

Geography 104 - Geography of the Non-Western World

Department of Geography and Regional Planning

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Tentative Schedule, Fall, 2009

Instructor:	Dr. John Benhart, Jr.
Office:	Leonard Hall, Office Rm. 10
Office Hours:	M-W-F, 9:15-10:15 A.M.; T-R, 10:30-11:30 A.M.
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E-Mail:	JBENHART@IUP.EDU
Instructor Website:	www.iup.edu/geography/faculty/Benhardt.shtm
Course Texts:	A. <u>Contemporary World Regional Geography</u> (Special Edition with Selected Chapters for IUP Geography of the Non-Western World), Third Edition, Written by M. Bradshaw et. al. McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., 1998. B. <u>The New Comparative World Atlas</u> . Hammond Publishers, Inc. 2007.

Geography 104 is designed to acquaint the student with Geography in general, and to apply a geographic perspective to the study and analysis of problems and issues in the developing world in particular. The course should help the student broaden his/her "global awareness," and emphasize the increasing interconnectedness of developed and developing areas of the world with respect to major economic, political, demographic, and environmental issues. This will include such aspects as population and human movement, language, religion, race, economic activities, and urban development. Goals of the course are to:

- 1) Introduce you to geography as a discipline, and basic geographic concepts
- 2) Analyze the global spatial patterns of climate, landforms, population, natural resources, etc. (i.e. the present global situation)
- 3) Establish a general distinction based on various measures between **developed** and **developing** countries of the world
- 4) Emphasize problems and issues particularly relevant in developing areas of the world
- 5) Expand your knowledge of places in the world, and the qualities of those places

Course Format and Attendance Policy

I strongly urge you to attend lecture sessions as they are the basis for quiz and examination material. **This means I want you to come to class.** However, I will not take attendance at each class meeting, simply because it takes up too much class time. There are two major incentives for you to attend class regularly: 1) I incorporate a large amount of material not found in the textbook into lectures; and 2) I reserve the right to give four unannounced pop quizzes during the course of the semester. Makeup quizzes or examinations will only be considered in cases of excused absence. (This means a certified doctor's excuse, or a university program excuse).

Course Requirements and Grading

Bi-Weekly Quizzes: A quiz will be given during Thursday's class session every other week of the semester (I will tell you the dates). The quizzes will be short (They are worth twenty points each.), fairly simple, and administered during the last fifteen to twenty minutes of a class period. They will focus on the course material covered during the two weeks preceding. The goal of the quizzes is to encourage you to keep up with what is going on in class and to attend lectures. There will be no bi-weekly quizzes on exam weeks.

Pop quizzes: I reserve the option to give four pop quizzes at my discretion. My discretion usually involves recent low attendance in a particular class, at which point I decide to reward those who are in class. Again, the quizzes will be short and based on class material.

Place-Location Quiz: A place-location quiz will be given early on in the semester in an attempt to assure that each student has developed an adequate “mental map” of the world. The goal of this is that you know “where in the world” a country is when we discuss it in class. Although some students already know this information, there are others who will not when they enroll in the class. The quiz is a way of encouraging you to learn the location of countries (There are many political maps of the world found in your Comparative World Atlas) (worth 30 points).

Examinations: There will be three exams that will include information from lectures, readings, and exercises. Each exam will be worth approximately 20% of the final grade. The examinations will focus on the course content preceding them in the syllabus. Make-ups will be held at the end of the semester on a date that I announce.

Grading: Grading will be based on quizzes and exams. There are no grades given for class participation, but attending class and paying attention will help you perform better. The grading breakdown will be similar to the following:

Exams:	3 at 100 pts. = 300 pts.
Place-Location:	1 at 30 pts. = 30 pts.
Quizzes:	5to7 at 20 pts.=100 (140) pts.
	430 to 470pts. total*

*Possible pop quiz(zes)

Grades will be assigned on an approximate straight percentage basis. In other words, 90% or above of 430 points will earn an A grade, 80% or above a B, and so forth. I reserve the right to deviate from this formula under special circumstances.

****The following schedule is subject to announced change**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics and Assignments</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Sept. 1	Review of course syllabus and policies. Overview of the course.	
Sept. 3	I. INTRODUCTION --Defining Geography --Maps as the Geographer’s Tool --The Geography of Development	A. Ch. 1
Sept. 8	II. GLOBAL PATTERNS -Physical Foundations a) Elements of the physical environment (climate, soils, vegetation, landforms, resources) b) World environmental problems associated with elements of the environment -Human-Environment Interaction a) Culture and Society b) World Population	A.Ch. 2
	III. CONTRASTING MORE AND LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES -Measurements of Wealth -Characteristics of More and Less	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed Countries - Particularly relevant issues in the developing world -Theories of Development -Regional Definitions 	
	IV. LATIN AMERICA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Colonial History -Land tenure pattern -Physical geography -Political and economic development patterns -Country case studies 	A. Ch. 11
Oct. 4	FIRST EXAM	
	V. AFRICA SOUTH OF THE SAHARA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Settlement and Colonization -Physical patterns -Least Developed Countries -Present Political and Economic Issues -Country case studies 	A. Ch. 9
	VI. NORTHERN AFRICA & SOUTHWEST ASIA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Arid Climates -Oil and Economic Development -Religious and ethnic patterns -Country case studies 	A. Ch. 8
	VII. SOUTH ASIA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The monsoon seasonal pattern -Religion and History -Physical geography -Population Growth and Economic Development -Country case studies 	A. Ch. 7
Nov. 5	SECOND EXAM	
	VIII. EAST ASIA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -History -Physical geography -The People's Republic of China -China: Communism: Old and New -Population and Resources -Country case studies 	A. Ch. 5
	IX. SOUTHEAST ASIA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Physical Geography -Tropical Climates -Agricultural Economies - Political Fragmentation and Development -Country case studies 	A. Ch. 6
	FINAL EXAM – Tuesday, December 15th 12:30-2:30	

GEOG 104 Quiz (and Exam) Dates

Thursday, Sept. 10th

Developing World Map Quiz Sept. 17th

Thursday, Sept. 24th

Exam 1 – Wednesday October 8th

Thursday, Oct. 22nd

Exam 2 – Wednesday November 5th

Thursday, Nov. 24th

Thursday, Dec. 10th

Final Exam – Tuesday, December 15th