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# Syllabus

## GEOG 1001, version 2.0

Updated: May 2021

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### GEOG 1001—Human Geograpy: Americas and Europe

**Course Description:** Principal themes of human geography, including the spatial distributions and interactions of culture, history, economy, population, and environment, with a regional emphasis on the Americas and Europe.

#### Textbooks and Other Materials

In order to successfully complete this course, read the following textbook information carefully. Please use the ISBNs listed below to order the correct materials. ODL is not responsible for student purchases that result in the receipt of the wrong materials. *It is the responsibility of the student to order the correct textbook materials.* Courses are written to specific textbook editions; edition substitutions *are not allowed*.

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#### Textbook

The required materials for this course are a textbook (available in both a binder copy and an eTextbook version) and an atlas, both listed below. You may also purchase access to a WileyPLUS course website that contains *optional* materials. Please see below for more information on this option.

**NOTE:** Before ordering your book, please be aware that some versions include a WileyPLUS access code. If you do not want to purchase access to WileyPLUS, do not buy a bundle. To ensure that you are getting the correct version of the textbook, **you should use only the ISBNs provided here.**

1. Michael Shin, Jan Nijman, and Peter O. Muller, and. *Geography: Realms, Regions, and Concepts*. Eighteenth edition. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley, 2020.

Binder-ready (book only):     **ISBN-13:** 978-1119688587

eTextbook (only):             **ISBN-13:** 978-1119607366

2. *Goode's World Atlas*. 23<sup>rd</sup> edition. Pearson, 2017.

**ISBN-13:** 9780133864649

3. *WileyPLUS (Optional)* Please review the Getting Started module to purchase the WileyPLUS optional additional resources. The WileyPLUS option includes the eTextbook.

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### Ordering Information

Please review the following tips for ordering your course materials:

1. Do not purchase your textbooks until your enrollment is approved. During the processing period, a new section may be opened that could require a different textbook or edition.
2. *Always order by the ISBN.* Publishers and vendors often offer the same textbook title under different ISBNs. You must have the correct ISBN to access your online website.
3. If you are having problems locating a textbook, contact us at [Answers@outreach.lsu.edu](mailto:Answers@outreach.lsu.edu) for assistance.

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### Other Materials and Resources

**Software:** Adobe Acrobat Reader, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Word

You must use a recent version of MS Word to view course documents.

We recommend that you use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your web browser. Microsoft Edge is not compatible with your Moodle course site.

Adobe Acrobat Reader is required to view PDF document files.

**Hardware:** Web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet

Proctored exams are completed online and require the hardware listed above. Students are encouraged to review the technical requirements provided on the ProctorU website and to perform a test on their equipment prior to enrolling in this course to make sure they have the necessary resources available. There is a separate charge for each proctored exam.

**Technical Requirements:** <https://support.proctoru.com/hc/en-us/articles/115011772748-Equipment-Requirements>

**Equipment Test:** <http://www.proctoru.com/testitout/>

## Nature and Purpose of the Course

**Course Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course, students are expected to:

1. Understand geography as a discipline
2. Have increased awareness of world geography
3. Be aware of cultural subunits in the world
4. Show that geography is a study of the earth's surface as an active, dynamic system

This course will challenge you to increase your knowledge of geography in four main areas. First, you will examine geography as a discipline, including the methods of research and the conceptual tools (e.g., maps, regions, scale, etc.) used by geographers to portray and interpret the nature, interrelationships, and distribution of the physical and cultural phenomena found on the earth's surface. No previous training in geography is needed to do this. You will be encouraged to use the information and concepts learned from textbook and atlas readings to express your own interpretations of geographical problems and questions.

The second objective of the course is to increase your awareness of world geography. This includes the ability to locate countries, regions, cities, and features of the physical environment. You will approach this by examining the global distribution of and spatial relationships between elements of the physical environment (e.g., climate and vegetation), and various components of human culture (e.g., population distribution and economic activity). This will give you an overview of how these phenomena are distributed on the global scale and the relationship between them.

Third, you will study cultural subunits in the world. This course and the text by Nijman, Shin, and Muller, divide the world into *Geographic Realms* (see pages 7–11 in the textbook). Each *Realm* is further divided into *Regions*, and the physical and cultural elements of each region are examined. Geography 1001 will look at the *Realms* of Europe, Russia, North America, Middle America, and South America.

The fourth and final objective of this course is to help you see the field of geography as more than a collection of static facts consisting of the memorization of countries and capitals, but also as the study of the earth's surface as an active, dynamic system where environment and culture interact in complex ways. This approach will help you understand why places are the way they are; make meaningful comparisons between places; recognize how and why relationships between countries, cultures, and man and his environment change; and recognize and interpret patterns and distributions of geographic phenomena.

## Working with the Course Materials

Remember, this course covers an entire semester of work or the equivalent of a classroom course lasting 15 weeks. That means that each module in this course equals nearly a week of course work and will require the same time and effort on your part. *Do not expect to complete*

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*each module in a single study session. Understand, too, that if you choose to submit assignments at a very high pace, your instructor may not be able to grade your work at the same rate.*

### **Moodle**

Always begin by logging in to our Moodle course site. The course is divided into 14 modules. Each module contains an introduction and descriptions of the elements you will need to complete. It is important to read the module introduction carefully in order to successfully complete your work. Its purpose is to give you a brief overview of the material you are about to study. After reading the Moodle introduction, you will complete a self-check quiz and your graded assignment.

#### *Self-Check Map Exercises*

The self-check map exercises are mapping activities that you can use as practice for each module. You will complete two types of mapping: locational and regional.

These activities are highly recommended to be part of studying but are not required. Please note that locations from the self-check map exercise *will be included on the exams*. However, you are only responsible for those locations and regions marked with an asterisk (\*).

#### *Module Assignments*

After studying each module, the last thing you must complete is the module assignment in Moodle. The assignments include three types of exercises: fill-in-the-blank, definitions, and essay. You must complete all three parts to receive credit. General requirements for completing the assignment are provided in the module.

#### *Exams*

The course exams will also be administered through Moodle. Please see the "Taking Your Examinations" section of this syllabus for more details on the exam procedures.

#### *Reading Assignments*

There are two ways for you to access your reading assignment. You may use the hard copy text or you may read the eText version of the textbook through WileyPLUS.

### **Working with the Textbook**

Whether you are using the online version or hard copy of the text, it is a good idea to familiarize yourself with the setup of the textbook by looking through it and noting specific features designed to facilitate learning. You will find the following features particularly helpful with this course.

#### *Beginning of Chapter Resources*

At the beginning of each chapter, the key *Concepts, Ideas, and Terms* that are presented in the chapter reading are listed. It is useful to glance over these terms and keep them in mind as you read.

There is also a topical list (*In This Chapter*) of some of the current conditions and issues that are important to the geographic realm being discussed. It is useful to keep these topics in mind as you read.

### *Glossary*

There is a glossary on pages G1–G8 that gives brief definitions of key terms used in the textbook.

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## **Suggested Study Techniques**

1. Carefully review the module objectives to help you focus on the information that will be covered on the exams.
2. Concentrate on the reading assignments, the module lecture material, and any additional resources provided. This review should include a detailed examination of any illustrative problems and examples. After an assignment has been completed, a rapid re-reading of the related text and other materials is strongly recommended.
3. Put yourself on a definite schedule. Set aside a certain block of hours per day or week for this course and work in a place where distractions are minimal.
4. Try to submit one assignment each week or at least every two weeks. Delays in submitting assignments usually result in lagging interest and the inability to complete the course.
5. Review your module assignments after they have been graded, paying special attention to any instructor feedback provided. We suggest that you wait for assignment feedback before you submit subsequent assignments.
6. Regardless of how you complete your graded assignments, keep in mind that module completion should not be your sole preparation for your exams. As with any college course, you should study for your exams.

## **Reading Assignments**

You will read an average of 20–30 pages per module. Specific reading assignments will be given in each module.

### **Topic Outline**

This course covers the following specific topics:

<b>Module</b>	<b>Topic</b>
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- 01 World Regional Geography Part 1
- 02 World Regional Geography Part 2
- 03 World Regional Geography Part 3
- 04 The European Realm
- 05 Western Europe and the British Isles
- 06 Northern, Mediterranean, and Eastern Europe
- 07 The Russian/Central Asian Realm
- 08 Russian/Central Asian Regions

### **Mid-Course Examination**

- 09 The North American Realm
- 10 North American Regions
- 11 The Middle American Realm
- 12 Middle American Regions
- 13 The South American Realm
- 14 South American Regions

### **Final Examination**

## Module Assignments

Each module assignment is worth 100 points. Each completed module assignment will receive a point value in the Moodle grade book. Partial credit is given for all correct parts within an exercise.

Assignment completion is primarily for your benefit and is the key to success in this course. If you have difficulty with any aspect of this course, you may post a question in the forum section for the module.

It is highly recommended that you take the exams as you proceed in the course and do not wait until after submission of all modules to begin taking the exams. Taking the exams in the proper order of the course will allow you to receive feedback on your progress before it is too late to make improvements in your study methods if needed.

Carefully study the textbook before you begin to prepare the graded module assignments.

Each module assignment is restricted by the submission of the previous assignment except the last assignment, which requires a grade to unlock. Specific information on assignment submission is included in the "Module Instructions" in Moodle. Please be sure to follow these instructions.

*You must have a grade posted in the Moodle grade book for the Module 14 Assignment in order to unlock access to the Final Exam. Please allow at least seven days for the final assignment grade to be posted in the gradebook.*

Once you submit an assignment, you cannot revise it, so be sure to check your work. Your instructor will normally post a grade for your assignment within *seven calendar days*. Understand that occasional delays will occur, such as during holidays and semester breaks or if you submit several module assignments within the same week. You must have been enrolled in the course for *at least three weeks*, regardless of when the modules and other exams are completed.

Do not rely too heavily on your textbook or other resource material when preparing your assignments. If you do, you may not realize until exam time that the perfect response you prepared for an assignment was only possible because you referred to resource material without really learning or understanding the material and concepts. Therefore, *you should attempt each assignment without referring to the resource material*, and if you find it necessary to look up an answer, be sure you have actually learned the concept and material rather than merely reflecting it in the answer.

## **Academic Integrity**

Students in Online Distance Learning (ODL) courses must comply with the *LSU Code of Student Conduct*. Suspected violations of the academic integrity policy may be referred to LSU Student Advocacy & Accountability (SAA), a unit of the Dean of Students. If found responsible of a violation, you will then be subject to whatever penalty SAA determines and will forfeit all course tuition and fees.

### **Plagiarism**

Students are responsible for completing and submitting their own course work and preparing their own modules. All work submitted in the course modules must be the student's own work unless outside work is appropriate to the assignment; all outside material must be properly acknowledged. It is also unacceptable to copy directly from your textbook or to use published answer keys or the teacher's edition of a textbook.

### **Collaboration**

Unauthorized collaboration constitutes plagiarism. Collaborative efforts that extend beyond the limits approved by the instructor are violations of the academic integrity policy. Students who study together are expected to prepare and write their own individual work for submission and grading.

For more information and links to the *LSU Code of Student Conduct* and the SAA website, go to the [ODL Academic Integrity policy](#) on our website.

### Examinations and Grading Policy

Module assignments count 100 points each. In determining your final grade, the lowest two assignment scores will be dropped.

This course includes two exams. The mid-course examination will cover modules 01–08; the final examination will cover modules 09–14. The two exams will consist of fill-in-the-blank questions, short definitions, demarcation and labeling of features on each of two maps, and two short essay questions. Sufficient preparation should be made prior to attempting each of the examinations. The exams are worth 100 points each.

You will have a maximum of *three* hours to complete each exam.

#### **YOU MUST EARN A PASSING AVERAGE ON THE EXAMINATIONS IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.**

That means you must earn a cumulative of 120 points out of the 200 possible points on the two exams.

If you earn a passing average on your exams your grade will be calculated as follows.

Your course grade = total points earned. The following grading scale applies.

97%–100%	=	A+
93%–96%	=	A
90%–92%	=	A-
87%–89%	=	B+
83%–86%	=	B
80%–82%	=	B-
77%–79%	=	C+
73%–76%	=	C
70%–72%	=	C-
67%–69%	=	D+
63%–66%	=	D
60%–62%	=	D-
0%–59%	=	F

Grades will be determined based solely on this grading scale. There will be no opportunities for bonus or extra assignments.

**IMPORTANT:** The final exam cannot be taken until you meet the following requirements. Under no circumstances may the final exam be taken earlier.

1. You must have been enrolled in the course for *at least three weeks*, regardless of when the modules and other exams are completed.
2. You must have a *grade posted in the Moodle grade book for the Module 14 Assignment in order to unlock access to the Final Exam*. Please allow at least 7 days for the final assignment grade to be posted in the gradebook.

To read the full exam policy and other policy statements, visit <http://www.outreach.lsu.edu/Extended-Campus/Online-Distance-Learning/Guidelines-Policies/Policies>. Go to Continuing Education's homepage. Click on *Extended Campus*, select *Online Distance Learning*, and then click the link for *Guidelines and Policies*.

## Taking Your Examinations

You are *required* to create a Louisiana State University ODL ProctorU account and to take your examinations through ProctorU, a remote proctoring service that allows you to take exams anywhere with internet access (some restrictions apply). Information on creating your ProctorU account can be found in the *Getting Started* module. You cannot use an account created through another university, so if you already have an account, you will still need to create an account associated with LSU Online Distance Learning (ODL).

The ProctorU website provides links you can use to find out how ProctorU works and to check your computer to see that it meets the technical requirements. In addition, to test using ProctorU, you need *access to a web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet* to use this service. A complete list of technical requirements is available from the ProctorU website.

You should schedule your exams about a week before you are ready to take them in order to avoid any additional charges.

## Transcript Information

After you have completed this course, your grade will be filed with the Office of the University Registrar. If a transcript is needed, it is your responsibility to make a request to the registrar. If you would like to order a transcript, visit the Office of the University Registrar Transcript Requests page to view your options at <http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/registraroffice/student-services/transcript-request/>.

## Copyright

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GEOG 1001 World Geography: Americas and Europe  
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