

**GEOGRAPHY 180**  
**REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE**  
**AND THE AMERICAS**  
Fall 2009

Dr. Elizabeth Hines  
124 DeLoach Hall, (910) 962-3012  
**Office Hours:** MWF 11-12 or by appt.  
<mailto:hinese@uncw.edu>, <http://people.uncw.edu/hinese/>

**Overview and Objectives:** This course is the first of a two semester sequence designed to provide students with fundamental geographic knowledge and understanding of world regions—a *world view*. You will learn the basic locational geography necessary to understand the complex relationship among the physical, historical, and cultural processes that have shaped the modern world and which influence global and local events in Europe and the Americas. Africa, Asia and the Pacific Rim are considered in Geography 181.

**Required Books: Text**—H.J. de Blij, et al, *The World Today: Concepts and Regions in Geography*, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> ed., 2007 or 2009 and a good, comprehensive recent atlas. National Geographic's *College Atlas of the World* comes bundled with the 2009 text. A *Goodes World Atlas* is just as good.

All college students should read a **newspaper** every day. All Geography students should read *National Geographic* each month and some **news magazine** each week. *The Economist* is one of the best, but *Newsweek* or *Time* will do. The more you read, the more you know.

**Requirements, Evaluation and Grades:**

- 1. STUDYING:** Carefully read and think about the chapters in the text. Practice taking useful lecture notes. Use the blank maps and place names lists with the text and atlas to learn basic locational geography for each realm. Consult the thematic maps in the atlas and in the text for physical, economic, and cultural information and draw those regions on the blank maps too. Consult the web page for some notes, illustrations, and other study aids. Use the crossword puzzle for each section as a study guide. Solutions will be posted on the course web page prior to exams.
- 2. ATTENDANCE** is expected.
- 3. ON-LINE MAP QUIZZES:** Seven timed map quizzes will be available on-line at NC Vista **Blackboard**. You may take a quiz only once anytime from its posting until two days before the next scheduled exam. Study the blank maps and place lists before you log on to Blackboard. While you may use your atlas, text and other materials, you have only 20 minutes to complete each 20 point quiz, for a quiz total of 140 points.
- 4. EXAMS:** Five equally-weighted exams (worth 100 points each) will be given. Exam questions will be objective in nature, such as multiple choice and true/false (60 points). Each exam will also have a map identification section based on the place name lists (40 points).
  - Make-ups for missed exams will only be given at the time of the Final Exam. Because make-ups are more difficult, the wise student does not miss any exams.
  - Your lowest exam grade will be dropped if you have taken all 5 exams. Otherwise, a zero will be averaged into your score of a maximum of 640 possible points. **You cannot pass the course if you do not take the final exam.**
- 5. GRADING:** Your final grade will be calculated from your percentage of 540 possible points, because the lowest score of 5 exams will be dropped. **You must take all five exams for your lowest score to be dropped.** Scale: 100%-94 = A; 93-90 = A-; 89-87 = B+; 86-84 = B; 83-80 = B-; 79-77 = C+; 76-74 = C; 73-70 = C-; 69-67 = D+; 66-64 = D; 63-60 = D-; Below 60 = F.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** Complete an exploration of the globalization of merchandise to earn up to 100 points. If you do this, your grade will be calculated as a percent of 640, rather than 540 points (**calculate your grade**). Specific instructions can be found on the web page. There is no other extra credit.

**FORMULA FOR SUCCESS:** Attend every class and pay attention, keep up with the reading, do the map location exercises early and faithfully, study before you take a quiz, draw and label places and features on the blank maps, complete the cross word puzzles, study with a friend, test yourself, and ask questions when you do not understand something. Geography is fun when you use your grey matter.

**Honor Code:** "The University of North Carolina at Wilmington is committed to the proposition that the pursuit of truth requires the presence of honesty among all involved. It is therefore this institution's stated policy that no form of dishonesty among its faculty or students will be tolerated. Although all members of the university community are encouraged to report occurrences of dishonesty, honesty is principally the responsibility of each individual." *UNCW Undergraduate Catalogue*.

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

The following schedule lists general lecture topics, reading responsibilities, and exam dates, all **subject to change**--changes will be announced in class and on the web page.

| Monday's Date | Topics   | Chapter      |
|---------------|--|--------------|
| 8/17          | First class Wed. 8/19/09: Introduction: What is Geography?   | Introduction |
| 8/24          | Natural Concepts and Processes <b>Blackboard Quiz 1 8/28-9/2</b>   |              |
| 8/31          | Cultural Concepts and Processes; Maps<br><b>EXAM 1: Introduction, Friday 9/4</b>   |              |
| 9/7           | <b>No Class Monday</b> , Labor Day<br>Western Europe: Physiography, History and Culture  | 1            |
| 9/14          | The United Kingdom   |              |
| 9/21          | Western Europe: The "Continent" " <b>Blackboard Quiz 2 9/23-9/30</b>   |              |
| 9/28          | Nordic and Mediterranean Europe<br><b>EXAM 2: Europe, Friday 10/2</b>  |              |
| 10/5          | <b>No class Monday (Fall Break)</b> , Eastern Europe   | 1            |
| 10/12         | Russia and the Former Soviet Union <b>Blackboard Quizzes 3 &amp; 4 10/12-10/16</b>   | 2            |
| 10/19         | Russia and the Former Soviet Union<br><b>EXAM 3: Eastern Europe, Russia and the FSU, Monday 10/19</b><br>North America: Physiography | 3            |
| 10/26         | North America: Historical Geography <b>Blackboard Quiz 5 10/28-11/4</b>  |              |
| 11/2          | North America: Social & Cultural Geography<br><b>EXAM 4: North America, Friday 11/6</b>  |              |
| 11/9          | Latin America: General Introduction and History  | 4            |
| 11/16         | The Caribbean <b>Blackboard Quizzes 6 &amp; 7 11/9-11/23</b>   |              |
| 11/23         | Middle America; South America<br><b>No class W or F</b> Thanksgiving   | 5            |
| 11/30         | South America; <b>Last class on Wednesday 12/2/09</b>  |              |

**Final EXAM 5 Latin America, Monday 12/7/09, 8-11 AM**

Make-up exams may be taken at this time.

**Remember, you must take all five exams to have your lowest grade dropped and you cannot pass the course without taking the final.**