

# General Education Course Proposal

Proposed Course: GEOG 004 WORLD GEOGRAPHY Units 3  
Prefix No. Title

Department: GEOGRAPHY School: SOCIAL SCIENCES

### GE Category (Indicate one category only):

Foundation: A1\_\_\_; A2\_\_\_; A3\_\_\_; B4\_\_\_  
Breadth: B1\_\_\_; B2\_\_\_; C1\_\_\_; C2\_\_\_; D\_x; E\_\_\_  
Integration: B\_\_\_; C\_\_\_; D\_\_\_; International/Multicultural\_\_\_

Existing Course\_\_\_; Revised Course\_x; New Course\_\_\_

Course Included in Current GE Program YES

New courses require the Undergraduate Course Proposal form in addition to this form.  
Revised courses require the Undergraduate Course Change Request in addition to this form.

**Proposed catalog description:** Limit course description to 40 words using succinct phrases. Include prerequisites, limitations, lecture/lab hours. Indicate former course number, e.g., (Former Biol 105)  
Survey of world-wide social, cultural, economic and political forces; earth's physical features; economic development; cultural and natural resources; man-land relationships. Applicable concepts and methodologies. Approach is by continents and/or cultural realms.

Enrollment limit per section: 50

Expected number of sections per semester – Year 1 11; Year 3 13

### Attachments:

1. A statement presenting the ways in which this course meets the Specifications provided in the appropriate section of the General Education Policy as well as in the Policies for Inclusion and Evaluation of General Education Courses.
2. A statement of elements common to all sections of this course, identifying content, objectives, required student activities, grading policy, representative texts, and an approximate schedule for the course. Required student activities include such things as papers, research projects, homework, laboratory and/or studio performance, recitations, participation, attendance, and exams.
3. A typical syllabus for a particular offering of the course.
4. Any special cost factors associated with this course.

### Approval for Inclusion in General Education

<u>Shirley J. McManus</u> 3-13-98 Department Chair Date	<u>J. Scherer</u> 3/19/98 School Curriculum Committee Date
<u>Ellen Guenther</u> 3/20/98 School Dean Date	<u>Redmond</u> 12/15/98 General Education Subcommittee Date
<u>Brandt Kehoe</u> 12/20/98 Associate Provost Date	

1/14/98

General Education Course Proposal  
Attachment 2  
Elements Common to all Sections of the Course

World Geography

Elements common to all sections of World Geography include course objectives, content, student activities, textbook and atlas, and grading policy.

Course Objectives

The objective of World Geography is to expand the student's awareness and understanding of the physical and cultural characteristics, spatial distribution, locations, and inter-relationships of regions, nations and their people. In the achievement of this objective, the student will be introduced to the methodologies and analytical concepts necessary to evaluate society today (Attachment 3, weeks 1-3), to gain an insight into the cultural and physical environment (Attachment 3, weeks 3-15), and to promote more effective participation in the human community (Attachment 3, Course Objectives). The course will also address the influence of major social, cultural, economic and political forces on societal behavior and institutions (Attachment 3, weeks 3-15). Completion of the course will have provided an opportunity to gain an appreciation of the great diversity of peoples and places and an insight into some of the forces that have shaped the unique environmental, cultural, economic and political character of nations and regions throughout the world.

Course Content

All sections of World Geography will provide an introduction to appropriate methodologies and concepts as a foundation for the study of social and economic factors operating within physical environments found in the earth's major regions. Students will learn about systems theory and its application to space, locational concepts, time, the use and nature of maps, computer applications, geographic information systems, environmental systems, and concepts and analytical methods appropriate to social, political, and economic geography (Attachment 3, weeks 1-3).

Following the laying of the foundation concepts for the course, instructors will proceed with a study of the world by region. Course content for each region will include a basic set of topics generally covered for each region,

together with additional topics especially relevant to a particular region under consideration (Attachment 3, e.g., weeks 3-4, 9, and 13). Basic topics treated in some manner in each of the regional topic outlines will include (1) an introduction to the physical environment within which activities occur in the region (physical factors); (2) a consideration of social factors of significance in the region; and (3) a discussion of important economic factors at work within the region (one to two weeks per region, Attachment 3, weeks 3-15).

Additional topics beyond the three general topic areas will be introduced and discussed for regions to which they apply particularly well. For example, a history of population movement is discussed in the coverage of North America (Attachment 3, weeks 3-4); population movement to the Americas is introduced in the section on Middle America (Attachment 3, weeks 5-6); maldistribution of economic resources (haves and have nots) is covered in the section on South America (Attachment 3 week 7); the concept and implications of the structure of its political economy are reviewed in the coverage of Russia and the CIS (Attachment 3, week 11); and health issues are introduced as a topic in the coverage of Subsaharan Africa (Attachment 3, week 14).

All sections of World Geography will provide coverage of all of the peopled regions of the world--the Americas (North, Middle, and South), Asia (East, Southeast and South), Europe, the former Soviet Realm, Southwest Asia and North Africa, Subsaharan Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Realm (Attachment 3, weeks 3-15).

### Student Activities

All sections of World Geography require that students gain an appreciation of location. Toward this end, map assignments are made requiring the use of a common set of outline maps of the major regions of the world. Because location is a fundamental element of geographic inquiry all students in World Geography make extensive use of the atlas and maps contained in the textbook.

As noted above, all students will complete writing assignments totaling no less than 2000 words. While the specific assignments will vary, papers will be graded for the quality of the writing and their content. Graded papers will be returned to the student and all students will have the opportunity to discuss their writing with the instructor.

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to fully participate in classroom activities. The primary basis for grading, however, is performance on quizzes and examinations. Mandatory final examinations are scheduled in

all sections.

#### Textbook and Atlas

In all sections a common text and atlas will be employed. Currently the required text is De Blij and Muller, Geography: Realms, Regions and Concepts, 8th edition. The required atlas is Goodes World Atlas, 19th edition or Microsoft Encarta (CD ROM).

#### Grading Policy

Course grades are assigned on the basis of points earned by students on quizzes and/or examinations and a writing assignment. Total points required for grades "A" through "F" are specified in the syllabus for the course (Attachment 3, Grading). No predetermined percentages of "A" through "F" grades are specified for a class.

In order to encourage the application of comparatively common standards, all faculty members teaching World Geography will meet at the beginning of each semester to discuss grading practices, student assignments, and the content of examinations. In keeping with University policy, furthermore, grading practices will be reviewed by the Department Chair on a regular basis.

General Education Course Proposal  
Attachment 3  
Course Syllabus

World Geography

The accompanying syllabus is representative of those employed by all faculty teaching World Geography.

General Education Course Proposal  
Attachment 4  
Special Cost Factors

World Geography

There are no special cost factors associated with World Geography.

General Education Course Proposal  
Attachment 3  
Course Syllabus

World Geography

**Geog. 4, World Geography, 3 units, semester \_\_\_\_\_, 199\_\_**

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_; office: S \_\_\_\_\_; phone and 24 hour voice mail: 278-\_\_\_\_\_;  
email: > \_\_\_\_\_@csufresno.edu<; office hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Required text and atlas package: De Blij and Muller, *Geography: Realms, Regions and Concepts*, Revised Eighth Edition; *Goodes World Atlas*, Nineteenth Edition or *Microsoft Encarta Virtual Globe*, 1998 version (purchase text and atlas or CD ROM as a package).

Also required: Rand McNalley outline maps, numbers 105 - United States; 113 - Mexico, Central America, and West Indies; 114 - South America; 118 - Europe; 119 - Western Europe; 123 - Russia; 125 - Middle East and India; 126 - China and Japan; 127 - Southeast Asia; 132 - Australia and New Zealand; and 129 - Africa.

### Catalog Description of the Course (proposed revision )

Survey of world-wide social, cultural, economic, and political forces; earth's physical features; economic development; cultural and natural resources; man-land relationships; applicable concepts and methodologies. The approach is by continents and/or cultural realms.

### Course Objective

The objective of World Geography is to expand each student's awareness and understanding of the physical and cultural characteristics, spatial distribution, locations, and inter-relationships of regions, nations, and their people. In the achievement of this objective, students will be introduced to the methodologies and analytical concepts necessary to evaluate society today, to gain an insight into the cultural and physical environment and to promote more effective participation in the human community. The course will also address the influence of major social, cultural, economic, and political forces on societal behavior and institutions. Completion of the course will have provided an opportunity to gain an appreciation of the great diversity of peoples and places and an insight into some of the forces that have shaped the unique environmental, cultural, economic and political character of nations and regions throughout the world.

### Course Format

Lectures, augmented by visual materials, are intended to provide an introduction to each topic area and to establish a foundation for further independent exploration of topics via the textbook. We shall begin the semester with an introduction to the methodologies and analytical concepts necessary to evaluate society today and promote more effective participation in the human community. Coverage of each geographic region will include an application of these basic topics, together with the introduction of added concepts that are especially important to that particular area. Thus assignments and lectures and/or reading assignments for each region will provide coverage of (1) the influence of major social, cultural, economic and political forces on societal behavior and institutions; (2) introduce topics in physical geography that enhance our understanding of social factors, and (3) explore the geographic location of significant sites, integrated with 1 and 2, through use of an atlas. You will learn to make use of maps and supporting information to assemble an overall picture of an area and to carry out analysis. World-wide current events will be related to regions studied.

## Description of Examinations

Your course grade will be determined on the basis of total points earned on the written assignment and \_\_\_ examinations. Exams will consist of (1) questions that require you to match a word, phrase, or location with a related description, concept, or location; (2) other forms of questions such as multiple choice, fill in, and true-false; and (3) map location questions that require you to enter the place names on or correct location numbers from the map(s) included in the examination. Maps used in the exams will be based on the outline maps available to you to prepare for the exam. It is **YOUR** responsibility to purchase outline maps from the bookstore, lower level, and correctly mark the location of each of the places from the map list for the region we are studying and to learn those locations. Study maps should be prepared for your own use early during the week(s) we are covering the region so that you will have time to become familiar with locations over a period of time rather than at the last minute. (Study maps are not to be turned in or referred to during an exam.)

Arrangements for a make-up exam must be made with the instructor ahead of time in all cases involving an absence that can reasonably be anticipated (team sports competition, medical procedure, law or medical school interview, etc.). In case of an unanticipated emergency or serious illness, the instructor should be notified promptly of your problem by phone or email message, and a written confirmation of the emergency situation must be provided, on agency letterhead, from your physician or from the University Health and Counseling Center unless another arrangement is approved by the instructor. Late requests not meeting the criteria provided above will result in a \_\_\_% reduction of the exam score. Failure on the part of a student to make up an exam within an agreed upon period following the date the exam is given in class will normally result in a score of 0 points for the exam. No make up of the final exam will be permitted without a written justification from a physician or a staff member of the University Health and Counseling Center.

## Description of the Written Assignment

You may meet the course requirement for a writing assignment of not less than 2000 words by completing one of the following:

1. Two or more "place" reports on topics of current interest throughout the world; or
2. A term paper on a single topic.

Papers will be graded on the quality of the writing and on their content. Graded papers will be returned to you and you may discuss your work with the instructor if you wish.

The writing assignment is a requirement for the course. Students failing to turn in a written assignment will, if they have otherwise earned a passing grade, receive an "Incomplete." Incompletes will be cleared upon receipt (within a period not to exceed one year from the close of the current semester) of the writing assignment and any other missing work.

All written assignments must be current and be written by the student specifically for this course. Quotes and paraphrased information must be identified using accepted methods for documentation (e.g., guidelines by Turabian or by the American Psychological Association), and a list of sources or a bibliography must be included in the completed assignment.

*Due date:* Papers are due \_\_\_\_\_.

## Administrative Procedures

Regular class attendance for your own benefit is expected; (and) (however,) attendance will (not) be recorded. Exams will include questions on material covered only in class. [Policy on taking roll varies with the instructor.]

Your instructor holds regular office hours for the purpose of being available to students. You should avail yourself of the opportunity to meet with him or her to review topics about which you are confused or to get direction for preparing your written report(s).

You also have a right to tutoring provided by the Learning Resource Center located in the Keats Campus Building. The *World Geography* faculty has designated one or more students with whom you can be matched by the Center to receive assistance with material covered in this class.

Note that cheating or plagiarism may result in expulsion, suspension, probation or other sanction following due process procedures pursuant to Section 41301 of the California Code of Regulations.

Note that the schedule and procedures for this course, as described herein, are not a contract and are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

## Grading

Course grades will be determined on the basis of total points earned on (the) written assignment(s) and \_\_\_ examinations as follows: [Example is shown below]

Exam 1	= 20 points	<b>Grading System:</b>
Exam 2	= 15 points	90-100 Percent = A
Exam 3	= 20 points	80-89 Percent = B
Exam 4	= 18 points	70-79 Percent = C
Exam 5	= 17 points	60-69 Percent = D
Written assignment(s)	= 10 points	0-59 Percent = F
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>= 100 points</b>	

## Course Topics, Assignments, and Calendar

Students are responsible for keeping track of where we are in the course calendar and for completing required reading, map, and other assignments as we proceed through the semester.

### *Part I: Introduction to Methodologies and Analytical Concepts*

Weeks 1-3: INTRODUCTION: METHODOLOGIES AND ANALYTICAL CONCEPTS  
APPLICABLE TO WORLD GEOGRAPHY

- Systems theory
- The earth as a system
- Location on earth: latitude and longitude
- Time
- The nature of maps
- Computer applications in Geography: GIS and GPS
- Energy and global temperature; climate
- Geomorphic forces
- Social factors: ethnicity, language, terms, and analytical methods
- Economic geography: national wealth, resources, terms, and analytical methods

Text: Introduction; Atlas pp. viii - 19



**Part II: Region: North America**

Weeks 3-4: NORTH AMERICA: THE U.S. AND CANADA

- Location on earth: physical, economic and cultural regions
- Weather and climate
- Plate tectonics
- Social factors: population distribution, birth, death, and natural increase rates
- Economic factors: national wealth, resources, patterns of agricultural and urban land development, and central place theory
- History: population movement; westward migration; farm to city, South to northern cities, cities to suburbs, cities to rural alternatives movement, and redistribution of population from the North to the South, the Mt. West, and the West

Text Chapter 3; outline map #105-12862-7 (U.S. Map)

Week 5: *Date: First Exam: concepts and North America*

**Part III: Regions: Middle and South America**

Weeks 5-6: MIDDLE AMERICA

- Population movement, early habitation sites, early inhabitants to the Americas
- Greed, power and politics: land ownership and management styles; current issues
- Social factors
- Economic factors: economic indicators and economic resources

Text Chapter 4; outline map #113-12862-2

Week 7: SOUTH AMERICA

- Economic and cultural geography: existing conditions, urbanization, economic development and strategies
- Physical Geography: regions, climate, and plate tectonics
- Hegemony in South America
- Social factors: political nature of South America, haves and have nots

Text Chapter 5; outline map #114-12862-6

Week 8: *Date: Second Exam: concepts and Middle and South America*

**Part IV: Regions: East Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia/New Zealand and the Pacific Realm**

Week 8: CHINA; MONGOLIA

- Physical geography: regions, climate, and plate tectonics
- Social factors: population numbers, distribution, rates of change; ethnic characteristics; man-land relationships
- Economic factors: resources; development zones
- History, power, and politics

Text Chapter 9; outline map: China and Japan, #126-12862-6

Week 8:

SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Physical geography: contrasting settings for S..E. Asian nations
- Social factors: variations in cultural heritage; the boat people
- Economic factors: variation in GNP between nations
- History, power, and politics: the Vietnam War; the Khmer Empire

Text Chapter 10; outline map: Southeast Asia, #127-12862-X

Week 9

JAPAN, KOREA AND TAIWAN

- Physical geography of Japan, North Korea, South Korea, and Taiwan: location on the "ring of fire"
- Social factors: North versus South Korea; relations between China and Taiwan
- Economic factors: variation in GNP between nations
- History, power, and politics: region impacted by wars; role of communist leadership

Week 10:

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

- Physical geography: areas of great diversity; New Zealand's unique tectonics; relative location of the three Pacific Island subregions
- Social factors: aboriginal populations of the realm
- Economic factors: lagging status of Australia; diversity of the region
- History, power, and politics: changing roles of descendents of the aboriginal populations of the region

Text Chapters 11 & 12; outline map #132-12862-4

Week 10:

*Date: Exam 3: China, Southeast Asia, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Realm*

*Spring or Thanksgiving Recess, dates*

***Part V:***

***Regions: Russia and Europe***

Week 11:

RUSSIA AND THE CIS

- Political economy
- Soviet government
- Economic structure and problems
- Changing political geography
- Structure of the CIS
- Nature of Eurasia
- Social factors: population characteristics

Text Chapter 2; outline map: Northern Eurasia (Russia) #123-12862-5

Week 12: EUROPE

- Economic factors: the European Core, the European realm today, changing European structure—economic and political
- Social factors
- Physical geography: natural and cultural regions and their physiographic components; tectonics, rivers and water bodies, and climate

Text Chapter 1; outline maps: Europe #118-12862-0 and Western Europe, #119-12862-4

Week 12: *Date: Fourth Exam: Russia, the CIS and Europe*

***Part VI. Regions: Southwest Asia, Africa, and Southern Asia***

Week 13: SOUTHWEST ASIA AND NORTH AFRICA

- Defining the realm: criteria
- Physical factors
- Social factors: ethnicity; origins of three major religions
- Economic characteristics of the individual regions: The Middle East, Arabian Peninsula, Empire States, and Turkestan; role of petroleum in national economies

Text Chapter 6; outline maps: #125-12862-2 and 129-12862-7

Week 14: SUBSAHARAN AFRICA

- Physical factors: physiography, climate, and vegetation
- European colonialism
- Social factors: population characteristics, ethnicity, tribal allegiances, and traditional enemies
- Health issues
- Economic factors
- The changing place of South Africa in the region

Text Chapter 7; outline map: Africa, #129-12862-7

Date: Place Reports due, 5 p.m. in the Geography Department office

Week 15: SOUTH ASIA

- Physical geography: the physical realm and regions: an overview of Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka
- Social factors: diversity
- The political economy
- Development strategies for India

Text Chapter 8; outline map: Middle East and India, #125-12862-2

Finals Week: *Date: fifth Exam: Africa, Southwest Asia, and South Asia as follows:*

The exam Schedule will be listed here