

San José State University
College of Social Sciences, Geography Department
Course # 30811, GEOG 112-84 – Nations, Cultures &
Territorial Disputes, Summer Session 2, 2020

Instructor:	Kerry Rohrmeier, Ph.D.
Office Location:	Online (Zoom)
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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](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

GEOG 112-84 – Nations, Cultures & Territorial Disputes, Summer Session 2 – 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	July 6 July 7-8 July 9-10 July 11-12	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 July 13)</i>
2 Border Issues	July 14-15 July 16-17 July 18-19	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 July 20)</i>
3-4 China in a Global Context	July 21-22 July 23-24 July 25-26 July 27-28	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 July 29)</i>
4-5 Turmoil in the Middle East	July 30-31 Aug 1-2 Aug 3-4	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 August 5)</i>
Finals	Aug 6 Aug 7	Review Article Due Final Exam Due

GROUP NAME	GROUP MEMBERS	IMPORTANT DATES	CHAPTER ASSIGNED
Group 1	Isaiah de Dios Arah Atkinson	July 9 Background Slides Due July 9-10 Facilitate Online Discussion July 11 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 16: Climate Change
Group 2	Trang Truong Jonathan Chang	July 10 Background Slides Due July 11-12 Facilitate Online Discussion July 13 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 15: Future of Arctic
Group 3	Thinh Tran Colin Dryer	July 13 Background Slides Due July 14-15 Facilitate Online Discussion July 16 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 2: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
Group 4	Phuong Tran Ariel Flores Thinh Tran	July 15 Background Slides Due July 16-17 Facilitate Online Discussion July 18 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 4: Border Security
Group 5	Pamela Tionquiao Marjan Haydaree	July 19 Background Slides Due July 20-21 Facilitate Online Discussion July 22 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 12: State Capitalism
Group 6	Tarun Sonti Omar Khan	July 21 Background Slides Due July 22-23 Facilitate Online Discussion July 24 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 11: China in Latin America
Group 7	Trent Saucedo Xinxin Kuang	July 23 Background Slides Due July 24-25 Facilitate Online Discussion July 26 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 9: Booming Africa
Group 8	Peter Roumeliotis Jacqueline Louie	July 25 Background Slides Due July 26-27 Facilitate Online Discussion July 28 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 13: Free Speech at Risk
Group 9	Kaitlyn Quach Tate Martinez Ali Alzaghari	July 29 Background Slides Due July 30-31 Facilitate Online Discussion Aug 1 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 6: Unrest in the Arab World

GROUP NAME	GROUP MEMBERS	IMPORTANT DATES	CHAPTER ASSIGNED
Group 10	Van Nguyen Christian Mendoza Hania Ali	July 31 Background Slides Due Aug 1-2 Facilitate Online Discussion Aug 3 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 14: Islamic Sectarianism
Group 11	Trang Nguyen Samantha Mendoza	Aug 2 Background Slides Due Aug 3-4 Facilitate Online Discussion Aug 5 Discussion Prompt Recap Due	Ch 3: Iraq War - 10 Years Later