

# **Geography 105:**

## **Geography of World Affairs:**

### **Course Syllabus:**

Welcome to Geography 105. This is a five-credit course that fulfills a Social Science distribution requirement for the Associate in Arts and Sciences (AAS) Degree at Bellevue College.

There are no prerequisites for this class.

**Instructor:** Ian P. Walker

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Office - D100D

**Office hours:** Mondays 1:30-2 and by appointment

**Please use the Canvas online email to reach me** - my college email address is -

[ian.walker@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:ian.walker@bellevuecollege.edu)

*Regarding email correspondence:* I will answer your emails within 24 hours. I will most likely be able to reply sooner than 24 hours but please email me as early as possible and do not wait until the last minute for important conversations. I only check my email a couple times over the weekend so please try to contact me Monday- Friday.

**Important:** please read very thoroughly through all of the materials in the Getting Started section in order to acclimate yourself with the structure of the course

## **Course Description:**

This course will focus, from a Geographical perspective, on a range of contemporary issues of major significance to the continued development of life on Earth. This will be achieved by a review of such issues from social, cultural, political and physical systems.

## **Course Objectives:**

To consider environmental, political and social issues which have a geographical dimension on a world scale. To study physical, economic, social, cultural and political processes that underlie landscapes, environments and spatial distributions. Candidates should be able to demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the interaction of such processes and the contribution that geographical enquiry can make to an appreciation of different cultures as well as a sensitivity to, and concern for, landscapes, people and the environment.

## **Course Outcomes:**

After completing this class, students should be able to:

- Define, describe and critique contemporary issues of global significance.
- Critically evaluate and interpret societal reactions that are based upon factual information as opposed to reactions founded on opinion.
- Evaluate statistical and cartographic information as used to illustrate global issues.
- Analyze and articulate the importance of geographical knowledge and understanding in decision making processes that affect both human and physical environments.
- Evaluate the importance of the physical environment in the development of cultural characteristics.
- Analyze the importance of the economic resource base and the dynamic nature of economic prosperity, stagnation and decline.

- Critically evaluate the impact of the dispersion and diffusion of people, finance, commodities, ideologies, information and knowledge at global, regional and local scales of inquiry.

## Required Text:

**Geography of Contemporary Issues. Only available online at this link (press Ctrl + click to go to URL) -**

[Click here to purchase textbook](#)

## Format:

Please use the course Calendar on the Canvas page. You will find all the due dates on the course Calendar.

(a) 4 Module Exams - work through all of the Module course materials before you take the Module Exam(s) - each will be worth 75 points toward the total score. You will have 60 minutes to take the module exams = Total 300 points

(b) 5 Discussion Topics and 1 extra credit Discussion Topic – each one must be at least 200 words for an initial posting and 50-100 words for a second response posting. You must post your reply first (at least 200 words) and then respond to at least one other student (at least 50 words). Each will be worth 30 points toward the total score. Please note that I will not accept late work for the discussion topics = Total 150 points

(c) Getting Started Quiz- please take the Getting Starting quiz in the Modules section of the Canvas site. You will get 2 chances to take the quiz and I will take your highest score= 20 points

(d) Introduction Discussion Post- Click on the Discussion Tab (left hand side of the Canvas site) and write a post that introduces yourself. You must reply to 2 other students' posts for full points= 30 points

**Total = 500 points**

### **(a) The Four Modules**

The course material is subdivided into **Four Modules**. You should proceed through each Module in the following way.

1. Each one begins with a **Class Notes** section that will highlight and focus on the major components of that particular topic area. Read carefully through this material and make your own notes that highlight the key points. You will be tested on this material in the Module Exam.

2. Now turn toward the **Essential Reading** section of the Module. There will be a series of readings that you should study and a number of questions that you will need to answer. Some of the questions may show up on the module exam. Complete this section before you progress onto the Module Exam.

3. You are now in a position to take the **Module Exam**. Before you attempt the exam, carefully read through your notes and the answers to the questions from all of the material that you have read. **All of the questions on the exam will be taken directly from the questions from the Essential Reading section as well as the Class Notes of the Canvas page. The online textbook case studies are used ONLY for the discussion topics and will not show up on the module exams.**

**You will only have one chance to do each Module Exam and once you start you must continue – so remember to ‘Save’ your answers as you progress through the exam. You will be limited to 60 minutes.**

4. There are in all **4 Module Exams - each of 25 questions - that are all answered online**. You will have access to the Module Exams usually for about one week. You must take the exam sometime during this ‘open’ time period. This regimen will help to keep you on target and complete the various exercises in a timely manner. You will lose points if you fail to complete the exam by its due date.

### **(b) Discussion Topics**

You will be required to submit **five 200-250 and 50-100 word discussions based on the Case Studies in the online textbook**. Use the course site Discussion Tool (click on the Discussions tab on the left hand side of the course site) to submit your postings and to participate in the discussion forum. Please note that I will not accept late work for the discussion topics

## **Course Schedule:**

### **Module I: Population Studies**

1 – World population and demography

- 2 – Migration
- 3 – Britain and the 'Industrial Revolution'
- 4 – Population growth in Egypt
- 5 – Aging population of Japan
- 6 – Urban regions - Tokyo

### **Module 2: Economic Geography**

- 1 – Global wealth and poverty
- 2 – Help for the poorest – foreign aid
- 3 – The provision of healthcare
- 4 – Healthcare and politics in Sub-Saharan Africa
- 5 – Economic diversity - Caribbean contrasts
- 6 – Life in America

### **Module 3: The Resource Base**

- 1 – The impact of humankind on the environment
- 2 – The Earth's weather and climate
- 3 – Global climate change
- 4 – Desertification in Niger
- 5 – The Mediterranean – ecosystem under threat

### **Module 4: Globalization**

- 1 – Globalization - an overview
- 2 – Trade and agriculture
- 3 – The global 'shadow economy'
- 4 – Agriculture in Developing Countries
- 5 – Raw material resources and development
- 6 – The oil industry

## **Grading:**

The total point allocation for the course is 500 points. Each of the 4 Module Quizzes will be worth 75 points each, the getting started quiz is worth 20 points, the introduction discussion post is worth 30 points and the 5 Discussion Topics will be worth 30 points each.

There will be **extra credit opportunities** in this class. Please check your email frequently as this is how the extra credit assignments will be distributed.

**The Grading Scale is:**

A	93-100%	465-500
A-	90-92%	450-464
B+	88-89%	440-449
B	83-87%	415-439
B-	80-82%	400-414
C+	78-79%	390-399
C	73-77%	365-389
C-	70-72%	350-364
D+	68-69%	340-349
D	63-67%	315-339
D-	60-62%	300-314
F	0-59%	001-299

## **Classroom Learning Environment:**

**Help with Canvas:** Click [Here](#).

▪ **Affirmation of Inclusion**

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

**Religious Holidays**

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

### **College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)**

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates.

For further information and contacts, please consult [College Anti-Discrimination Statements](#).

#### **▪ Division Statements**

***[Include any division statements and links.]***

Include your division statement on plagiarism in this location.

A common, campus-wide minimum standard regarding student cheating, stealing, and plagiarizing provides enough autonomy for instructors and programs to set their own standards. It is the instructor's responsibility to clearly articulate to the students what is considered appropriate and inappropriate behavior in the classroom and what action will be taken in the

case of inappropriate classroom behavior. It is recommended that this be done through the course syllabus.

Information about Bellevue College's copyright guidelines can be found at:

[College Copyright Policy](#)

This link provides a good, short summary of how to avoid plagiarism: [Avoiding Plagiarism](#)

This 22-minute video also provides a good overview of how to avoid trouble when using sources: From the college home page select SERVICES, then LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER, then DATABASES, then FILMS ON DEMAND. At their site, search by title for **PLAGIARISM 2.0: ETHICS IN THE DIGITAL AGE**.

#### ▪ **Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity**

Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source), and fabrication and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at: [Student Code](#)

***[If you plan to use a plagiarism checking service, you should indicate so in your syllabus. Please make sure your penalty for plagiarism does not***



***contradict official college policy. You may find it simplest to not specify a penalty and simply refer all cases to the Dean for investigation.***

***Incident reports can be filed at***

***<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/reportconcerns/> ]***

## **Important Links**

### **▪ Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC**

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to *MyBC*. To create your account, go to: [Create Email](#)

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Technology Help Desk](#)

### **▪ Disability Resource Center (DRC)**

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact [Autism Spectrum Navigators](#) Email and phone number is on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is **DRCatBC** (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually **DRCatBC**). Please visit our website at [Disability Resource Center](#) for application information into our program and other helpful links.

## **Accessibility**

The online elements of this course are designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let me know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let me know of changes I can make to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future.

## **▪ Public Safety**

### **Public Safety and Emergencies**

Public Safety is located in the K building and can be reached at **425-564-2400** (easy to remember because it's the only office on campus open 24 hours a day—2400). Among other things, Public Safety serves as our Parking Permits, Lost and Found, and Emergency Notification center. Please ensure you are signed up to receive alerts through our campus alerting system by registering at [RAVE Alert Registration](#)

If you work late and are uneasy about going to your car, Public Safety will escort you to your vehicle. To coordinate this, please phone ahead and let Public Safety know when and where you will need an escort.

Please familiarize yourself with the emergency postings by the door of every classroom and know where to go in the event of an evacuation. Your instructor will be asked if anyone might still be in the building, so check in before you do anything else. Emergency responders will search for anyone unaccounted for.

**If a major emergency occurs, please follow these three rules:**

**1) Take directions from those in charge of the response** -We all need to be working together.

**2) Do not get in your car and leave campus (unless directed to)** - Doing so will clog streets and prevent emergency vehicles from entering the scene. Instead, follow directions from those in charge.

**3) In an emergency, call 911 first, then Public Safety.**

Please do not hesitate to call Public Safety if you have safety questions or concerns at any time. You may also visit the [Public Safety](#) web page for answers to your questions.

#### ▪ **Final Exam Schedule**

***[Replace this text with information from the link below or add information about your final exam.]***

**[Final Exam Schedule](#)**

#### ▪ **Academic Calendar**

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- [Enrollment Calendar](#) On this calendar you will find admissions and

registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.

- [College Calendar](#) This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.