

# Geography 110: THE WORLD – PEOPLES AND REGIONS

## Course Syllabus and Schedule

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**Lecture:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 am - 10:50 am, CHEM 190

**Instructor:** Dr. Kristin Sziarto

**E-mail:** [szarto@uwm.edu](mailto:szarto@uwm.edu)

**Office:** 468 Bolton Hall

**Office hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:30 pm, or by arrangement

*Feel free to e-mail me any time.*

**Teaching assistants:** Gregg Culver <gnculver@uwm.edu>  
Nick Padilla <npadilla@uwm.edu>

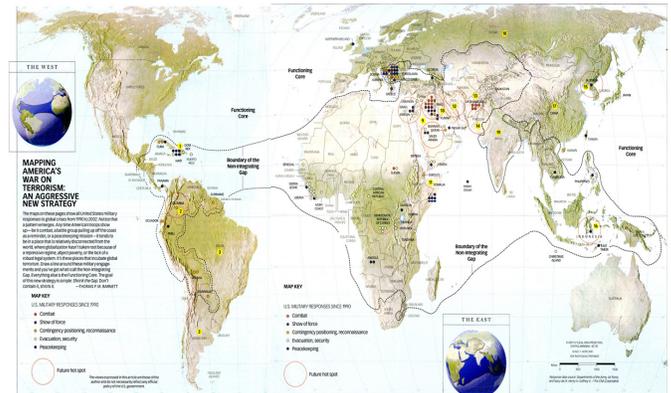
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### INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

In this introductory yet challenging course we will study selected regions of the world.

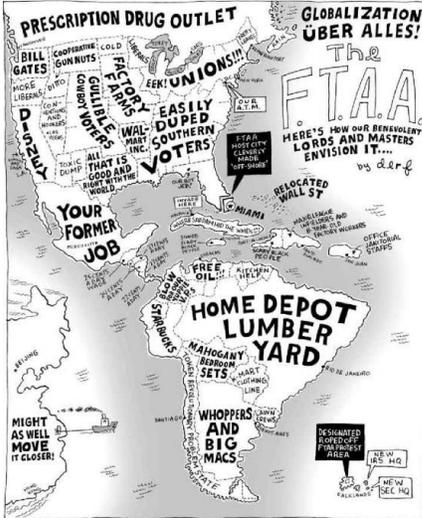
#### What makes a region? Why does it matter?

We will explore these questions by investigating the *formation of world regions through cultural, political, economic, demographic, and urbanization processes*. Most of us already have some mental maps of the world as divisible into ‘regions.’ But why? And what does it mean for real people and places in the world? A goal of this course is to examine geographic concepts, such as ‘region,’ while investigating relationships between people and places, and to think geographically and critically about yourself and your place in the world.



This course also addresses the process of contemporary *globalization*. Many people understand globalization as the growth of worldwide linkages, and the changes those linkages are encouraging, including economic, cultural, and political changes. Many think that globalization is making everywhere in the world the same: “a global village.” Some view those changes as positive; others say that globalization is harmful.

But geographers see globalization as much more complicated. First, it is not just one process—rather, it is MULTIPLE processes. Second, globalization is UNEVEN. Often people think of globalization as making all places around the world more connected and therefore more similar. **In this course we do not assume this is true, but ask: what kind of globalization is happening in this place or region? What are the effects in the region? In other regions? How does globalization connect, change, or even form regions?**

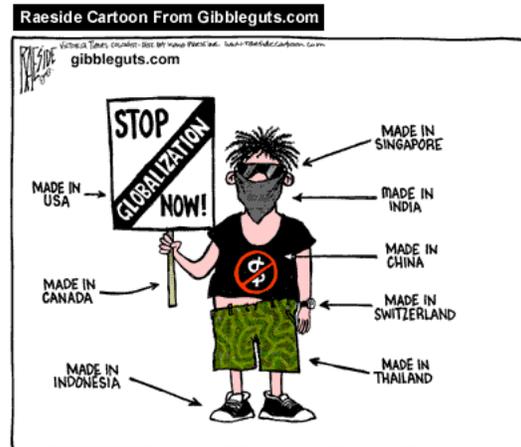


What kind(s) of globalization is this cartoon describing? What is its perspective on globalization?

Globalization, no matter how you define it, does not occur across an ‘empty slate.’ Some of the differences in how globalization affects a region, country, or place stem from historical geographic processes such as **imperialism** and **colonialism**, and their legacies. This course will also consider the role of **nationalisms** in globalization processes, and how ideas about regions even shape our thinking about **environmental and population issues**.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1) To become familiar with the cultural, political, economic, urban, and environmental geographies of world regions.
- 2) To develop your geographic thinking by relating patterns and processes of various human activities in different parts of the world.
- 3) To develop your critical thinking about ‘regions’ and other geographic issues through inquiry into world regional controversies and participation in classroom debate on these issues.
- 4) To develop your ability to synthesize material through writing about geographic issues.



What kind of globalization might the figure be protesting? How is he involved in that same kind of globalization? What other modes of globalization are there?

### COURSE PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites, as this is a 100-level introductory course. Geography 110 is not open to graduate students for credit.

## REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

**Textbook:** Marston, Sallie A.; Knox, Paul L.; Liverman, Diana M.; Del Casino, Vincent; and Paul Robbins. (2010, 4<sup>th</sup> edition). *World Regions in Global Context: People, Places and Environments*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

- ✓ The course textbook is available at the UWM bookstore and through online vendors. To compare prices, check [www.bestwebbuys.com/](http://www.bestwebbuys.com/).
- ✓ This edition is the newest edition. It is rather expensive—BUT it will be used for at least two more semesters at UWM. This means that rental is an option, and if you sell your book back after the final exam, you should get a price that takes that into account.
- ✓ **There are copies of the textbook (current edition and older editions) on reserve at the UWM Library.**
- ✓ Older editions and a hardcover edition are also available cheaply. Please note, however, that the page numbers of assigned readings will be given only for the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of *World Regions in Global Context*; if you purchase another edition you are responsible for making sure you are reading the correct sections.

**D2L:** Other materials will be posted on the D2L website for this course, and/or be distributed in class. **You are expected to check the D2L website regularly** (about 3 times a week) for new postings, including lecture outlines, section materials, online quizzes, exam study guides, etc.

**3 x 5 index cards:** Please bring a few index cards to every lecture. These will be used for responding to in-lecture questions, FOR CREDIT. ONLY 3x5 index cards will be accepted.

## COURSE POLICIES

### 1. Evaluation: assignments and exams

These assignments are designed to meet the course objectives.

- ✓ **Online quizzes:** Online quizzes are designed to help you to check your mastery of the material in the textbook most relevant to lecture. These quizzes will also ensure you are familiar with maps of the regions studied.
  - Online quizzes are due BY MIDNIGHT on Thursdays—that is, the evening after lecture. See the course schedule or D2L for precise due dates.
  - Each online quiz consists of 15-25 multiple choice questions, and you will have three hours and three attempts.
  - Your goal should be to achieve at least 90% on every online quiz.
  - There will be 9 online quizzes throughout the semester. Your lowest grade will be dropped, so only 8 of these will count.
- ✓ **Worksheets:** Worksheets based on readings or films, or related to the stakeholder debate, will guide your preparation for discussion.
  - Worksheets are due in your discussion section.
  - There are 7 worksheets. Your lowest grade will be dropped, so only 6 worksheets will count toward your final grade.
- ✓ **Stakeholder debate and debate papers:** There will be a debate conducted in lecture. Preparation for this debate will be organized in discussion sections and as homework. Participating in a

debate requires you to synthesize course material into an argument with evidence. Writing assignments related to the debate will develop your critical thinking, and provide an alternative method of evaluation (esp. if multiple choice tests are not your strength).

- Your TA will assign debate roles in the third and fourth discussion sections.
  - You will prepare a research paper to assist your section in preparing for the debate.
  - You will participate in the preparation and presentation of your section's position in lecture on April 26<sup>th</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup>. You will submit a self- and group-evaluation of your work on debate preparation and presentation.
  - You will write a reflection paper responding to the debate after the debate in lecture.
  - Please see the schedule for due dates for the two papers. You should submit your papers to your TA's D2L drop box by midnight on the due date (or earlier).
  - Your 2 debate papers are grouped with your 2 midterm exams, and the lowest grade of these 4 items will be dropped.
- ✓ **Exams:** There will be two mid-terms and one final. These will consist of multiple choice questions to test not only your knowledge of basic geographic information, but –more importantly—your understanding of geographic processes.
- Each midterm exam will consist of 45-50 multiple choice questions.
  - Your 2 midterm exams are grouped with your 2 position papers, and the lowest grade of these 4 items will be dropped.
  - The final exam will include 50-60 multiple choice questions on the last two regions studied, as well as 10-15 comprehensive questions.
- ✓ **Discussion section:** Attendance and ACTIVE PARTICIPATION in discussion section, especially on work for the debate, is crucial to your success in this course. In discussion you will actively engage with the ideas presented in lecture, the textbook, and other course materials.
- ✓ **In-lecture note card responses:** Your responses, written on a note card, to questions posed in lecture will allow your instructor to assess your comprehension of the material presented.
- Each note card is worth only 1 point. However, turning in all (or all but one) note cards will earn you some bonus points at the end of the semester.
  - Your answers to in-lecture 'note card' questions must be turned at the lecture when the question is given, on a 3x5 note card.
- ✓ **Extra credit:** There are no extra credit assignments in this course. However, keep in mind that several assignments receive full credit just for turning them in (assignments, in-lecture note cards). And you have three attempts and plenty of time for the online quizzes, so you should aim for 90%. Putting your effort into completing these will boost your grade directly, and help you with the papers and exams.

## 2. Grading Policy

### *Guide to grades*

93-100%	A	80-82%	B-	66-69%	D+
90-92%	A-	76-79%	C+	63-65%	D
86-89%	B+	73-75%	C	60-62%	D-
83-85%	B	70-72%	C-	0-59%	F

See the following site for further details on UWM policy on grades and grading:

[http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin\\_policies/S29.htm](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S29.htm).

### 3. Grading Basis

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Online quizzes (9):	8 quizzes count for	12 %	of your grade
Worksheets (7):	6 worksheets count for	12%	
Debate papers (2) and midterm exams (2):			
	3 of these count for	36%	
Debate preparation for presentation counts for		12%	
Participation in discussion counts for		10%	
In-lecture comprehension note cards (8-12) count for		3%	
Final exam counts for		15%	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100%</b>	

### 4. Attendance policy for lecture

It is your responsibility to attend every lecture. However, I do not take attendance. Your record of in-lecture note card completion may affect your grade if it is borderline at the end of the semester. **Most lecture material is not identical to the textbook material.** Thus, to succeed in this course, you will need to attend lecture regularly and take thorough notes.

Your participation grade is based ON YOUR DISCUSSION PARTICIPATION, so attendance and ACTIVE participation in discussion section is crucial to your grade.

### 5. Classroom conduct

In this class, we must work together to create a positive learning environment, and I expect you to ***respect the rights of other students to learn.***

- Please come to class on time and stay until the end. If you must come in late or leave early, please sit near an exit and avoid distracting other students.
- Please respect me and your fellow students when we are speaking by not engaging in side conversations with your classmates.
- Please don't use class time for pleasure reading, working crossword or sudoku puzzles, playing solitaire, etc.
- Please turn off your ***cell phone*** when you come to class. If you must leave it on for some reason (e.g., in case of family emergency), please set it to "silent" and sit near an exit.
- **If you wish to use your laptop, PDA, or other electronic device to record notes in lecture, you may—but I reserve the right to ban such usage if you use your device for other purposes and/or distract other students.**
- **You may not use any electronic devices during exams.**

**I also expect you to *acknowledge and respect the diversity of participants in the class.***

- At times we will discuss controversial issues in this course, and students in the class will not always be on the same side. Your task is to develop an understanding of the different

positions in debates about regions, economic and political change, etc.—including positions that differ from your own—and to challenge your own preconceptions.

- Even if you disagree with points of view expressed by your instructor, your TAs, or your fellow students, as citizens of this class you are responsible for considering different points of view respectfully. The instructor and TAs will do the same.

## 6. Accessibility

Your instructors for Geog 110 are committed to making this course accessible to all enrolled. If you need certain accommodations because of physical ability, financial limitations, UWM technology, please contact Professor Sziarto or your TA as soon as possible. We will assist you directly or help you find the services you need on the UWM campus. Professor Sziarto and the TAs are happy to work with the Student Accessibility Center with respect to your learning accommodations. See <http://www4.uwm.edu/sac/> for the services provided by the SAC.

## 7. Work load

This is a 3-credit course. It is also a comprehensive course, full of information, and reasonably fast-paced. We will spend just under 3 hours in class each week (with a few exceptions), and you can expect to spend approximately 3-9 hours each week preparing for class, working on assignments, and/or studying for exams. *See the handout “How to succeed in Geography 110” on the D2L content page for more advice.*

This course requires two significant writing assignments. You will have opportunities to seek advice on these from your TA and/or professor at their office hours. You should also consider using the services of the UWM Writing Center at [www.writingcenter.uwm.edu](http://www.writingcenter.uwm.edu).

## 8. Completing work on time and alternate arrangements (make-up exams)

Date and times of assignment due dates and exams are on the course schedule. In the case of assignments, the due date and time also appears on the assignment document itself. With the exception of exams, assignments can be turned in BEFORE the deadline. If any assignment deadline will conflict with other course deadlines and events you have scheduled, please plan to complete your work early rather than risk late penalties.

The syllabus has been designed to avoid having exams conflict with most major religious holidays. However, if you anticipate you will have difficulty with a due date or exam date because of religious observances, please contact Professor Sziarto as soon as possible.

To be fair to students in the course who turn their work in on time, *unless a documented medical or personal emergency arises, any work turned in late will be penalized 10% of your grade the first day it is late (from 0-24 hours of the due time/day), and an additional 10% for each 24-hour period thereafter.* Please contact Professor Sziarto immediately if you know you will have a problem turning your work in on time. If you miss the deadline for an online quiz, please contact your TA immediately, preferably by e-mail.

Again in the interest of fairness to all students, you may not retake exams *unless a documented medical or personal emergency arises*. If you must be absent on the day of an exam, *you must contact me immediately* to reschedule a make-up exam, and *provide official documentation* to justify a makeup exam.

## 9. Academic integrity

The goal of university study is learning. We, your instructors, cannot evaluate your learning fairly unless you turn in your own work. Please make sure you understand what counts as plagiarism and cheating—and avoid them. Additional information regarding UWM policies and procedures on academic conduct is online at [http://www4.uwm.edu/acad\\_aff/policy/academicmisconduct.cfm](http://www4.uwm.edu/acad_aff/policy/academicmisconduct.cfm).

## 10. Changes to the syllabus or course schedule

In the event of disruption of normal classroom activities due to an H1N1 swine flu outbreak, severe weather events, or other large-scale phenomena, the format for this course may be changed to enable completion of the course. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to this syllabus that will supersede this version.

## QUESTIONS?

→If you have questions or concerns about the class, please contact me or your teaching assistant. I am available during my office hours, by e-mail, or by appointment. Your teaching assistant also has office hours and is available by e-mail, so you may contact your T.A. if you have questions about your assignments or about discussion section.

--Dr. Kristin Sziarto

## CLASS STRUCTURE

Class lectures are from 10:00 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday, in Chemistry 190. Each student is also required to sign up for **one discussion section**, which will be held in **Bolton Hall** by one of the Teaching Assistants according to this schedule:

Disc section	Day	Time	Location in Bolton Hall	Teaching Assistant*
601	Tuesday	12:00–12:50	262	Gregg Culver
602	Tuesday	1:00–1:50	262	Gregg Culver
603	Tuesday	2:00 –2:50	262	Nick Padilla
616	Tuesday	3:00 – 3:50	262	Nick Padilla
604	Wednesday	8:00–8:50	262	Gregg Culver
605	Wednesday	9:00–9:50	262	Gregg Culver
606	Wednesday	11:00–11:50	262	Gregg Culver
607	Wednesday	12:00–12:50	262	Gregg Culver
608	Thursday	8:00–8:50	262	Nick Padilla
610	Thursday	1:00–1:50	262	Nick Padilla
611	Thursday	12:00–12:50	262	Nick Padilla

\*Please learn your TA's name!!!

**COURSE CALENDAR AND ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES**

(See the Reading Schedule on D2L for related reading assignments)

Week	Dates	Topic	Online quizzes DUE at MIDNIGHT Thursdays	Discussion lesson	Homework DUE:
1	25-Jan	Syllabus; What is geography?		Intro to Geog 110; globalization and you	Nothing due for section.
	27-Jan	Syllabus; What is globalization?			
2	1-Feb	Latin America: Globalization 1		Intro to imaginative geographies	<b>Worksheet #1:</b> Imaginative geographies of Latin America
	3-Feb	Latin America: Globalization 2	#1: the syllabus		
3	8-Feb	Latin America: Colonial legacies and land reform		Intro to debate: Turkey and the EU	<b>Worksheet #2:</b> Introduction to Turkey and the EU
	10-Feb	S-S. Africa: Colonialism	#2: Globalization		
4	15-Feb	S-S. Africa: Political geography		Debate prep	Worksheet #3: Stakeholder research, phase one
	17-Feb	S-S. Africa: Economic geography	#3: Latin America		
5	22-Feb	S-S. Africa AND Latin America: Environmental issues		Review for midterm exam #1	
	24-Feb	Culture, nation,& nationalisms; Intro to Islam	#4: S-S Africa		
6	1-Mar	<b>Mid-term exam #1</b>		View 'On Orientalism'	Nothing due for section.
	3-Mar	SW Asia: Turkey			
7	8-Mar	SW Asia: Iran, Iraq		Discuss 'On Orientalism'	<b>Worksheet #4:</b> Orientalism; <b>Research report due (Friday midnight)</b>
	10-Mar	Europe: Globalization & the EU			
8	15-Mar	Europe: the EU & environments		Debate prep: discuss research	
	17-Mar	Europe: Nationalisms	#5: SW Asia		
9	22-Mar	<i>No class (spring break)</i>		<i>No discussion this week.</i>	<i>No discussion this week.</i>
	24-Mar	<i>No class (spring break)</i>			
10	29-Mar	Europe: Migration		Review for midterm exam #2	
	31-Mar	South Asia: Population issues	#6: Europe		
11	5-Apr	<b>Midterm exam #2</b>		View film on Partition: 'Way Back Home'	Nothing due for section.
	7-Apr	South Asia: Econ. development			
12	12-Apr	<i>No class: AAG</i>		<i>No discussion (AAG) but watch film for W#5</i>	<i>Work on Worksheet #5: Gandhi and colonialism</i>
	14-Apr	<i>No class: AAG</i>	#7: South Asia		
13	19-Apr	East Asia: Economic development		Debate prep: presentation planning	<b>Worksheet #5:</b> Gandhi and colonialism
	21-Apr	East Asia: Urbanization			
14	26-Apr	DEBATE		Discussion: Partition and population	<b>Worksheet #6:</b> Partition
	28-Apr	DEBATE			
15	3-May	East Asia: Cultures		Debate: debriefing and final discussion	<b>Worksheet #7:</b> Why do regions matter? <b>Debate self-eval due (Friday midnight)</b>
	5-May	North America: Migration	#8: East Asia		
16	10-May	North America: Economic development and the recession		Review for final exam (bring study guide with notes)	<b>Reflection paper due (Friday midnight)</b>
	12-May	Review: course themes	#9: North America		

**Final exam: Friday, May 20, 7:30 am – 9:30 am in CHM 190 (set by UWM, not subject to change)**