

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. This course satisfies General Education Requirements in the following areas:

There are no prerequisites for this class.

Instructor: Ian P. Walker

Mailing address:

Geography Department
Social Science Division/Room D110
Bellevue College
3000 Landerholm Circle SE
Bellevue, WA 98007

Ian Walker - phone: (425) 564-2333

Division Office - phone: (425) 564-2331 and fax (425) 564-3108

Distance Education Office - phone: (425) 564-2438

Office - D100D

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

ian.walker@bellevuecollege.edu

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.

Required Text:

Geography of Contemporary Issues - only available online at this link -

https://www.itsmorethanatextbook.com/admin/add_student.php?book_id=31&course_id=67

Format:

(a) Five 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 = Total 375 points

(b) Ten Discussion Topics – each one will be of approximately 200-250 words for an initial posting and 50-100 words for a second response posting; each will be worth 20 points toward the total score = Total 200 points

(c) Current Event Essay- Details to be given out in class = 125 points

Total Mark = 700 points

(a) The Five Modules

The course material is subdivided into **Five 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. After completing the Class Notes section you should proceed to the **Case Studies - Discussion Topics** section. These topics will provide specific illustrative examples of issues associated with the Class Notes. **These Case Studies are all in the online textbook.** Read these and then proceed to participate in the weekly Discussion Topic.
3. Now turn toward the **Essential Reading** section of the Module. There will be a series of readings that you should study - each has a number of questions that you will need to answer. Complete this section before you progress onto the Module Exam.
4. You are now in a position to answer 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.

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.

5. There are in all **5 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. As you will see - this regimen will help to keep you on target and complete the various exercises in a timely manner.

(b) Discussion Topics

You will be required to submit by the course site **Discussion Tool ten weekly 200-250 and 50-100 word discussions based on the Case Studies in the online textbook.** - use the course site Discussion Tool to submit your postings and to participate in the discussion forum.

(c) Current Event Essay

You will be required to write a current event essay focusing on a topic we have covered in class with relation to an event that has happened globally in the past year.

This will be worth 125 points

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

Module 5: Geography of Conflict

- 1 – Conflict - an overview
- 2 – America – the 'superpower'
- 3 – Closing thoughts
- 4 – Territorial Conflicts – the Middle East
- 5 – Water wars
- 6 – Border Disputes – suspicious neighbors of South Asia

Grading:

The total point allocation for the course is 700 points. Each of the 5 Module Quizzes will be worth 75 points each, the current event essay will be worth 125 points and the 10 Discussion Topics will be worth 20 marks 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:

Grading Standards:

645 and over	A
615-644	A-
585-614	B+
550-584	B
525-549	B-
495-524	C+
465-494	C
435-464	C-
405-434	D+
375-404	D
374 and less	Fail

ONLINE PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Revised Fall 2010

Bellevue College's 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 BC, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. The college's "Affirmation of Inclusion" is in line with the principle of free speech in a free society: we have the right to express unpopular ideas as long as we don't show disrespect for reasonable people who might believe otherwise. In an online course, you will be expressing ideas through the medium of the course site rather than face to face in the classroom. In that case, these expectations refer to the courtesy with which you communicate with one another through e-mails and e-discussions. Part of this respect involves professional behavior towards the instructor, colleagues, and the class itself.

Cheating, Stealing, and Plagiarizing* and Inappropriate Behavior

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: plagiarizing material from the Internet and posting rude or personal attacks in discussions. When you are in doubt about any behavior, please consult your instructor. In addition, you may wish to review the general applicable rules of cyberspace, such as in the Core Rules of Netiquette. The instructor reserves the right to remove posted messages, and downgrade assessments as a result of these types of behaviors. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services, [link to Student Code](#).

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). It is the student's responsibility for maintaining contact and adhering to the agreed-upon actions. Vista class sites, and material, may not be directly accessible after the end of the quarter so it is important to make arrangements before the quarter ends. The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F"). There

is a standard form that instructors have access to in their instructor's grade briefcase.

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

Final examinations may involve proctored on-campus arranged exams or may be administrated completely online at the discretion of the instructor and in keeping with the stated policies provided in the course syllabus. Please refer to the syllabus at the start of the quarter for additional details and contact the instructor directly for any clarifications. A student who is not in compliance with the scheduled format may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be in compliance with any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

Academic Year: College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Summer Quarter: College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the fifth week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). After the sixth day and through the end of the fifth week of the quarter, the "W" grade will become part of the student's transcript record.

Check Enrollment Calendar Deadlines, Refunds/Withdrawals, for additional details. As with most enrollment deadlines, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of these dates and act accordingly.

Hardship Withdrawal (HW)

From page 9 of the current course catalog, 2008-2009 online catalog, HW indicates a withdrawal request made because of extenuating circumstances after the official withdrawal period is over. The student must contact the instructor to request this withdrawal option, or the faculty member may initiate the contact. No points are calculated into the grade-point average. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Centre (DRC). The office is **located in B132 (phone**

425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110, email drc@bellevuecollege.edu). Students will need to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter or contact your online instructor directly by email. Students who require accommodation in a course should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Distribution of Grades

Students should access their grades through the BC Web site. Any returned material should be accessed prior to the end of the quarter. After the end of the quarter, Vista class sites may not be accessible by students. Individual instructors may use non-Vista tools for recording and maintaining the students' progress. Questions about grades assigned should be initially directed to your instructor.

Submission and Returning of Papers, Assignments and Assessments:

Specific guidelines for taking exams and submitting assignments are published in the syllabus. Please contact instructor at the start of the quarter for any clarifications.

Technical Assistance

Vista-related or technical issues should be referred to Distance Education.

You may also email them at landerso@bellevuecollege.edu or

call **425-564-2438 (1-877-641-2712)**.

Vista tutorial help and basic instructions can be found at

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/distance/>

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Vice President of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*