

Geography 132



Dr. Tarek A. Joseph

World Geography

**Note: Students are responsible for all information contained in this Course Syllabus.
The Course Schedule appears at the end of this Course Syllabus.**

FALL 2010 – GEO 132: World Regional Geography Course Syllabus

Professor: Dr. Tarek A. Joseph

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Course Description

World Regional Geography presents an overview examining the spatial distribution of people and places around the world, with emphasis on the cultural, political, social, and economic aspects of regions. Topics are explored by examining ways that humans interact with the environment and one another. Emphasis is placed on the spatial variation of human activities at all scales from local to global.

Course Summary

This course will provide an overview of **people and places** around the world with emphasis on the **spatial variation** of **cultural, political, social, and economic** aspects within, and between regions. A main theme will be **how selective information shapes our perception of people and places**. All topics will be examined utilizing the geographic approach of **spatial analysis**. Topics that will be examined include: culture, population, location, human environment interaction, society, ecology, politics, land use, settlement patterns, conflict, ethnocentrism, racism, recreation, agriculture, energy, resources, industry, health, economics, urbanization, selective information, trade, human perception, colonialism, “discovery”, and patterns of development.

Core Course Objectives

A student who successfully completes GEOG 132 will:

1. Explain spatial analysis and describe the geographic approach and perspective.
2. Explain the spatial organization of people and places on the earth's surface.
3. Describe the human and physical characteristics of places.

4. Explain how to use maps to interpret the past, understand the present, and plan for the future
5. Explain how culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places, regions, and peoples.
6. Discuss the spatial distribution, characteristics, and complexity of cultural landscapes on the earth's surface.
7. Contrast characteristics of more developed countries with characteristics of less developed countries.
8. Describe and illustrate the processes determining the uneven spatial distribution of wealth at local, national, and global scales.
9. Identify and explain several global issues (cultural, economic, political, environmental) from a geographic perspective.
10. Analyze a global issue or challenge from a geographic perspective. Describe the nature of the challenge, assess the present and long term impacts on people and the environment, and determine the best possible decisions and actions needed to solve or mitigate the challenge.

Success in Geography

Participate on a regular basis in discussions and other activities, complete all assignments, read both textbooks, and be **active** in the learning process. Read anything related to culture, population, the environment, economics, politics and geography in journals, newspapers and magazines or on-line, watch or listen to the world news as often as possible. Think about **information** – where it comes from and how it is presented. Develop a spatial awareness and above all, think critically and analytically. Remember: **It's all spatial!**

E-mail Communication

- Once the semester begins, **use only your course-specific UCompass e-mail account for all e-mail correspondence.** Do not use “outside” e-mail accounts (gmail, yahoo, hotmail, etc.) to communicate with me. Use only my Ucompass e-mail address: tjoseph@henryford.ucompass.com.
- All e-mail communication in this course is considered formal and therefore must:
 - Include a clear, appropriate subject heading.
 - Address the professor, in this course with a greeting such as “Dear Dr. Joseph,”.
 - Be thorough, polite and courteous.
 - Be signed at the end by the student (i.e. include your name at the end of your message).

Required Textbooks

(To order your textbooks online, please click this link for the [Henry Ford Community College Bookstore](#))

There are two required books:

(Make sure to read the three suggestions below **before** purchasing textbooks)

There are two required books – you **must** have **both** of these books in order to complete all assignments and to do well in this course:

Joseph, Tarek. A. *Geography: People, Places, and Patterns, Third Edition*. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co: Dubuque, 2010.

Pulsipher, Lydia M. and Pulsipher, Alex *World Regional Geography: Global Patterns, Local Lives (without sub-regions), 4th ed*. W. H. Freeman and Company: New York, 2008.

Suggestions/Helpful Information Regarding Books:

1. Joseph book: purchase only new copies of the third edition of the Joseph book. Used copies and previous editions often have assignment pages missing. You will not be able to complete the required assignments in this course if the Joseph book has missing assignment pages so purchase a new copy.
2. Pulsipher book: the required book has included in the title “**without sub-regions**”. There is a more expensive version that includes sub-regions. Make sure to purchase the less expensive Pulsipher book that has “without sub-regions” in the title. Not only is this the correct book, it is the less expensive book. New or used copies of the Pulsipher book without sub-regions are acceptable (purchase only new copies of the third edition of the Joseph book).
3. I strongly recommend the purchase of these books directly from HFCC’s bookstore (<http://collegestore.hfcc.edu/>) This will ensure that you receive the correct books. Additionally, some students who have bought the books from online sources have not received them until weeks into the course.

(Make sure to read the above three suggestions before purchasing textbooks)

Course Requirements

This course will be a fun, exciting, and rewarding experience if you make the effort to participate.

Full participation on a weekly basis is mandatory, as is purchasing and reading both textbooks.

This course is divided into **three parts**. Each part will include one exam, one written assignment (A Geographer’s Perspective), weekly quizzes, and critical thinking questions on the discussion board every other week.

Required Assignments:

Exams: Three exams will cover material from the assigned textbook readings, discussion boards, critical thinking questions, written assignments, and any other information that is assigned or presented. Each exam is worth 100 points and must be submitted by Sunday at 3:00pm EST on the date that it is due. All due dates are listed on the Course Schedule and on the Course Syllabus.

Written Assignments – “A Geographer’s Perspective”(AGP): Three written essays called “A

Geographer's Perspective" (AGP) assignments will be completed from *Geography: People, Places, and Patterns*. AGP assignments must be completed following the specific directions and be submitted on time in order to be accepted. Each 25 point assignment must be submitted by Sunday at 3:00 p.m. EST during the week it is due. Specific AGP instructions will be explained in the weekly packets and posted in the assignments section at the beginning of each week. Each 25-point assignment must be submitted by Sunday at 3:00 p.m. EST during the week it is due. There is a **450 word limit** on all AGP essays. Do not exceed 450 words or points will be deducted. If a **reference** is used (including either textbook), **you must cite the source**. Points will be deducted for exceeding the word limit or failing to include citations when appropriate.

Discussion Board (DB) Questions and Posts: Seven discussion board topics will promote critical thinking and will come from *Geography: People, Places, and Patterns* and draw on main topics and concepts for discussions and readings. Every other week students will participate in these graded discussion boards. Participation in each discussion board is worth a total of 10 points and must be completed by Sunday at 3:00 p.m. EST each week. The critical thinking questions for discussion will come from *Geography: People, Places, and Patterns* and will be further explained on the discussion board.

For each discussion board, you must submit a total of two (2) posts. The 10 points available for each discussion board are based on the following criteria: Post 1 - a student earns 6 points for posting one thorough response to the Opening Critical Thinking Question (presented by the professor), and Post 2 – a student earns 4 points for one quality response post to a message posted by another student.

In order to be eligible to receive the full 10 points, a student must submit two posts for each discussion board. Students must **submit no more than two posts** (their initial post and their response to a post by a fellow student) for any discussion board question. Points will be deducted if you submit more than two posts or if you exceed the **75 word maximum** for each post.

Important DB information:

- All DB posts must be submitted by Sunday at 3:00 p.m. EST each week.
- There is a **75 word limit** on each post. Do not exceed 75 words or points will be deducted.
- Students must **submit no more than two posts** (their initial post and their response to a post by a fellow student) for any discussion question. Points will be deducted for submitting more than two posts.
- If a **reference** is used (including either textbook), **you must cite the source**. Points will be deducted for missing citations.

LENGTH OF DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) POSTS: DB posts are meant to be short, concise posts that answer the initial question and then respond to one fellow student post. Remember there is a TWO post maximum: one post of 75 words or less to answer the initial question, and one additional post of 75 words or less to respond to another student's post. In some instances posts much shorter in length are appropriate. It is not so much the length of your post as the quality that I am interested in. Short, concise posts that address the question and reflect understanding of the material are best. Points will be deducted if you exceed two posts or the 75 word maximum per post.

Weekly Quizzes: Fifteen quizzes will cover material from the assigned textbook readings for each week. Each quiz is worth 10 points and must be submitted by Sunday at 3:00 p.m. EST during the week it is due.

Grading:

Weekly Discussion Board (DB) posts: 10 points each	7 DBs x 10 points = 70 points
Weekly Quizzes: 10 points each	15 quizzes x 10 points = 150 points
Exams: 100 points each	3 exams x 100 points = 300 points
“A Geographer’s Perspective” (AGP): 25 points each	3 AGPs x 25 points = 75 points

Total possible points: 70 + 150 + 300 + 75 = **595**

Grading Scale:

A+ 100-98	B+ 89-88	C+ 79-78	D+ 69-68	E 59-0
A 97-92	B 87-82	C 77-72	D 67-62	
A- 91-90	B- 81-80	C- 71-70	D- 61-60	

Course Policies

All College regulations and policies will be enforced on all matters, including academic dishonesty (cheating). If you have any questions regarding these regulations and policies I encourage you to contact me.

Assignment Policies:

Make-Ups: No makeup exams will be given. Missing an exam will result in a score of zero. In **extreme situations** and under special circumstances (with official documentation provided), a written essay exam may be granted at the discretion of the professor if notification is given **within 24 hours** of the exam, with or without a penalty imposed.

Resetting an Exam or Quiz: Do not rely on having an exam or quiz reset. It is the student’s responsibility to follow all course instructions, and have a properly working computer and Internet connection. In the unlikely event that a reset is granted, a **ten percent penalty** (one letter grade penalty) will be assessed on the exam or quiz by the professor.

Late Assignments: No late assignments will be accepted. A late assignment will result in a score of zero. Assignments are due at the stated time each week. In order to be accepted “A Geographer’s Perspective” assignments must follow the format and directions exactly as stated. In **extreme situations** (with official documentation provided), and with advance notification, a **24-hour extension** may be granted at the discretion of the professor, with or without a penalty imposed.

Drop Policy: A student may drop this course by the College designated date. No drops will be

granted after that date.

Withdrawal Deadline: A student who simply stops participating in this course, without officially withdrawing, has not dropped the course and will receive a letter grade based on the total amount of points they earned in the course.

Incomplete (I) Grades: Incomplete grades are not granted in this course.

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating in any form (as defined in the HFCC catalog) will result in immediate **course** failure.

Academic dishonesty, in any form of cheating, including plagiarism (copying from another source), is a serious offense. Honesty is expected and assumed at all times.

Any form of cheating will result in severe consequences including immediate course failure (grade of E), as well as official letters being sent to the college Registrar and the appropriate academic Dean. If you have any questions regarding these regulations and policies I encourage you to contact me.

Academic dishonesty refers to any activity that is designed to improve a student's grade in a fraudulent manner. It includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Unauthorized acquisition of tests or alteration of grades (such as the theft of tests, test keys, or faculty grade books, as well as the purchasing of tests, test keys, or faculty grade books).
- Unauthorized use of notes, books, or other prohibited materials during an exam.
- Open cheating on an examination (such as copying from another student's paper or work).
- Permitting another person to take a test in the student's place or receiving unauthorized assistance with any work for which academic credit is received.
- Revision of graded work in an attempt to receive additional credit fraudulently.
- Plagiarism, using of another person's work without acknowledgement.
- Any other conduct intended to obtain academic credit fraudulently or dishonestly.

If a student fails the course due to Academic Dishonesty, the professor will notify the student in writing and will also provide copies to the Registrar.

Online Conduct Policy

The Course Setting and the Student:

I strive to make every class meeting an exciting, challenging, and rewarding experience. I welcome and encourage your active participation in the learning process. While in this course, **students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in an appropriate, respectful manner at all times.**

Students are expected to show respect for the rights of others, the educational mission of the College, and to maintain standards of personal integrity.

Students working online will be held to the same behavioral standards as students in a traditional classroom.

Please be aware that discussions will be observed and reviewed. Students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Personal correspondence should not be conducted on the discussion board.
- Treat and respect others as you wish to be treated and respected.
- Offensive comments, or any inappropriate expressions, phrases, or terms are not permitted.
- Review the tone, language, word choice, spelling, and grammar of any correspondence before sending it.
- HFCC's computer use policy is in effect. The policy can be found at <http://www2.hfcc.edu/resources/policy.htm>
- Students are responsible for completing their own course work.

UCompass Support & Instructional Technology

If you require assistance accessing UCompass on-line courses, please contact Instructional Technology at 313.845.9663. The technician assigned to this course is Victoria Signorelli, who can be reached through extension 5. You can also contact Ms. Signorelli by e-mail at signorelli@hfcc.edu.

Instructional Technology is located on the lower level of the Learning Technology Center, Room A-004 (in the same building as Campus Safety).

Computers @ HFCC

The Media Center, located on the second floor of the library, is an open access computer lab where students can make use of computers in order to work on assignments and papers, access the internet, and check email. The Media Center can be reached at 313.845.6386.

If you do not have a reliable, high speed internet connection at home, it is strongly recommended that you make use of a computer at HFCC when taking exams in this course. Taking an exam with a dialup—or any other unreliable internet connection—means you risk having the connection lost during the exam and being locked out of the ability to take it.

Geog 132: World Regional Geography

Fall 2010 - Course Schedule

Week	Beg. Date	Assignments	Due Date
Part I			
1	Thursday, Aug 26	In World Regional Geography:	Sunday Sep 5, 3:00 p.m.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 1: Geography: An Exploration of Connections <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1: What is Geography? 1.2: Five themes of Geography: It's All Spatial <p>Quiz 1</p>	EST
2	Monday, Sep 6	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 1: Geography: An Exploration of Connections <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1: The Spatial Variation of Culture and the Cultural Landscape 2.2: Culture and Human Environment Interpretation 6.1: Overview of the Physical Environment <p>Discussion Board (DB) Week 2</p> <p>Quiz 2</p>	Sunday, Sep 12, 3:00 p.m. EST
3	Monday, Sep 13	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 1: Geography: An Exploration of Connections <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.3: Population Growth 4.1: The Geography of Wealth and Poverty and the Uneven Spatial Distribution of Wealth 6.1: Overview of the Physical Environment <p>AGP 1 - Written Assignment (in Geography: People, Places, and Patterns) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "A Geographer's Perspective" (AGP): 10.1.1 Seeing the Space Around You Quiz 3 	Sunday, Sep 19, 3:00 p.m. EST
4	Monday, Sep 20	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 2: North America <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.1: The United States 3.1: "Discovery", Columbus and the Origins of Settlement 	Sunday, Sep 26, 3:00 p.m. EST

		Discussion Board (DB) Week 4 Quiz 4	
5	Monday, Sep 27	In World Regional Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 2: North America In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.2: Native Americans and the American Dream 5.2: De-Industrialization in the United States Quiz 5	Sunday, Oct 3, 3:00 p.m. EST
6	Monday, Oct 4	In World Regional Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 3: Middle and South America In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1: "Discovery", Columbus and the Origins of Settlement Discussion Board (DB) Week 6 Quiz 6 Exam 1	Sunday, Oct 10, 3:00 p.m. EST
Part II			
7	Monday, Oct 11	In World Regional Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 4: Europe In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.2: Europe Quiz 7	Sunday, Oct 17, 3:00 p.m. EST
8	Monday, Oct 18	In World Regional Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 4: Europe In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.2: Colonialism, Colonial Legacy, and Uneven Economic Development 4.1: The Geography of Wealth and Poverty and the Uneven 	Sunday, Oct 24, 3:00 p.m. EST

		<p>Spatial Distribution of Wealth</p> <p>Discussion Board (DB) Week 8</p> <p>Quiz 8</p>	
9	Monday, Oct 25	<p>Study Week. No Assignments Due.</p> <p>Mar 8 – Mar 14</p>	Sunday, Oct 31
10	Monday, Nov 1	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 5: Russia and the Newly Independent States <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.3: Political Ideology and Economic Policy <p>Discussion Board (DB) Week 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 10 	Sunday, Nov 7, 3:00 p.m. EST
11	Monday, Nov 8	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 6: North Africa and Southwest Asia <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.3: The Middle East <p>AGP 2 - Written Assignment (in Geography: People, Places, and Patterns):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "A Geographer's Perspective" (AGP): 10.1.4: The Middle East: Perception vs. Reality <p>Quiz 11</p>	Sunday, Nov 14, 3:00 p.m. EST
12	Monday, Nov 15	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 6: North Africa and Southwest Asia <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.3: The Middle East <p>Discussion Board (DB) Week 12</p> <p>Quiz 12</p> <p>Exam 2</p>	Sunday, Nov 21, 3:00 p.m. EST

Part III

13	Monday, Nov 22	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 7: Sub-Saharan Africa <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.4 Africa • 4.2 Colonialism, Colonial Legacy, and Uneven Economic Development <p>Quiz 13</p>	Sunday, Nov 28, 3:00 p.m. EST
14	Monday, Nov 29	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 7: Sub-Saharan Africa <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.1: Water and Human Resource Use • 8.1: The Geography of Food: You Are Where You Eat. <p>Discussion Board (DB) Week 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 14 	Sunday, Dec 5, 3:00 p.m. EST
15	Monday, Dec 6	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 8: South Asia • Ch. 9: East Asia <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.4: The Population Debate <p>AGP 3 - Written Assignment (in Geography: People, Places, and Patterns):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "A Geographer's Perspective" (AGP): 10.1.8: Truth in Advertising?: Applied Geography <p>Quiz 15</p>	Sunday, Dec 12, 3:00 p.m. EST
16	Monday, Dec 13	<p>In World Regional Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 10: Southeast Asia <p>In Geography: People, Places, and Patterns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.2: The Earth as a Playground: Culture, Consumerism, and 	Sunday, Dec 19, 3:00 p.m. EST

		Global Warming	
		Quiz 16	
		Exam 3	