

Geography 102
World Regional Geography: Europe and Russia
Syllabus: Winter Quarter 2009

Welcome to Geography 102 - "World Regional Geography: Europe and Russia"

This is a five-credit course that fulfills a social science requirement for the Associate in Arts and Sciences (AAS) Degree at Bellevue College. There are no prerequisites for this class.

General Education Course Ratings (2 and 3) for this class -

Historical and Intellectual Perspectives 3
Quantitative and Logical Rating 2
Cultural Diversity 2

Course Description:

The course will focus on the regional geography of Europe and Russia and will explore the great diversity of lands and peoples of this major world region. There will be a series of case studies that will range from ethnic issues that emerge as countries experience greater diversity among their populations: to the impact of natural resources on the cultural landscapes of the region: the effects of an expanding European Union: and the interplay of the many forces of globalization. Through these - and other studies - we will secure a greater understanding and appreciation of this region.

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General Course Objectives:

- to consider the basic themes that make-up the core of geographic enquiry
- to explore the relationships between physical and cultural landscapes
- to investigate the spatial component of cultural processes and interactions
- to study the changes that occur in the human landscape
- to provide a foundation in geographic enquiry that will act as a catalyst for future study

- to develop a sense of place and foster a sharper sense of intimacy with both the physical and cultural world in which we live.

Specific Course Objectives:

- An understanding of the cultural geography of the peoples of Europe and Russia - demography and population, cultural traditions, ethnicity, commonality, conflict, migration, nations and states - a review of European and Russian identities and regionalism within countries.
- To identify the concept of core and periphery as it plays out within this regional framework - case studies will include a review of Ireland's rapid economic growth since the 1970's and the impact of the physical and political peripheral location of Iceland.
- An assessment of how physical features of the landscape affect both the cultural and economic development of the region - case studies will include the impact of the coal mining industry in Northeast England: the production of oil in Western Siberia: and the wine industry of Catalonia.
- Human well being in the region - affluence and poverty: environmental issues: and other measures that seek to identify the degree of human well being such as political, economic, ethnic, gender and religious freedoms of the individual.
- An analysis of areas experiencing a "pulling apart" or conflict within the region - case studies will include Chechnya, the Basque and Catalan areas of Spain, the Kurds of Turkey and the Kosovo region of Serbia.
- A recognition of a "coming together" of ethnically diverse groups - including the Jewish community in Germany: the Muslim community of Western Europe: the influence of football/soccer as a unifying force: and the supra-nationalism of the European Union.
- An identification and assessment of how the characteristics of the region have changed over time - the impact of the demise of the Soviet Union: the re-integration of Eastern Europe: and the growth and development of the European Union on the geography of the region.
- An understanding of some of the many aspects that underline the realities of globalization within this region.
- To be able to recognize both the major physical and cultural place locations of this major world region.

Format:

- (a) Five Module Quizzes- each will be worth 100 points toward the total score.
 (b) Two Place Location Map Quizzes - each will be worth 50 points toward the total score.
 (c) Extra Credit- Discussion worth 50 marks and/or Essay worth 50 points - total possible 100 marks.

Module Quiz 1 = 100

Module Quiz 2 = 100

Module Quiz 3 = 100

Module Quiz 4 = 100
Module Quiz 5 = 100
Map Quiz 1 = 50
Map Quiz 2 = 50
Total Mark = 600 points

(c) Extra Credit - please see below for details.

(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. There are questions within these notes that you should answer as you will be tested on this material in the Module Quiz.

2. You should then move your attention to the "**Textbook Reading**" section to see which sections from the textbook that you need to carefully read as well as the questions that you need to answer from the textbook. Again make notes to support your understanding of the material as you will be tested on this material in the Module Quiz.

3. Now turn your study toward the "**Essential Reading**" section of the Module. There will be a series of case studies that you should read - each has a number of questions that you will need to answer. Complete this section before you progress onto the quiz - you will be tested on these questions and your general understanding of the material from the Module in the Module Quiz - using a multiple-choice and also a short answer format **that will require written answers**.

4. You are now in a position to answer the **Module Quiz**. Before you attempt the quiz 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 quiz will be taken directly from the questions from the Recommended Reading articles as well as the Class Notes and the material from the Textbook. **You will only have one chance to do each module quiz - and once you start you must continue - and you will be limited to 90 minutes.**

5. There are in all **5 Module Quizzes that are all answered online**. You will have access to the Module Quizzes usually for about one week - you must take the quiz sometime during this 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) The Two Map Place Location Quizzes.

There are two Map Place Location Quizzes –

- 1. Cultural Features**
- 2. Physical Features**

You may take these quizzes at any time during the course up until the final week, but,

first go to **the Study Guide and take the Practice Map Quiz** to give you some idea of the format of these quizzes. There will be 25 multiple choice questions in each quiz. You will be shown a series of maps - each will show you a part of the region - and you will be asked to identify which of the multiple choices correctly matches the location of the feature as shown on the map. **You will have a limited time of only 15 minutes as soon as you begin the quiz.**

(c) Extra Credit can be earned in this class in two ways. You may choose either alternative, or if you wish you may do both and secure a maximum of 100 marks toward your total.

(a) You may wish to participate in Class Discussions that will be related to one specific topic in each module. The **Module Discussion Topic** is posted in the Class Notes section of each module and if you contribute to the discussion you will secure a maximum of 10 marks per module discussion to a total of 50 marks added to your overall score.

(b) If you would rather not participate in the class discussion then for extra credit you can submit an **Essay Topic** sent in an attachment by email to me to be due 7 days before the first day of the Final Examination. Throughout the class there are a number of 150-200 word short essay topics in each of the modules. You may choose any one of these essay topics and expand the answer to 650-1000 words with a more comprehensive answer to the question. The submission will secure a maximum of 50 marks added to your overall score.

Grading:

The total mark allocation for the course is 600 marks.

Each of the 5 Module Quizzes will be worth a total of 100 points each of the total mark and the 2 Map Quizzes will each be worth 50 points of the total.

The Grading Scale is:

A	4.0	540 plus
A-	3.7	510-539
B+	3.3	480-509
B	3.0	450-479
B-	2.7	420-449
C+	2.3	390-419
C	2.0	360-389
C-	1.7	330-359
D+	1.3	300-329
D	1.0	270-299
F		269 and less

Required Texts:

This class will use Hobbs 6th edition "World Regional Geography". However, rather than buy the complete book - given that we will only need a couple of chapters - I suggest you purchase the ichapters from <http://www.ichapters.com/market/index.html> - these will cost \$11.99 each and are available to download (PDF). You can access the ichapters site from two computers of your choice. So register with ichapters at the above link and secure your copies of Chapter 4 and Chapter 5. You will also need a good atlas of your

choice - for the Map Place Location Quizzes - I would recommend "Goode's World Atlas" 20th edition by Rand McNally ISBN: 0-528-64000-3

Participation:

You are responsible for:

1. the **technical aspects** of your computer/email/printer etc. Please look at the BCC Distance Education website for the Vista Tutorial and for hardware requirements.
2. **reading** the appropriate material as specified.
3. taking part in **email discussions/please do not use voice email when contacting me/** fellow students can be a helpful resource for those "difficult questions".
4. keeping **comprehensive personal notes/journals/diagrams/maps** relevant to material studied.
5. **timely completion** of quizzes /please note that there are **no make-up tests** available - you should not leave tests to the last minute in case you have a technical problem - this is a very important consideration/you should have a back-up plan should your system "crash" at the wrong time.
6. **please review the Bellevue College academic calendar posted at <http://distance-ed.bellevuecollege.edu>** for all details regarding registration and withdrawal policy and procedures and distribution of final grades/you should be familiar with the **Social Science Division policy for cheating and plagiarism/if you require special student services contact Disability Resource Center (DRC)** at 425-564-2498 or call in on campus.
7. **Please remember - except for exceptional circumstances - that there are no make-up opportunities for quizzes - it is important to make a commitment to this online class in just the same way as you would a classroom based class.**

Below are the '**General Guidelines for the Social Science Division**', of which Geography is a program: please note there have to be slight modifications for online sections. For instance, unacceptable behavior would apply to posting rude or personal attacks in discussion messages or using information from the personal biographies posted to harass fellow students. The instructor reserves the right to remove messages posted, downgrade the assessment of the exercise, and/or refer the student(s) to the appropriate authorities.

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION
Revised Winter 2009

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue Community 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 Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue Community College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

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

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BCC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter 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 present at 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

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.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. 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 meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BCC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

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