

Geography 101X: Expedition Earth: Introduction to Geography
Summer 2020 May 18-June 25 MW 10-11:55 WEB/ TR Blackboard 3 Credits

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Office Hours: By Appointment (email instructor to schedule Zoom video conference meetings)

Course Description: This course analyzes current events at the regional and global scale using the tools and insights of world regional geography. We will explore environmental, cultural, historical, social, demographic, economic, and political patterns and processes and seek to understand how these elements interact to influence local, regional, and global events. The goal is to understand how geographical factors shape the world we live in today.

Course Objectives:

- To be able to recognize the **patterns** of the world's physical and human geography.
- To understand the specific **processes** behind those patterns.
- To know the location and understand the significance of the world's most important **places**.
- To understand how **people** interact with their natural and manmade environments.
- To interrogate, analyze, and understand the world's most pressing geographic **problems**.
- To become **proficient** with basic geographic tools such as maps, media, and Google Earth.

Textbooks:

- Price, Lewis, Wyckoff, and Rowntree. *Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World*, 6th edition. (REQUIRED)

Blackboard: Blackboard (classes.alaska.edu) is the homebase for the course. Tuesday and Thursday lessons will be asynchronous and on Blackboard. All of the course documents, lecture materials, KML files, study guides, and assignment descriptions are posted to Blackboard. I will also send announcements via Blackboard. You are also required to complete graded reading quizzes on learning exercises on Blackboard. Make sure you have a Blackboard account and access to this course's page as soon as possible.

Zoom Video Conference Code: This class will be delivered via video conference on Mondays and Wednesdays. You will be required to tune in via a Zoom video conference at the assigned meeting time each synchronous class period. You do not need any special hardware or software to join the video conference. Simply use the link provided by the instructor to register and open the video conference window. Contact UAF OIT at (907) 450-8300 or 1-800-478-8226 if you need technical support. The link for the video conference:

<https://alaska.zoom.us/join/tJYofuuspj0tEtUstPAUG7VqzYokAZq2JI8d>

Google Earth Pro: We will be using Google Earth Pro throughout the semester to explore and analyze places, geographic features, and other geospatial data. You should download Google Earth Pro (<https://www.google.com/earth/desktop/>) to the computer you use to complete your coursework ASAP.

Assignments and Grading:

Participation (In-Class/Blackboard Activities and Discussions): You will have two ways to get participation points on Mondays and Wednesdays: You will either participate in real time by logging in to the Zoom video conference at the assigned time, participating in in-class discussions and completing in-class exercises, or you will watch archived copies of the lectures and complete exercises and participate in discussions on Blackboard. **Participation is worth 5 points per synchronous class period for a total of 50 points, or 10% of your final grade.**

Blackboard Tutorials and Exercises: On Tuesdays and Thursdays, you will complete exercises and participate in discussions on Blackboard. Each of these tutorials and their associated exercises will build upon content found in that day's textbook readings. **Each tutorial is worth 15 points, for a total of 150, or 30% of your final grade.**

Reading Quizzes: You will answer a series of questions posted on Blackboard before each lesson. These questions will cover the assigned textbook readings. The reading quizzes are meant to encourage you to complete the assigned readings, reinforce critical concepts, and prepare you for in-class activities and discussions. Note that you can miss three reading quizzes without accruing a penalty. **Reading quizzes are worth 5 points apiece for a total of 100, or 20% of your final grade.**

Midterm and Final Exam: There will be one midterm and one final exam, each taken on Blackboard. The exams will consist of map identification, multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and short essay questions. The exam will cover material found in your textbook, learning exercises, and lecture. You will be given study guides well in advance of each exam. **Each exam is worth 100 points, or 20% of your final grade.**

Assignment	Points	Percentage of Grade
Participation (In class activities, learning exercises, and homework)	50	10%
Blackboard Tutorials & Exercises	150	30%
Reading Quizzes	100	20%
Midterm Exam	100	20%
Final Exam	100	20%

500 Points Total

Grading Scale

A+ = 98% - 100%	A = 93% - 97%	A- = 90% - 92%
B+ = 88% - 89%	B = 83% - 87%	B- = 80% - 82%
C+ = 78% - 79%	C = 73% - 77%	C- = 70% - 72%
D+ = 68% - 69%	D = 63% - 67%	D- = 60% - 62%
		F = <60%

Extra Credit: You will have the option of writing a 3-5 page review of a documentary that we watch in class or that you view on your own time (I will provide a list of acceptable documentaries and essay prompts for each). The film review extra credit is worth a maximum of 25 points, or a 5% boost in your final grade. Note that extra credit will not be available to those who have not done all of the other required assignments, or to those who have a failing grade when all other points are tabulated.

Attendance Policy: It seems we are cursed to live in “interesting times.” On top of it being summer, when our already-busy Alaskan lives accelerate and become even more hectic, we are entering the semester in the midst of a global pandemic. We can’t yet predict what sorts of other disruptions we might face, but it is likely there will be enough to keep us all on our toes. Thus, my attendance policy is going to be flexible. You are **highly encouraged** to participate in real time each and every day that you can. However, given all of the known and unknown disruptions we will/are likely to face this semester, you will also have the option of watching archived versions of the lectures and doing other activities (e.g. participating in online discussion forums or completing adapted versions of the in-class activities) to get your participation points. We will discuss absences and options on a case-by-case basis.

Late Assignments & Make-Up Exams: Late assignments and make-up exams will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Please discuss missed assignments with the instructor as soon as possible. If you are going to be late submitting an exam, you must contact the instructor prior to the exam due date to arrange an extension. Again, given the myriad uncertainties and external challenges surrounding this semester, I will be as flexible as I can, within reason.

Conferences: Since this is a web based class only, we won’t have very many opportunities to interact with each other directly. In order to overcome this limitation, we’re going to have two one-on-one video-conference meetings over the course of the semester. The first one will be during the second week of class, and the second will be during the fourth week of class.

A Note on Reading & Writing: This is a college level course with college level expectations. You **MUST** be able to read and write at a basic college level in order to succeed in this class. Please see me privately if you have any questions or concerns about this requirement.

Getting Help: My job is to help you understand the material, so don’t hesitate to seek additional assistance if necessary. Stop by during office hours, send me an email, or schedule a meeting; I will be pleased to help you any way I can (within reason, of course). Be aware that **YOU** are ultimately responsible for mastering the material, however.

Students with Disabilities

UAF is obligated to provide accommodation only to the known limitations of an otherwise qualified student who has a disability. Please identify yourself to UAF Disability Services by applying for accommodations. To be considered for UAF Disability Services accommodations, individuals must be enrolled for at least one credit as a UAF student. For more information contact Disability Services at uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu, 474-5655 or by TTY at 474-1827.

Academic Misconduct Policy

Copying, plagiarism, and/or other academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Students caught in any of these acts will be removed from the course, will receive an F, and will likely face additional punishment from the University, up to and including expulsion. The University's policy on academic misconduct can be found in the UAF catalog under "Students' Rights and Responsibilities" and at www.uaf.edu/catalog/current/academics/regs3.html.

Avoiding Plagiarism: Here is a handy reference explaining plagiarism in all of its forms: <https://www.plagiarism.org/article/what-is-plagiarism>. Please take some time to review the relevant sections of this website. Note that failure to understand what plagiarism is will not be considered a valid excuse for committing an act of plagiarism. Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

Title IX

The University of Alaska Board of Regents have clearly stated in BOR policy that discrimination, harassment and violence will not be tolerated on any campus of the University of Alaska. If you believe you are experiencing discrimination or any form of harassment, including sexual harassment/misconduct/assault, you are encouraged to report that behavior. If you disclose sexual harassment or sexual violence to faculty members or university employees, they must notify the UAF Title IX coordinator about the basic facts of the incident. Your choices for disclosure include:

1. You may confidentially disclose and access confidential counseling by contacting the UAF Health and Counseling Center at 474-7043.
2. You can get support and file a Title IX report by contacting the UAF Title IX coordinator at 474-7599.
3. You may file a criminal complaint by contacting the UAF Police Department at 474-7721.

Course Schedule

Lesson 1

Date: Monday, May 18

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topics: Introduction to the Geography 101X: Expedition Earth

Reading Assignment:

- Syllabus
- Schedule
- Assignment Descriptions

Assignments Due: None

Lesson 2

Date: Tuesday, May 19

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topics: Building Critical Geographic Literacy

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 1 Intro (pp. 4)
- Textbook, Chapter 1.1-1.3: "Geography Matters: Environments, Regions, Landscapes" (pp. 4-8)
- Textbook, Chapter 1.4-1.6: "Globalization and New Geographies" (pp. 8-14)
- Textbook, Chapter 1.7-1.10: "The Geographer's Toolbox: Location, Maps, Remote Sensing, and GIS (pp. 14-18)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #1 (Syllabus) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Reading Quiz #2 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 1 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 3

Date: Wednesday, May 20

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topics: Introduction to Human Geography

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 1.11-1.14: "Population and Settlement: People on the Land" (pp. 18-24)
- Textbook, Chapter 1.15-1.18: "Cultural Coherence and Diversity: The Geography of Change and Tradition" (pp. 25-29)
- Textbook, Chapter 1.19-1.21: "Geopolitical Framework: Unity and Fragmentation" (pp. 29-34)
- Textbook, Chapter 1.22-1.24: "Economic and Social Development: The Geography of Wealth and Poverty." (pp. 34-39)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #3 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 2 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 4

Date: Thursday, May 21

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topics: Introduction to Physical Geography

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 2: Physical Geography and the Environment (pp. 44-65)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #4 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 3 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make-Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 5

Date: Tuesday, May 26

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topics: North America

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 3 Intro (pp. 68)
- Textbook, Chapter 3.1-3.3: "Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: A Vulnerable Land of Plenty" (pp. 70-76)
- Textbook, Chapter 3.4-3.5: "Population and Settlement: Reshaping a Continental Landscape." (pp. 76-82)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #5 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 4 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 6

Date: Wednesday, May 27

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: North America

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 3.6-3.7: "Cultural Coherence and Diversity: Shifting Patterns of Pluralism" (pp. 82-90)
- Textbook, Chapter 3.8-3.9: "Geopolitical Framework: Patterns of Dominance and Division." (pp. 91-94)
- Textbook, Chapter 3.10-3.12: "Economic and Social Development: Geographies of Abundance and Affluence." (pp. 95-99)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #6 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 5 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 7

Date: Thursday, May 28

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: Latin America

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 4 Intro (pp. 104)
- Textbook, Chapter 4.1-4.2: "Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: Neotropical Diversity and Urban Degradation" (pp. 104-115)
- Textbook, Chapter 4.3-4.5: "Population and Settlement: The Dominance of Cities" (pp. 115-122)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #7 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 6 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 8

Date: Monday, June 1

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: Latin America

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 4.6-4.7: "Cultural Coherence and Diversity: Repopulating a Continent" (pp. 122-125)
- Textbook, Chapter 4.8-4.9: "Geopolitical Framework: Redrawing the Map" (pp. 126-130)
- Textbook, Chapter 4.10-4.11: "Economic and Social Development: Focusing on Neoliberalism." (pp. 130-137)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #8 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 7 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 9

Date: Tuesday, June 2

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: Europe

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 8 Intro (pp. 258)
- Textbook, Chapter 8.1-8.2: "Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: Human Transformation of Diverse Landscapes." (pp. 260-265)
- Textbook, Chapter 8.3-8.4: "Population and Settlement: Slow Growth and Migration Challenges" (pp. 266-273)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #9 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 8 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 10

Date: Wednesday, June 3

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: Europe

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 8.5-8.7: "Cultural Coherence and Diversity: A Mosaic of Differences" (pp. 273-280)
- Textbook, Chapter 8.8-8.10: "Geopolitical Framework: A Dynamic Map" (pp. 280-284)
- Textbook, Chapter 8.11-8.13: "Economic and Social Development: Integration and Transition" (pp. 285-293)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #10 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 9 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 11

Date: Thursday, June 4

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: Eurasia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 9 Intro (pp. 298-299)
- Textbook, Chapter 9.1-9.2: "Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: A Vast and Challenging Land" (pp. 300-307)
- Textbook, Chapter 9.3-9.5: "Population and Settlement: An Urban Region" (pp. 307-312)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #11 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 10 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 12

Date: Monday, June 8

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: Eurasia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 9.6-9.7: "Cultural Coherence and Diversity: The Legacy of Slavic Dominance" (pp. 312-317)
- Textbook, Chapter 9.8-9.9: "Geopolitical Framework: Persisting Regional Instability" (pp. 318-322)
- Textbook, Chapter 9.10-9.12: "Economic and Social Development: Coping with Growing Regional Challenges" (pp. 323-327)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #12 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 11 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)
- Midterm Exam (Due by 9:00 AM) (100 points)

Lesson 13

Date: Tuesday, June 9

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: Central Asia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 10 Intro (pp. 332-333)
- Textbook, Chapter 10.1-10.2: "Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: Steppes, Deserts, and Threatened Lakes (pp. 334-337)
- Textbook, Chapter 10.3-10.4: "Population and Settlement: Densely Settled Oases Amid Vacant Lands" (pp. 338-343)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #13 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 12 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 14

Date: Wednesday, June 10

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: Central Asia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 10.5-10.6: "Cultural Coherence and Diversity: A Meeting Ground of Different Traditions." (pp. 343-346)
- Textbook, Chapter 10.7-10.8: "Geopolitical Framework: Political Reawakening" (pp. 347-351)
- Textbook, Chapter 10.9-10.10: "Economic and Social Development: Abundant Resources, Troubled Economies." (pp. 351-355)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #14 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 13 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 15

Date: Thursday, June 11

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: East Asia

Reading Assignment:

Textbook, Chapter 11 Intro (pp. 360-361)

- Textbook, Chapter 11.1-11.2: "Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: Resource Pressures in a Crowded Land." (pp. 362-370)
- Textbook, Chapter 11.3-11.4: "Population and Settlement: A Realm of Crowded Lowland Basins." (pp. 370-376)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #15 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 14 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 16

Date: Monday, June 15

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: East Asia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 11.5-11.6: “Cultural Coherence and Diversity: A Confucian Realm?” (pp. 376-381)
- Textbook, Chapter 11.7-11.8: “Geopolitical Framework: The Imperial Legacies of China and Japan” (pp. 381-387)
- Textbook, Chapter 11.9-11.10: “Economic and Social Development: A Core Region of the Global Economy” (pp. 387-393)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #16 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 15 In Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 17

Date: Tuesday, June 16

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: Southeast Asia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 13 Intro
- Textbook, Chapter 13.1-13.2: “Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: A Once-Forested Region” (pp. 433-440)
- Textbook, Chapter 13.3-13.4: “Population and Settlement: Subsistence, Migration, and Cities” (pp. 440-445)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #17 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 16 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 18

Date: Wednesday, June 17

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: Southeast Asia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 13.5-13.6: “Cultural Coherence and Diversity: A Meeting Ground of World Cultures” (pp. 445-450)
- Textbook, Chapter 13.7-13.8: “Geopolitical Framework: War, Ethnic Strife, and Regional Cooperation” (pp. 450-455)
- Textbook, Chapter 13.9-13.10: “Economic and Social Development: The Roller-Coaster Ride of Developing Economies” (pp. 455-461)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #18 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 17 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 19

Date: Thursday, June 18

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: South Asia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 12 Intro (pp. 398)
- Textbook, Chapter 12.1-12.2: “Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: Diverse and Stressed Landscapes” (pp. 399-406)
- Textbook, Chapter 12.3-12.4: “Population and Settlement: The Demographic Dilemma” (pp. 406-410)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #19 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 18 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 20

Date: Monday, June 22

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: South Asia

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 12.5-12.6: “Cultural Coherence and Diversity: A Common Heritage Undermined by Religious Rivalries” (pp. 410-416)
- Textbook, Chapter 12.7-12.8: “Geopolitical Framework: A Deeply Divided Region” (pp.416-421)
- Textbook, Chapter 12.9-12.10: “Economic and Social Development: Rapid Growth and Rampant Poverty” (pp. 421-427)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #20 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 19 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 21

Date: Tuesday, June 23

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: Southwest Asia and North Africa

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 7 Intro (pp. 220-221)
- Textbook, Chapter 7.1-7.2: “Physical Geography and Environmental Issues: Life in a Fragile World.” (pp. 222-228)
- Textbook, Chapter 7.3-7.5: “Population and Settlement: Changing Rural and Urban Worlds.” (pp. 228-237)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #21 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 20 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)

Lesson 22

Date: Wednesday, June 24

Format: Zoom Video Conference (Synchronous)

Topic: Southwest Asia and North Africa

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 7.6-7.7: "Cultural Coherence and Diversity: A Complex Cultural Mosaic." (pp. 237-242)
- Textbook, Chapter 7.8-7.10: "Geopolitical Framework: Never-Ending Tensions." (pp. 243-248)
- Textbook, Chapter 7.11-7.12: "Economic and Social Development: Lands of Wealth and Poverty." (pp. 248-253)

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #22 (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Lesson 21 Blackboard Activities and Discussions (Due by 9:00 AM) (15 points)

Lesson 23

Date: Thursday, June 25

Format: Blackboard (Asynchronous)

Topic: Final Exam

Reading Assignment: None

Assignments Due:

- Lesson 22 In Class Activities and Discussions (Make Up) (Due by 9:00 AM) (5 points)
- Final Exam (Due by 5:00 PM) (100 points)
- Extra Credit Assignments (Due by 11:59 PM) (25 points max)