bookstore: <http://bookstore.kennesaw.edu/home.aspx>

### KSU Library Services

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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, how to access library services, and remote access to library resources, please visit <http://library.kennesaw.edu/>.

## KSU Writing Center

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The KSU Writing Center helps students in all majors improve their writing. Experienced, friendly writing assistants help with topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and more. For more information or to make an appointment, visit <http://writingcenter.kennesaw.edu/> or stop by English Building, Room 242 (Kennesaw campus) or Building A, Room 184 (Marietta campus).

## University Policies

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### Academic Honesty

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Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. 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/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, 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.

### Plagiarism Policy

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No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit as part of a course (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. For more information, please see: **Why is cheating/plagiarism wrong and what will happen if I'm accused of academic misconduct?:** <http://scai.kennesaw.edu/students/general-info/cheating.php>

### Disability Statement

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Kennesaw State University provides program accessibility and reasonable accommodations for persons defined as disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Kennesaw State University does not deny admission or subject to discrimination in admission any qualified disabled student.

A number of services are available to help students with disabilities with their academic work. In order to make arrangements for special services, students must visit the Office for Student



Disability Services and make an appointment to arrange an individual assistance plan. In most cases, certification of disability is required.

Special services are based on

- medical and/or psychological certification of disability,
- eligibility for services by outside agencies, and
- ability to complete tasks required in courses.

### **ADA Position Statement**

Kennesaw State University, a member of the University System of Georgia, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin or disability in employment or provision of services. Kennesaw State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Public Law 101-336, gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities. This statute guarantees equal opportunity for this protected group in the areas of public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services and telecommunications.

The following individuals have been designated by the President of the University to provide assistance and ensure compliance with the ADA. Should you require assistance or have further questions about the ADA, please contact:

- ADA Compliance Officer for Students  
470-578-6443
- ADA Compliance Officer for Facilities  
470-578-6224
- ADA Compliance Officer for Employees  
470-578-6030

For more information, go to: [http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu\\_dev/dsss](http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss).

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

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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. <http://diversity.kennesaw.edu/>