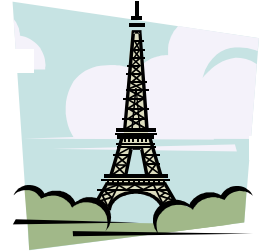




Social Science 165 World Regional Geography

Winter 2006
CSU-San Bernardino



Instructor: Dr. Julie Cidell
E-mail: jcidell@csusb.edu
Class blog: <http://csusbgeog.blogspot.com/>
Office hours: MW 1:15-2:15, WF 10-11, or by appointment

Class: MWF 12:00-1:10
Classroom: SB 128
Office: SB 319

Course description:

This class will explore the people, cultures, economies, and environments of places and regions around the world. If you want to know why some parts of the world are richer or poorer than others, how people and places thousands of miles away can have more in common than those next door to each other, why local places are still important despite the globalization of culture and economic activity, or just why what you eat and wear comes from dozens of different countries, this is the course for you!

Course objectives:

- To understand how distant peoples and places are connected by complex environmental and social processes.
- To use a spatial perspective to understand the processes that shape our world.
- To be able to explain the characteristics of various world cultures and places.
- To practice oral and written communication and critical thinking skills.

Course format:

The class will consist of lecture along with short individual or group activities. There's a lot of information for me to impart to you, and lectures are the best method for that. But it's also important to give you a chance to reflect on and use the knowledge you acquire from reading and listening. Because we are covering a lot of material, you are expected to be in class every day (yes, even on Fridays!), with your cell phone off, your lunch finished, and ready to listen, take notes, and ask questions.

Required text:

The textbook is Realms, Regions, and Concepts, by Harm DeBlij. The 12th edition is the most up-to-date, but earlier editions are acceptable as well. Reading assignments are in the syllabus. While I would prefer that you do the reading before each class so that the terms and concepts in lecture are already familiar to you, I understand that some people prefer to hear the material first and then read it. Regardless, do not wait until the night before the exam to do all of the reading!

Each chapter begins with an overview of one of twelve *realms*, including its physical setting, its history, and some of the cultural, political, or economic issues that region is facing. The overview also discusses the geographic *concepts* that are exemplified by a particular place. This is also the way each realm will be introduced in class. As you read, keep in mind that the generalizations in the introduction may not apply equally to every place in the realm. The rest of the chapters and lectures are divided into smaller *regions* that are internally similar. Although the book goes country-by-country, in lecture I will focus on only a few places and let you know what concepts and places you should focus on learning from the chapter.

Grading:

Grading will be based on 10 mini-assignments, 6 take-home assignments, and 3 tests. The mini-assignments will always be completed in class, something along the order of a group activity or answering questions about a video. Their purpose is both to check attendance and to give me an idea of how well you've learned the material. There will be 13 mini-assignments, and they can not be made up if missed, but the lowest three will be dropped.

The written assignments will be explained as we go along. Four of them involve creating your own maps and answering questions about them, while the other two are about images of foreign places, and the geography of your closet. One can be completed at any time during the quarter, but for the other five, you will have ten days or so to complete each one (due dates are on the syllabus). *Spelling and grammar count*, so please check your work carefully before you hand it in. Late assignments will lose one point (10 percent) for each class day they are late.

Finally, there will be three exams, each one covering a third of the course. They will all be open-note tests, so take good notes and do the reading as you go along. The tests will be a combination of multiple choice and short-answer questions. If you are going to miss a test, you **must** notify me ahead of time or have a legitimate written excuse (doctor's note, etc.) in order to make up the test at a later or earlier date.

Points will be awarded as follows:

Assignment	Points
Mini-assignments	100 (13 assignments, 3 dropped, 10 points each)
Take-home assignments	300 (6 assignments, 50 points each)
Tests	600 (3 tests, 200 points each)
Total	1000

Cheating or plagiarism will result in an F for the assignment and possibly for the entire course. As defined by the Council of Writing Program Administrators, "plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source." See me if you are unsure about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism, or check out <http://www.wpacouncil.org/node/9>.

Any student who may need extra assistance with regards to meeting the requirements of this course (e.g., learning or physical disability) is requested to speak to me as soon as possible so we can discuss how to ensure you get the most out of the class. Thanks!

Course schedule

Reading assignments are in italics

Assignments due are in bold

January 9: **Introduction**

January 11: **"Give me your tired, your poor..."**

Introduction, Chapter 3 (North America): Defining the Realm

January 13: ***Pahking the cah, pop vs. soda, and pink collars***

Chapter 3: Regions of the Realm

January 16: **NO CLASS**

January 18: ***From World Wars to the Chocolate War***

Chapter 1 (Europe): Defining the Realm

January 20: ***The Chunnel***

Map 1 due

Chapter 1: Regions of the Realm: Western Europe, The British Isles, Northern Europe

January 23: **"Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"**

Chapter 1: Regions of the Realm: Mediterranean Europe, Eastern Europe

January 25: ***The Country Formerly Known as the Evil Empire***

Chapter 2 (Russia)

January 27: ***Water and Oil I: The Fertile Crescent***

Clothing assignment due

Chapter 7 (North Africa/SW Asia): Defining the Realm

January 30: ***O Jerusalem!***

Chapter 7: Regions of the Realm: Middle East, Arabian Peninsula

February 1: ***Water and Oil II: The Caspian and Aral Seas***

Chapter 7: Regions of the Realm: Egypt, Maghreb, Empire States, Turkestan

February 3: **TEST 1**

February 6: ***Los Conquistadores***

Map 2 due

Chapter 4 (Middle America): Defining the Realm

February 8: ***Hurricanes Jeanne and Mitch***

Chapter 4: Regions of the Realm

February 10: ***Rainforest Crunch***

Chapter 5 (South America): Defining the Realm

February 13: ***FTAA? No Way!***

Chapter 5: Regions of the Realm: The North, The West

February 15: ***Megacities***

Chapter 5: Regions of the Realm: The South, Brazil

February 17: ***The "Dark Continent"***

Chapter 6 (Subsaharan Africa): Defining the Realm

Map 3 due

February 20: ***AIDS and Africa***

Chapter 6: Regions of the Realm: Southern, East

February 22: ***Café Mocha: Cocoa and coffee***

Chapter 6: Regions of the Realm: West, Equatorial, Transition Zone

February 24: **TEST 2**

February 27: ***Monsoons and tsunamis***

Chapter 8 (South Asia): Defining the Realm

Map 4 due

March 1: ***Kashmir***

Chapter 8: Regions of the Realm

March 3: ***The geography of your closet***

Chapter 10 (Southeast Asia): Defining the Realm

March 6: ***Vacation in Bali***

Chapter 10: Regions of the Realm

March 8: **NO CLASS**

March 10: **NO CLASS**

March 13: ***Changing China***

Chapter 9 (East Asia): Defining the Realm, Regions of the Realm: all of China, Mongolia

March 15: ***Earthquake!***

Chapter 9: Regions of the Realm: Japan

March 17: ***Tigers and hermits***

Chapter 9: Regions of the Realm: Korea, Taiwan

Film assignment due

March 20: ***G'day, mates!***

Chapter 11 (The Austral Realm)

March 22: **TEST 3**