

Geography 101X: Expedition Earth: Introduction to Geography
Summer 2021 May 17-June 25 MWTR 12:00-1:50 PM Zoom Video Conference 3 Credits

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

Course Description: Welcome to Geography 101: Expedition Earth! In this course, we use the tools and insights of geography to help us understand our world in all of its myriad facets. We'll 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. In particular, we are going to be exploring the interwoven geographies of globalization, climate change, and social struggle. Students should come away from the course with a better understanding of current events, the environments we inhabit, and the many ways our own lives intersect with the lives of people around the world.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students should:

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

Textbooks: There are two textbooks for this course. The first is your standard, introductory textbook, and as such it is absurdly expensive. I recommend renting or buying the digital version, which you can do through a variety of textbook providers for about \$60.00 (e.g Redshelf). I've used this text for several semesters now, so there should also be plenty of used hard copies around Fairbanks if you know where to look. The second textbook is *Goode's World Atlas*, 23rd edition. A paper atlas might seem like a quaint anachronism, but I believe they offer much that digital maps and digital globes simply can't. We'll be using the atlas to augment lecture and to complete many of our in-class activities, so a significant portion of your grade will depend on you having one at hand during class sessions. The good news is that, unlike the textbook, they're not obnoxiously priced.

1. Price, Lewis, Wyckoff, and Rowntree. *Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World*, 6th edition. ISBN: 9780134898391
2. Rand McNally's *Goode's World Atlas*, 23rd edition. ISBN: 978013386469

Google Earth Pro: We will also be using Google Earth Pro throughout the semester. You should download Google Earth Pro (<https://www.google.com/earth/desktop/>) to the computer you use to complete your coursework ASAP.

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

Assignments and Grading:

Participation (In-Class Activities and Discussions): Each class period will feature a mixture of lecture, discussion, and other active learning exercises. Your active and informed participation in these discussions and activities is required. In order to get your participation points, you will need to carefully read the assigned readings prior to class, show up to class on time, and make respectful and appropriate contributions during discussions and small group activities. Participation is worth 5 points per class for a total of 100.

Reading Quizzes: Reading quizzes are due before each class period. They cover the assigned readings in your textbook and supplemental 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 10 points apiece for a total of 200.

Capstone Assignments: At the end of weeks 3-6, you'll be tasked with completing a capstone assignment. The capstone assignments give you the chance to apply geographic concepts to real world situations and demonstrate your ability to critically analyze media. Most capstone assignments will be reviews of full-length documentaries. There will be five capstone assignments, four of which you'll need to complete. They are each worth 50 points for a total of 200.

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

Assignment	Points	Percentage of Grade
Participation (in-class activities and discussions)	100	16.67%
Reading Quizzes	200	33.33%
Weekly Capstone Assignments	200	33.33%
Exams	100	16.67%

600 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%

Attendance Policy: 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, plus the fact that it is summer in Alaska, 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 make-up options on a case-by-case basis. Note that you can miss up to 3 class sessions without missing any participation points.

Late Assignments & Missed 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 or a capstone assignment, 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 one one-on-one video-conference meetings over the course of the semester, sometime around the third week of class.

Getting Help: My job is to help you understand the material, so don't hesitate to seek additional assistance if necessary. 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.

Zoom Video Conference Code: This class will be delivered via video conference. 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.

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.

Lesson 1

Date: Monday, May 17

Topic: Introduction to the Course

Reading Assignment:

- Course Syllabus
- Assignment Descriptions

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #1: Syllabus

Lesson 2

Date: Tuesday, May 18

Topic: A Critical Approach To Geography

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 1 Intro (pp. 4)
- Textbook, Chapter 1.1-1.3: "Geography Matters: Environments, Regions, Landscapes" (pp. 4-8)
- Textbook, Chapter 1.7-1.10: "The Geographer's Toolbox: Location, Maps, Remote Sensing, and GIS (pp. 14-18)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz #2

Lesson 3

Date: Wednesday, May 19

Topic: Human Geography Concepts

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

Lesson 4

Date: Thursday, May 20

Topic: The Geography of Globalization

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 1.4-1.6: "Globalization and New Geographies" (pp. 8-14)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #4

Lesson 5

Date: Monday, May 24

Topic: Physical Geography Patterns and Processes

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 2: Physical Geography and the Environment (pp. 44-65)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #5

Lesson 6

Date: Tuesday, May 25

Topic: Climate Change and the Anthropocene

Reading Assignment:

- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #6

Lesson 7

Date: Wednesday, May 26

Topic: Europe, Part I

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #7

Lesson 8

Date: Thursday, May 27

Topic: Europe, Part II

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #8

Lesson 9

Date: Tuesday, June 1

Topic: Eurasia, Part I

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #9
- Capstone #1

Lesson 10

Date: Wednesday, June 2

Topic: Eurasia, Part II

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #10

Lesson 11

Date: Thursday, June 3

Topic: Central Asia, Part I

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #11

Lesson 12

Date: Monday, June 7

Topic: Central Asia, Part II

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #12
- Capstone #2

Lesson 13

Date: Tuesday, June 8

Topic: North Africa and Southwest Asia, Part I

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #13

Lesson 14

Date: Wednesday, June 9

Topic: North Africa and Southwest Asia, Part II

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #14

Lesson 15

Date: Thursday, June 10

Topic: South Asia, Part I

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #15

Lesson 16

Date: Monday, June 14

Topic: South Asia, Part II

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #16
- Capstone #3

Lesson 17

Date: Tuesday, June 15

Topic: East Asia, Part I

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #17

Lesson 18

Date: Wednesday, June 16

Topic: East Asia, Part II

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #18

Lesson 19

Date: Thursday, June 17

Topic: North America, Part I

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #19

Lesson 20

Date: Monday, June 21

Topic: North America, Part II

Reading Assignment:

- Textbook, Chapter 3.4-3.5: “Population and Settlement: Reshaping a Continental Landscape.” (pp. 76-82)
- Textbook, Chapter 3.6-3.7: “Cultural Coherence and Diversity: Shifting Patterns of Pluralism” (pp. 82-90)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #20
- Capstone #4

Lesson 21

Date: Tuesday, June 22

Topic: North America, Part III

Reading Assignment:

- 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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #21

Lesson 22

Date: Wednesday, June 23

Topic: Latin America, Part I

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #22

Lesson 23

Date: Thursday, June 24

Topic: Latin America, Part II

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)
- Supplemental Reading (To Be Determined).

Assignments Due:

- Reading Quiz/Summary #23

***** Capstone 5 and Final Exam Due by Monday, June 28 at Midnight*****