



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring

Year: 2025

Course Prefix: GEOG

Course and Section #: 130G-002

Course Title: Survey of World Geography

Credits: 3

Course Description

Explores the world in which we live. Studies major countries of the world with special emphasis on location, physical environment, culture, resources, and current events.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Brent Spencer

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe patterns of physical and human geographies of different regions of the world.
 2. Identify cultural elements of contemporary globalization, including their controversial aspects and list several ways in which globalization is changing world geographies
 3. Describe political, economic, cultural, and physical aspects of globalization and explain their interconnectedness.
 4. Compare and contrast aspects of cultural practices and hybridization of world regions, including language, religion, economics and development.
 5. Identify problems facing populations and environments in different regions of the world.
 6. Analyze current events in world regions according to their specific geographic contexts.
-

Course Materials and Texts

Readings for this course can be accessed from the LibreTexts Open Online Resource textbook called World Regional Geography –People, Places and Globalization which can be accessed at [willhttps://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Geography_\(Human\)/Book%3A_World_Regional_Geography_-_People_Places_and_Globalization](https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Geography_(Human)/Book%3A_World_Regional_Geography_-_People_Places_and_Globalization)

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Global Intercultural Key Assignments: 20%

As this course fulfills the Global/Intercultural requirement, a key component of this course is reflecting about globalization processes, your position in global networks, and thoughts on how you learn about and how you are connected to the physical and social world. You will complete a couple of essays on your identity and thoughts on globalization the first and final week of class. You will also visit and reflect upon a congregational service of a world religion of your choice and choose one activity to reduce your impact on the environment. These four assignments will complete the G/I requirement for this course.

Weekly Reading Quizzes: 24%

I will post an open-book reading quiz on Canvas each week with questions based on the assigned readings. You will have 3 chances to take each quiz. Quizzes are due on the Sunday night of the week they are assigned. Each quiz is worth 2% of your final grade.

Assignments: 14%

I will post an assignment with instructions for completing it each week. Each assignment is generally worth 1% of your final grade and is due on Wednesday of the week it is posted though you can start the assignments from the beginning of the course. Many of the assignments are listed as “quizzes” within Canvas. Take the Quizzes to answer the assignment questions.

Map Activities/Attendance: 22%

The map activities will ask you to draw maps of the world from memory and to label certain geographic features. Each map is worth 2% of your final grade. You will be given full credit for each map regardless of how accurate or artistic it is as long as you make an effort to draw and label all of the listed components. Maps activities are only available to complete in class to incentivize attendance in class.

Midterm and Final Exam: 20%

There will be two closed-book, in-class exams for this course. The format will be mostly multiple choice with some short answer and fill-in-the-blanks questions. You must be present in class to take these exams.

Extra Credit:

There will be a few extra credit opportunities available throughout the semester posted on Canvas.

Grading

94-100% = A
90-93.9% = A-
87-89.9% = B+
84-86.9% = B
80-83.9% = B-
77-79.9% = C+
74-76.9% = C
70-73.9% = C-
67-69.9% = D+
64-66.9% = D
60-63.9% = D-
0-60% = E

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

All required readings use chapters from the course text that align with the lectures below

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Week 1 (January 7 & 9): Introduction to This Class and Geography

Week 2 (January 14 & 16): Environment, Population, and Globalization

Week 3 (January 21 & 23): Study Abroad

Week 4 (January 28 & 30): Europe

Week 5 (February 4 & 6): Russia

Week 6 (February 11 & 13): North America

Week 7 (February 18 & 20): Middle and South America

Week 8 (February 25 & 27): Midterm Review and Midterm Exam

Week 9 (March 4 & 6): Subsaharan Africa

Week 10: Spring Break

Week 11 (March 18 & 20): North Africa and Southwest Asia

Week 12 (March 25 & 27): South Asia

Week 13 (April 1 & 3): East Asia

Week 14 (April 8 & 10): Southeast Asia

Week 15 (April 15 & 17): Australia, the Pacific, and Antarctica

Week 16 (April 22 & 24): Final Exam and Essay

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

Do not use any AI software or application to help you with assignments for this course. You will receive zero points for this assignment if any of your assignment is detected to be plagiarized or generated with AI by Copyleaks.

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

30g

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.