

Geography/ International Studies 105: Geography of World Affairs:

Winter Quarter, 2020

Course Syllabus:

Welcome to Geography 105. This is a five-credit course that fulfils 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.

Please note that this is a cross-listed course. There are students here from Geography 105 as well as International Studies 105. All students will share the same Canvas site.

Instructor: Ian P. Walker

Mailing address:

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

Office – B106

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:30 on campus. Fridays from 12:00-2:00 online via Canvas Chat. I am also available to meet by appointment; please just send me a Canvas message and we can figure out a time to meet in person or online via Canvas Chat/Skype.

For emails, please use the Canvas online messaging system to reach me

If Canvas is down, you can contact me at 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.

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 -

https://www.itsmorethanatextbook.com/admin/add_student.php?book_id=31&course_id=391

If you have problems, please watch this short video which helps to explain how to purchase the online book

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Z-uH7oyLYo>

Format:

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

(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. You will have 70 minutes to take the module exams = Total 375 points

(b) Ten Discussion Topics – each one must be at least 200 words for an initial posting and 50-100 words for a second response posting. Each discussion topic will be worth 20 points toward the total score. = Total 200 points

(c) Online Textbook Quizzes- 5 quizzes overall with 10 questions in each quiz. Each question is worth 2 points. = 100 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= 10 points

(d) Introduction Discussion Post- Click on the Discussion Tab and write a post that introduces yourself. You must reply to 2 other students posts for full points= 15 points

Total = 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. *Note- You can view the class notes as a Word document in the Files section of the course site.*

2. Now turn toward the **Essential Reading/ Essential Viewing** 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. You do not need to turn these questions in to me but some of the questions will 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 Class Notes material (the modules on Canvas) and from the Essential Reading section. Any information from the online textbook is used ONLY for the discussion topics/online textbook quizzes 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 70 minutes.

4. There are in total **5 Module Exams - each of 22 questions - that are all answered online**. There will be 19 multiple choice/true or false questions and 3 short answer questions. 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 must do your short answer responses in your own words.

Copying/pasting material from the module information or copying anything

online is considered plagiarism and you will not receive any points for that particular question and may lose all of your extra credit points for the quarter (please see Plagiarism/Cheating section below)

(b) Discussion Topics

There will be 10 class-wide discussions – 20 points each – due each Monday starting Monday the 6th of January. Please see the Late Work Policy regarding late discussion topics. Remember you have one week to do the discussion topic so computer issues will not be a valid excuse for turning in a discussion topic late.

Discussions will be done on Canvas using the online textbook

(c) Online Textbook Quizzes

There are 5 online textbook quizzes. Each quiz will be 10 questions and the questions can be found in each chapter of the online textbook (labelled “Weekly Quiz Questions”). Each quiz will consist of 2 chapters. You will take these quizzes through the online textbook website. Click on “Assessments” at the top of the page and you will see the most current quiz. There are 5 quizzes all together and 10 questions on each quiz.

The due dates for the Online Textbook Quizzes can be found on Canvas as well as the online textbook website.

Note- You have 2 weeks to do each quiz so late work will NOT be accepted under any circumstances for the online textbook quizzes

Late Work Policy

Most assignments are open and available for at least one week. Therefore, it is expected that you complete the work by the due date given. All late work will fall under the “late work policy” described below.

You can turn in work late although you will lose 25% of credit for that assignment. This includes all discussions and assignments. Late exams

will be docked 20% for any undocumented reason (this includes computer or technology issues). Extra credit assignments can NOT be turned in late **Note:** The cut-off for all late work is 72 hours after the original due date. No late work will be accepted after the 72-hour period and some assignments cannot be turned in late.

Of course, I understand that things happen in life which can may affect your schoolwork. Please be in touch with me about any issue that may affect your grade and we can work towards a solution.

Technology Issues

Because this is an online course, having access to a reliable internet connection and suitable technological equipment is necessary. You will always have around a week to do any assignment so not having access to wifi or experiencing computer issues is not a valid reason for late or missing work. If you do not have access to a computer or wifi connection, the public library or the BC library has those resources available for your use. Do NOT ever, under any circumstances, turn assignments in through the Canvas app (iPad, iPhone or Android phone). I have heard from several students that they thought they completed something via the Canvas app but it did not submit. This will not be a valid excuse for missing or late work.

Assistance

I am here to help you and I want you to succeed in this class. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need assistance of any kind. It is always best to contact me earlier than later if you need assistance or guidance. Please note that under no circumstances will there be any “fudge points” or extra point opportunities that are not available to everyone. You are always welcome to come to my office during office hours or we can schedule a time to meet.

Plagiarism/Cheating

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and will be dealt with accordingly. Any assignment that violates Bellevue College's rules of academic integrity will receive a '0' and may be reported to the appropriate Bellevue College authorities and that student will forfeit all extra credit in the class (this includes extra credit before and after the incident). Please be in touch with me if you are unsure of what constitutes this type of violation.

Course Schedule:

Module 1: 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 neighbours 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 Getting Started Quiz is worth 10 points, the Introduction Discussion Post is worth 15 points, the 5 Online Textbook Quizzes are worth 20 points each, and the 10 Discussion Topics will be worth 20 points each.

There will be **extra credit opportunities** in this class. Please check Canvas frequently as this is how the extra credit assignments will be announced.

The Grading Scale is:

Total: 700 points

A: 651 to 700 Points

A-: 630 to 650 Points

B+: 609 to 629 Points

B: 581 to 608 Points

B-: 560 to 580 Points

C+: 539 to 559 Points

C: 511 to 538 Points

C-: 490 to 510 Points

D: 420 to 489 Points

F: 0 to 419 Points

Additional Bellevue College Resources and Information

Help with Canvas

Students can find help with Canvas by following the link here: [Student Canvas Help](#)

Classroom Learning Atmosphere

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.

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.

[Affirmation of Inclusion](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/inclusion/) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/inclusion/>)

Reasons of Faith and Conscience

Reasonable Accommodations for Reasons of Faith and Conscience: Students who will be absent from course activities due to reasons of faith or conscience may seek reasonable accommodations so that grades are not impacted. Such requests must be made within the first two weeks of the course to the office of the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs (see Bellevue College [Policy 2950](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id2950/) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id2950/>)). In the event you feel you are being discriminated against based on faith or conscience, you may refer to the procedures outlined in the college's [Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation Policy 1440P](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id-1440p/) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id-1440p/>).

Annual Notice Non-Discrimination

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; creed; color; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates. Bellevue College is prohibited from discriminating in such a manner by college policy and

by state and federal law. All college personnel and persons, vendors, and organizations with whom the college does business are required to comply with applicable federal and state statutes and regulations designed to promote affirmative action and equal opportunity.

Reports of gender and sex-based discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation by a student should be raised with the Title IX office (see 1440P2 for contact information). In cases where the impacted party is a student and the responding party is a college employee, the Title IX coordinator will direct the matter to the Office of Human Resources (HR). All other reports, including all reports where the impacted party is an employee, should be raised with the HR. If a report is against personnel in the Title IX office or HR, it should be submitted to the president's office for referral to an alternate designee.

[Equal Opportunity](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/equal/) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/equal/>)

Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share with the Title IX Coordinator any and all information regarding sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct (e.g. relationship violence, stalking) that may have occurred on campus or that impacts someone on campus. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the BC Counseling Center at (425) 564-2212. The Title IX Office can be contacted at 425-564-2641 and more information can be found at [Title IX](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/>).

If you have any concerns, you may report to: [Report Concerns](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/reportconcerns/)
(<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/reportconcerns/>).

Student Conduct Code 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 Conduct Code of Bellevue College. Examples of disruptive behavior include, but are not limited to, repeatedly talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Conduct Code to the Manager of Student Conduct for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Conduct Code at: [Student Code](#)

Important Links

See ["Important Links" page online](#) for more information about the E-mail and MyBC, Public Safety, the Academic Calendar, the Academic Success Center, and more.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center serves students with disabilities. Common disabilities include physical, neurological (e.g. Autism, ADD/ADHD), and mental health (e.g. depression, anxiety). If you

are a student who has a disability or if you think you may need accommodations in order to have equal access in your classes, programs, activities, and any other services, please contact the DRC.

If you require assistance in an emergency, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan for while in class and contact the DRC to develop a safety plan for while you are elsewhere on campus.

The DRC office is located in building B Room 132. You can contact the DRC by stopping by the office at B132, calling our front desk phone number (425) 564-2498, emailing drc@bellevuecollege.edu. Deaf students can reach us by calling TTY: (425) 564-6189, or by Skype (account name **DRCatBC**). For more information about the services we offer, including our Initial Access Application, visit our website at [Disability Resource Center](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc>).

Service Animals are allowed in this classroom. Emotional Support Animals need to be approved through the DRC. All other animals will be asked to leave. If you believe you need your animal with you, please connect with the DRC and refrain from bringing your animal until a decision has been made.

[Final Exam Schedule](#)

Additional Information

A note about accessing Canvas from the People's Republic of China: some users have reported that they do not have full access to all Canvas functionality from within the People's Republic of China. This appears to be due to Canvas' parent company, Instructure, not fully committing to Chinese government requirements regarding internet operations within the country. The Chinese government does not inform foreign entities of their policy updates; therefore, Bellevue College cannot anticipate access to Canvas.

If you will be in China during the quarter, you should prepare for intermittent and uncertain access to Canvas.

Source: [Access to Canvas in China](https://support.canvas.fsu.edu/kb/article/1157-access-to-canvas-in-china/) (<https://support.canvas.fsu.edu/kb/article/1157-access-to-canvas-in-china/>)