

San José State University
College of Social Sciences, Geography Department
Course # 30014, GEOG 112-81 – Nations, Cultures &
Territorial Disputes, Summer Session 1, 2020

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| Instructor: | Kerry Rohrmeier, Ph.D. |
| Office Location: | Online (Zoom) |
| Telephone: | (408) 924-5475but email is preferred |
| Email: | kerry.rohrmeier@sjsu.edu |
| Office Hours: | By appointment |
| Class Days/Time: | Online |
| Classroom: | Canvas |
| Prerequisites: | Passing Score on WST Exam, Upper Division Standing, Core Education Completion |
| GE/SJSU Studies Category: | Area V |

Canvas

All course resources can be found on our GEOG 112 [Canvas](#) webpage after you log into using your 9-digit SJSU ID and password. You are responsible for regularly checking this website for the latest information and communication. Please log in and follow the 'Getting Started' steps.

Course Description

(From Course Catalog) In a world with rapidly diminishing resources new conflicts are emerging based on factors such as ethnicity, economic opportunity, religion, and nationalism. Explore global circumstances leading to conflict. Prerequisite: Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C- not accepted), completion of Core General Education and upper division standing are prerequisites to all SJSU studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended (3 units)

Learning Outcomes

GEOG112 is an Area V course: Culture, Civilization, and Global Understanding meant to provide students with an appreciation for cultures outside the United States. With this

should come increased awareness of how foreign traditions have influenced American culture and its' global interactions. As a geographic survey of pressing contemporary issues – in politics, economy, security, and human-environmental impact - course readings, documentary films, in-class exercises, and discussions will be used to gain greater understanding of complex problems. Students will hone critical, relational, and contextual thinking and be expected to communicate independent views effectively, particularly in written format.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

- CLO1 *Compare systematically the ideas, values, images, cultural artifacts, economic structures, technological developments, and/or attitudes of people from more than one culture outside the U.S.*

Students will demonstrate understanding through in-class exercises and written examinations.

- CLO2 *Identify the historic context of ideas and cultural traditions outside the U.S., and how they have influenced American culture.*

Students will respond in written essays to documentary films related to cultural traditions and ideas.

- CLO3 *Explain how a culture outside the U.S. has changed in response to internal and external pressures.*

Students will present independent research on a chosen example.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Global Issues: Selections from CQ Researcher has been posted to our course Canvas 'Files' website so you have free immediate access to all readings.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Grading Policy

Students will be scored on participation, group discussion, and written assignments.

- Active online participation is imperative to your overall grade in this course (50% of your total grade), and so frequent engagement on Canvas is expected.

- Groups of students will be tasked with selected text chapters. This will include guiding understanding (posting supporting slides to annotate the assignment reading ahead of time) and facilitating the discussion forum on topic by responding to all classmate posts. Students within each group will earn the same grade; there are 100 points possible.
- Links to four documentary films will be posted during this course. Two times during the term you will demonstrate in writing how you have thought critically about narratives or images seen in a film from a global geography and social sciences context. Each essay must have 3 typed pages (double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1” margins on all sides) summarizing new facts gained along with a thought-provoking critique of the film contents. Essays must include a total word count noted at the end (750 words minimum).
- A Review Article is a concise paper, usually written by an academic journal editor that summarizes, compares, and contrasts all recent findings on a specific topic or theme. To earn 20% of your total grade you must create a 500-word review article tying together any two textbook chapters. Your article must be one typed page (single-spaced, 12-point times new roman font with no more than 1” margins on all sides).
- The final exam is a single essay question. You must clearly support and defend in a written essay what you have gained from this course and how you can apply this to your postgraduate goals. This essay can merit 100 points (10%) of your total grade. It will be up to you to determine and track what you think should be used as evidence over the term and cite specific examples in your essay to support your position.

| | Points Possible |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Participation | 500 |
| Group-Led Online Discussion | 100 |
| Film Essay 1 | 50 |
| Film Essay 2 | 50 |
| Review Article | 200 |
| Final Exam | 100 |
| TOTAL | 1,000 |

GRADE SCALE:

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| A+ = ≥99% | A = 94-98% | A- = 90-93% |
| B+ = 87-89% | B = 84-86% | B- = 80-83% |
| C+ = 77-79% | C = 74-76% | C- = 70-73% |
| D+ = 67-69% | D = 60-66% | D- = 51-59% |
| | | F = ≤50% |

(Online) Classroom Protocol

- Assigned chapter *readings* from the textbook must be completed for participation in discussions.
- All *assignments* are due as stated on the Course Schedule and late work will NOT be accepted.

In addition to course specific protocols, students are expected to:

- Be civil and courteous to one another especially in an online setting. While we may not always agree with other perspectives and opinions, respect is mandatory.
- Save all your work until after you have checked your final course grade. Then if you have questions about your final grade, you can bring in past work, and if necessary, corrections can be made.

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, and should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](#). Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [Academic Calendars webpage](#) with further explanation in the [Late Drop Policy](#). Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](#).

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](#), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy S07-2](#) requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Information is available at the [Student Conduct and Ethical Development](#) website.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

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 [Disability Resource Center](#) (DRC) to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](#) located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of relevant topics such as improving your learning and memory, and alleviating procrastination. A computer lab and study spaces are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections](#) for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists 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 one-on-one 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. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)



SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide 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 Services website](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

GEOG 112-81 – Nations, Cultures & Territorial Disputes, Summer Session 1 – 2020 Course Schedule

All chapters referenced below correspond to the assigned *Global Issues* text. Readings are mandatory. Please note this schedule *is* subject to change given fair notice, so please refer to [Canvas](#) for latest information. Any changes will also be announced at the beginning of class.

Course Schedule

| Theme | Date | Topics |
|--|--|---|
| 1 Large Scale Threats to Humanity | June 1 June 2 June 3-4 June 5-6 | Introductions, Meet Your Group, Review the Syllabus Ch 1: Chemical & Biological Weapons Ch 16: Climate Change, Group 1 Ch 15: Future of the Arctic, Group 2 <i>Chasing Ice (if you choose to write the essay on this film it's due June 7)</i> |
| 2 Border Issues | June 8-9 June 10-11 June 12-13 | Ch 2: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, Group 3 Ch 4: Border Security, Group 4 Immigration Research Narrative <i>Which Way Home (if you choose to write the essay on this film it's due June 14)</i> |
| 3-4 China in a Global Context | June 15-16 June 17-18 June 19-20 June 21-22 | Ch 12: State Capitalism, Group 5 Ch 11: China in Latin America, Group 6 Ch 9: Booming Africa, Group 7 Ch 13: Free Speech at Risk, Group 8 <i>Ai Wei Wei: Never Sorry (if you choose to write the essay on this film it's due June 23)</i> |
| 4-5 Turmoil in the Middle East | June 24-25 June 26-27 June 28-29 | Ch 6: Unrest in the Arab World, Group 9 Ch 14: Islamic Sectarianism, Group 10 Ch 3: Iraq War - 10 Years Later, Group 11 <i>The Square (if you choose to write the essay on this film it's due June 30)</i> |
| Finals | July 1 July 2 | Review Article Due Final Exam Due |

| GROUP NAME | GROUP MEMBERS | IMPORTANT DATES | CHAPTER ASSIGNED |
|-------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Group 1 | Nanxi Zou Jeremy Wint | June 3 Background Slides Due June 3-4 Facilitate Online Discussion June 5 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 16: Climate Change |
| Group 2 | Andes Ray-Wah U Andy Tang | June 4 Background Slides Due June 5-6 Facilitate Online Discussion June 7 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 15: Future of the Arctic |
| Group 3 | Cameron Turner Madeline Ruiz | June 7 Background Slides Due June 8-9 Facilitate Online Discussion June 10 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 2: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict |
| Group 4 | Melissa Rosas Gaona Alysia Reyes Anh Tram | June 9 Background Slides Due June 10-11 Facilitate Online Discussion June 12 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 4: Border Security |
| Group 5 | Anna Ponce Melanie Paronable | June 14 Background Slides Due June 15-16 Facilitate Online Discussion June 17 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 12: State Capitalism |
| Group 6 | Tom Nguyen Jasmine Ngai | June 16 Background Slides Due June 17-18 Facilitate Online Discussion June 19 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 11: China in Latin America |
| Group 7 | Alyssa Nguyen Thuy Ly | June 18 Background Slides Due June 19-20 Facilitate Online Discussion June 21 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 9: Booming Africa |
| Group 8 | Yawen Lin Kasie Lee | June 20 Background Slides Due June 21-22 Facilitate Online Discussion June 23 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 13: Free Speech at Risk |
| Group 9 | Quynh Le Jacob Jiang | June 23 Background Slides Due June 24-25 Facilitate Online Discussion June 26 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 6: Unrest in the Arab World |

| GROUP NAME | GROUP MEMBERS | IMPORTANT DATES | CHAPTER ASSIGNED |
|-------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Group 10 | Tyler Hom Bin Guo Alexander Bustos | June 25 Background Slides Due June 26-27 Facilitate Online Discussion June 28 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 14: Islamic Sectarianism |
| Group 11 | Kristy Cheung Neil Chesin | June 28 Background Slides Due June 28-29 Facilitate Online Discussion June 30 Discussion Prompt Recap Due | Ch 3: Iraq War - 10 Years Later |