

World Regional Geography Section 81

GEOG 12

Fall 2024 3 Unit(s) 08/21/2024 to 12/09/2024 Modified 08/21/2024

Contact Information

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Course Description and Requisites

Comparative geography of our world: regions and countries, natural environments and resources, settlements and land use, cultural diversity, economic and political patterns. GE Area: D (formerly GE Area D2)

Letter Graded

* Classroom Protocols

- **ATTENDANCE** in our online class is required. You must log in at least once a week, or you will be dropped from the course.
- All weekly assignments, quizzes, **EXAMINATIONS** must be taken at the scheduled time. **Make-up exams** are not allowed. Complete the work by the due date, or accept loss of points.
- **STUDENT CONDUCT:**
- Everyone in the classroom is expected to be civil and courteous. We will not always agree with the perspectives and opinions shared in the classroom, but I do expect that we will treat each other with respect.
- No form of cheating or plagiarism will be tolerated. You are probably a conscientious student who would never think of cheating, but less prudent students found cheating will receive zero points on the exam/assignment and in case of recurrence, an F in the course and/or academic discipline or dismissal from the university.

Program Information

Welcome to this General Education course.

SJSU's General Education Program establishes a strong foundation of versatile skills, fosters curiosity about the world, promotes ethical judgment, and prepares students to engage and contribute responsibly and cooperatively in a multicultural, information-rich society. General education classes integrate areas of study and encourage progressively more complex and creative analysis, expression, and problem solving.

The General Education Program has three goals:

Goal 1: To develop students' core competencies for academic, personal, creative, and professional pursuits.

Goal 2: To enact the university's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and justice by ensuring that students have the knowledge and skills to serve and contribute to the well-being of local and global communities and the environment.

Goal 3: To offer students integrated, multidisciplinary, and innovative study in which they pose challenging questions, address complex issues, and develop cooperative and creative responses.

More information about the General Education Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) can be found on the [GE website \(https://sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php\)](https://sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

GE Area D: Social Sciences

Area D courses increase students' understanding of human behavior and social interaction in the context of value systems, economic structures, political institutions, social groups, and natural environments.

Students develop an understanding of problems and issues from different disciplinary perspectives and examine issues in their contemporary as well as historical settings and in a variety of cultural contexts.

The CSU requires students to complete General Education courses in the Social Sciences in at least two different disciplines. Students may meet this requirement by either 1) taking two lower-division Area D courses in different disciplines, or 2) taking two lower-division Area D courses in the same discipline and an Area S upper-division GE course in a different discipline.

GE Area D Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of an Area D course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the ways in which social institutions, culture, and environment shape and are shaped by the behavior of individuals, both past and present;
2. Compare and contrast the dynamics of two or more social groups or social systems in a variety of historical and/or cultural contexts;
3. Place contemporary social developments in cultural, environmental, geographical, and/or historical contexts;

4. Draw on social/behavioral science information from various perspectives to formulate applications appropriate to historical and/or contemporary social issues.

Writing Practice: Students will write a minimum of 1500 words in a language and style appropriate to the discipline.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Assignments including quizzes and exams will not be accepted late. Students must work ahead of the due date to complete the work and allow for any potential issues at the last minute. It is suggested that students have a readily available back-up computer and Internet source such as the library or a friend's computer to use in case theirs is not working. Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Final Examination or Evaluation (Paper).

Grading Information

Mid-term exam	100 points
Map activities and/or quizzes (10 worth 10 points each)	100 points
Discussions and/or assignments (10 worth 10 points each)	100 points
Research paper	100 points
Final Exam (not cumulative)	100 points
Total points available	500 points

Percentage	Total Points	Letter Grade
95-100%	475-500	A
90-95%	450- 474	A-

87-89 %	435-449	B+
83-86%	415-434	B
80-82%	400-414	B-
73-79 %	365-399	C+
67-72%	335-364	C
60-66%	300-334	C-
57-59 %	285-299	D+
50-56%	250-284	D
Less than 50 %	Less than 250	F

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Schedule

Week #	Dates	Topics and Major Assignments/Tests
1	8/21-8/25	Introduction to Geography

2	8/26-9/1	North America
3	9/2-9/8	(Labor Day on Monday, classroom open all week) Middle and South America
4	9/9-9/15	Europe - Part 1
5	9/16-9/22	Europe - Part 2
6	9/23-9/29	Russia and the Former Soviet Union
7	9/30-10/6	Midterm Exam
8	10/7-10/13	North Africa and Southwest Asia (AKA: The Middle East)
9	10/14-10/20	Research Paper Due
10	10/21-10/27	Sub-Saharan Africa - Part 1
11	10/28-/11/3	Sub-Saharan Africa - Part 2
12	11/4-/11/10	South Asia
13	11/11-/11/17	East Asia
14	11/18-11/24	Southeast Asia
15	11/25-12/1	Oceania (AKA: The Pacific World)

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs and other resources for student use are available in:

- Associated Students Print & Technology Center at <http://as.sjsu.edu/asptc/index.jsp> on the Student Union (East Wing 2nd floor Suite 2600)
- The Spartan Floor at the SJSU Library at <https://library.sjsu.edu/services/services>
- Student Computing Services at <https://library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/studentcomputing-services-center>
- Computers at the Martin Luther King Library for public at large at <https://www.sjpl.org/wireless>
- Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Collaboration & Academic Technology Services located in IRC Building. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections' free tutoring and mentoring is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. Peer Connections tutors are trained to provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group and individual tutoring are available. Peer Connections mentors are trained to provide support and resources in navigating the college experience. This support includes assistance in learning strategies and techniques on how to be a successful student. Peer Connections has a learning commons, desktop computers, and success workshops on a wide variety of topics. For more information on services, hours, locations, or a list of current workshops, please visit Peer Connections website at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The San José State University Writing Center offers a variety of resources to help students become better writers, and all of our services are free for SJSU students. Our mission is to enhance the writing skills of SJSU students so they can communicate clearly in any setting (informal, academic, or professional). We accomplish this goal through creating original writing resources, offering workshops, and conducting one-on-one and small group tutoring sessions.

The SJSU Writing Center has two locations: We conduct drop-in tutoring sessions in Clark Hall, Suite 126; we conduct scheduled appointments on the second floor of the MLK Library. All our writing tutors have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website. [Writing Center website](#)

SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services

The SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Carlos in the new Student Wellness Center, Room 300B. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide confidential consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling and Psychological Services website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>