



UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN PRAGUE

Course	:	UNYP 48240 World Geography (3 semester credits)
Semester:		Summer school course
		5 weeks
Prerequisites:		None
Instructor:		RNDr. PhDr. Mgr. Petr Pelikán
Contact:		E-mail: ppelikan@faculty.unyp.cz
Class meets:		Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays: 9.00-12.00
Office hours:		Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays: 8.00-9.00

1. Catalogue Description

A study of world patterns of physical environments, cultural regions and economic development, followed by a focus on specific regions from the following: Latin America, Africa, Asia and/or Middle East.

2. Course Purpose

The purpose of the course is to provide students with an overview of regional/world geography and its global historical, cultural, economic and political interrelationships. Emphasis will be on both theoretical and practical aspects of world geography and its implications in the areas of business, mass communications and international relations.

3. Required Readings:

H. J. De Blij and Peter O. Muller. (2002). Geography: Realms, Regions and Concepts. New York: Wiley and Sons.

Goode's World Atlas (2000). Rand McNally, 2000.

F. P. Stutz and A. R. De Souza. The World Economy: Resources, Location Trade and Development. 3rd Ed. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Selected Readings and Maps prepared by the instructor.

It is up to you to purchase this book before the class. We will be using it from the first day of class onwards. .

4. Additional readings: newspapers, economic brochures...

5. Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Work with geographic data, read and interpret maps and draw appropriate

conclusions;

Describe and analyze geographic spatial relationships and apply cause and effect

- reasoning to understanding the dynamics of region's development in the 20th and 21st century;
- Identify key historical and political contexts as they relate to contemporary world geography;
- Critically interpret and process statistical information and readings to illustrate relationships;
- Identify key patterns of globalization and their impact on social and economic development.

General Education Requirement

A grade of C- or above in this course satisfies the General Education requirement for the following knowledge and skills areas:

Other World Civilizations

Students will demonstrate:

- knowledge of either a broad outline of world history, or the distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, culture, etc., of one non-western civilization.

The competencies of Critical Thinking / Reasoning and Information Management are infused throughout this course:

Critical thinking / Reasoning

Students will:

- identify, analyze and evaluate arguments as they occur in their own or others' work; and
- develop well-reasoned arguments.

Information Management

Students will:

- perform the basic operations of personal computer use;
- understand and use basic research techniques; and
- locate, evaluate and synthesize information from a variety of sources.

6. Course Schedule

1. Introduction to physical and cultural geography - physical settings, culture and ethnicity, population patterns, globalization and development

2. Map Reading and Interpretations

3. Realms, Regions and States

4. Europe and its Regions

Eastern Europe, Russia and former Soviet Union states - regions in transition

5. North America and Canada

Canada and the United States as part of the North American Manufacturing Belt

Canada and the United States as NAFTA countries

6. The Central American Republics: a region of political instability and environmental problems

7. South America

8. North Africa/Southwest Asia

Nile Basin countries

Magreb countries and its neighbors

Middle East political tensions

- Arabian Peninsula (energy problems and OPEC countries)
- Turkey's aspirations for the EU membership
- Iran
- Turkestan
- 9. Sub-Saharan Africa
 - The coast and the interior of West Africa
 - Equatorial Africa as a region of political instability and natural wealth
 - East Africa as a region of various political influences
 - South Africa as a region of big political and economic reforms (Zimbabwe, South Africa)
- 10. South Asia
 - Pakistan and India
 - Economic protectionism
 - The Green Revolution program
 - India's population policy comparison with China
- 11. East Asia
 - China: important political and economic event, core regions, PRC v. RC, Tibet, the Pacific Rim
 - Japan: core regions, trade patterns
 - Korea as an example of regionally complementary phenomena
- 12. Southeast Asia
 - Growth triangle
 - Economic tigers and little dragons
 - The ASEAN countries
- 13. The Austral Realm
 - Australia
 - New Zealand
- 14. The Pacific Realm and Antarctica
 - Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia as politically, strategically, and economically important localities
 - The students will write their mid term exam and during week 7 and during week 15 the final exam will be written

7. Course Requirements and Grading – the course will be graded on the basis of:

Criteria for Determination of Grade, including Evaluation Methods

Term Paper	25%
Mid-term Exam	25%
Class Participation	25%
Final examination	25%

Specific grading criteria are included with each assignment.

Term Paper (25%)

Students will select their topics from the following areas:

- 1) Globalization and its impact on developing countries

- 2) issues of energy: political and/or environmental implications and solutions
- 3) impact of major political, social and economic reforms on a specific region; or geographic regions in transition.

Write a 5 page paper on your analysis. You will be graded on the depth and quality of your **analysis** and **conclusions**. You must reference properly any statements of fact. See UNYP Honor Code.

Term paper grading criteria.

In A paper. This paper is exceptional in many ways. It takes intellectual risks, own ideas, logical thinking, highly analytical, cause and effect relation, be careful about being too descriptive, personal experience is an asset. Well chosen graphs, graphics and diagrams as well as photos not being a part of the 5 page double space text can illustrate creativity and strong motivation for the chosen topic. Well chosen and rich sources. The rules of composition writing scheme should be respected. Length

In B paper. This paper does more than fulfill the assignment. It carries out the project with a noticeable degree of skill and competence keeping on mind the above mentioned qualities and requirements.

In C paper. This paper acceptably fulfills the assignment, through a routine way the cause for that level grading being very often a paper being too descriptive, lacking own ideas, logical thinking and appropriate number of well chosen sources.

In D paper. This paper is strongly lacking the above mentioned qualities and often it is also the length which is the reason for the failure.

In F paper. This paper is insufficient in all the above mentioned attributes showing very often the lack of engagement, theoretical knowledge necessary for writing the paper, on the part of the writer.

Midterm (25%) and Final Examination (25%)

A midterm examination will be administered during the 7th week of the course and a comprehensive examination will be administered at the end of the course. The material for the exams will be taken from textbook, reading, professor’s reader, class notes, and class lectures and discussion

Letter Grade	Percent (%)	Generally Accepted Meaning
A	95-100	Outstanding work
A-	90-94	
B+	87-89	Good work, distinctly above the average
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Acceptable Work
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	Work that is significantly below average
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	Work that does not meet the minimum

		standards for passing the course
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8. Key UNYP Policies

Attendance:

-It is your responsibility to show up to class on time. If you are late you will be marked as absent for that hour. **If you miss more than 12 (twelve) hours of class, for any reason, you will automatically fail the entire course. Pay strict attention to this. The class policy is standard UNYP policy.**

Academic Honesty

- The University's rules on academic dishonesty (e.g. cheating, plagiarism, submitting false information) will be strictly enforced. Please familiarize yourself with the STUDENT HONOUR CODE or ask your instructor for clarification.
- For examinations: copying from your neighbor, speaking to another student, using a phone or anything similar will result in you failing the test or quiz. On written papers properly note your sources with academic citations. Cutting and pasting from the internet may be considered plagiarism. If you have questions about this, please consult the instructor.

9. General Requirements

- All papers must be word-processed and follow appropriate style format. Consult a Style Manual used in English Composition and the UNYP Honor Code regarding all citations.
- Each student is responsible for attending every class meeting and completing assignments on or before the due date. In situations where a student is unable to attend a class meeting, he or she is responsible for all lectures and discussions, materials and assignments covered in the classes missed. If exams were administered, the student is responsible for making up these assignments during the week following the absence.
- Mobile phones should be on silent; no calling or texting during class meetings, wait for the breaks.
- All media and communication devices, including computers, may not be used in ways that distract you and other students from our work during class meetings.
- Papers/essays are due by email on the day specified in the assignment.
- Late papers are not accepted.
- Missed quizzes, response paragraphs, and discussions are not made up.

Requirements for written assignments

All essays must:

- be word processed;
- use a 12-point font;

- be double-spaced;
- have numbered pages;
- include your name and title on the first page;
- use APA citation format;
- use correct spelling; grammar and punctuation.

Students with disabilities

I encourage students with disabilities to contact me as soon as possible to discuss reasonable

- accommodations..

10. European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS):

The students that complete the course will receive 6 ECTS credits or 3 American credits. One ECTS credit corresponds to 25-30 hours of work. For comparison, 1 American credit hour equals approximately 2 ECTS credits.

For this course, students are expected to spend time in the following course-related activities:

Quizzes – 10 hours total

Term paper – 15 hours of preparation

Midterm – 20 hours of preparation

Final – 20 hours of preparation

Regular, punctual attendance at class meetings – 3 hours per week in class, 45 hours total

Weekly readings (4 hours per week) – 60 hours total

Total estimated workload for the semester : 170 hours

11. Technology Expectations

Assignments, excluding those that are carried out exclusively in class, must be word-processed.

Students are assumed to be familiar with the use of internet and in particular with the gathering of data from the wide world web. This will be a necessary tool for carrying out some of the course assignments (i.e. long essay or class presentations).

Assignments are to be word-processed. Students should save all work submitted in a personal document file. Students will be expected to use and research assigned databases. Regular use of word processing software, internet, online databases, UNYP NetLearn, email.