# Geography 1313.060: World Regional Geography Online Course

#### Fall 2022

Instructor: Dr. E. Cory Sills Office: CAS 142

Office hours in person or via Zoom MW 11:10 am to 12:30 pm

Zoom link: https://uttyler.zoom.us/j/99985107383?pwd=am1majlXSWh4bVNtbHBiOE9nMXlaQT09

Passcode: 196071
Or by appointment

E-mail: esills@uttyler.edu ph:903-566-7442

Communications: I encourage you to visit office hours or directly after class via zoom. This is a good opportunity for you to look over your exams, ask questions, or seek clarification. If you cannot attend my office hours you may set-up an alternative time. I will respond to your emails within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends. In your email, include your first and last name and that you are enrolled in Geography 1313.

## **Required texts**:

1. The World Today: Concepts and Regions in Geography, 8<sup>h</sup> Edition. Binder or Rent online. I will also allow students to use the 7<sup>th</sup> edition as well. These books can be purchased on Amazon, Chegg, or through the UT Tyler bookstore. If using the 7<sup>th</sup> edition read the chapters with the corresponding regions instead of the chapter numbers.

**Catalogue description:** Analyzes cultural patterns in terms of physical, locational, social and economic processes. World regions are described and compared.

**Course objective:** The primary objective is for you to describe how the physical and human geography of a region can be unique yet also share many qualities with other regions. Although you will learn the locations of key places and landforms in order to become globally-aware citizens, *this course's objective is not to promote or reward memorization*. The objective is to provide a geographical context for world events, to make spatial connections, and to understand the importance of geographical contexts in our everyday lives.

**Course format**: This is a full-online course administered through Canvas. You must have reliable internet or visit the campus computer lab in RBN 3022 to complete all assignments. All assignments, quizzes, activities, and exams will be administered online. If you have any technical difficulties accessing the site, contact **Campus Computing** at <a href="mailto:itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu">itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu</a> or **Canvas Help** (contact through Canvas).

The course consists of six Modules that will cover the online course material. The modules are organized much like chapters organized in a book. I will open and close each module as we progress during the semester. Many of the modules are open for about 2.5 weeks but please pay close attention to each module's individual set of opening and closing dates (see the schedule attached to the end of this syllabus for exact dates). If you miss a module's deadline, you will automatically earn a zero (0) for that module.

The video lecture lessons content slides will be supplemented by the required text readings, videos, and assignments. The lecture lessons and readings will not necessarily cover the same ground. Indeed, they are intended to supplement each other rather than to completely overlap. I strongly recommend that you fully complete all module activities by the assigned due date. I encourage you to email me if you have relevant questions and comments. One of the goals for the course is to convey how important and useful the field of geography is in the modern world. Hopefully, some of you might pursue geography as a profession. If not, at least you will gain insight and appreciation into evaluating the physical environment emphasized in this course.

**Course Requirements:** For Modules 1-6, there will be six exams, one quiz, and six assignments. The Modules will contain the following information:

- Module learning objectives, key words, and a reading list.
- Video Lecture Lessons with a Map Activity.
- An assignment that further examines core concepts from the module material.

- An exam consisting of multiple choice and true/false questions.
- The exception is Module 1 that has an introductory assignment so that I can get to know you. This assignment counts for extra credit.

**Exams**: There are six exams each worth 10%. The exam should be the last item you complete in each module. The exams may cover all the material including the lecture lessons, videos, textbook, and the assignments. The exams are not cumulative and will only cover material from each individual module. The exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions for a total of 100%. You will have 90 minutes to complete each exam. You cannot pause the time on the exam. Once you begin, you must complete the exam in one sitting. **You may take an exam only once.** 

**Assignments:** There are six assignments, the six homework assignments are worth approximately 6.7% each. Instructions will be posted on **Canvas**. 5 points will be deducted each day for late assignments.

#### **Grades:**

• Grading scale: A 90-100% B 80-89.99% C 70-79.99%

D 60-69.99% F 0-59.99%

Six Exams worth 10% each 60%

Six Homework Assignments worth approx.

6.7% each 40% **Total:** 100%

Introduction Assignment: 2 points extra credit on final grade

**Make-up Policy:** Make-up tests will be given with a legitimate reason and in rare circumstances. Students should contact the instructor **prior** to the exam and not after if they will miss the exam. Make-up exams will not be given except when there are exceptional circumstances (be prepared to provide documentation of your circumstance, such as a doctor's note, police report, University-excused absence, *et cetera*). Five points will deducted each day for late assignments.

Cell Phones/Lap tops: Turn off your ringer and do not use your cell phone during class – this includes text messaging. If you are expecting an important call please put your phone on vibrate and sit close to the door. This action will help minimize any disturbance to the class. Lap tops are allowed for note-taking, but I reserve the right to ask you to shut your computer down (or to change my class policy) if you are using your computer for uses other than note-taking and disrupting those around you. Any video, photographic or audio recordings of the class must be approved by me.

## **University Policies**

# **UT Tyler Honor Code**

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

#### Withdrawing from Class

Students are allowed to withdraw (drop) from a course through the University's Withdrawal Portal. Texas law prohibits students who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. The number includes courses dropped at other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Make sure to consider the impact withdrawing from any course has on your academic progress as well as the financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and financial aid for additional guidance. CAUTION #1: Withdrawing before census day does not mean students receive a full refund. Please see the Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule. CAUTION #2: All international students must check with the Office of International Programs before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms.

#### **Final Exam Policy**

Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members are required to maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete course requirements by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in lieu of a grade only when all of the following conditions are met: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all course work or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor; and (c) the student presents these reasons prior to the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average for a student.

The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to complete the work for the course within the time limit, the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has not been assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F or to NC, if the course was initially taken under the CR/NC grading basis.

### **Grade Appeal Policy**

UT Tyler's Grade Appeal policy requires the completion of a Grade Appeal form for this action to take place. The grade appeal begins with the instructor of the course. If a student does not agree with the decision of the instructor, the student may then move the appeal to the department chair/school director for that course. If the student is still dissatisfied with the decision of the chair/director, the appeal moves to the Dean of the College offering that course, who has the final decision. Grade appeals must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade. The Grade Appeal form is found on the Registrar's Form Library.

# **Covid Policy**

It is important to take the necessary precautions to ensure a healthy and successful year. UT Tyler continues to urge you to protect yourselves against the flu, COVID and any new threats that may be developing. Be diligent about preventive measures such as washing hands, covering sneezes/coughs, social distancing and vaccinations, which have proven to be successful in slowing the spread of viruses. Encourage those who don't feel well to stay home, and if they show symptoms, ask them to get tested for the flu or COVID. Self-isolation is important to reduce exposure (CDC quarantine/isolation guidelines). Please work with your faculty members to maintain coursework and please consult existing campus resources for support.

# **Disability/Accessibility Services**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), The University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If a student has a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, the student is encouraged to visit https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact the student when the application has been submitted and schedule an appointment with the Assistant Director Student Accessibility and Resources/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

# **Military Affiliated Students**

UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with your faculty member if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make your faculty member aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. Your faculty member is willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. Campus resources for military-affiliated students are in the Military and Veterans Success Center (MVSC). The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu or via phone at 903.565.5972.

# **Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct**

The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the <u>Student Conduct and Discipline policy</u> in the Student

Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

#### **FERPA**

UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in <u>University Policy 5.2.3</u>. The course instructor will follow all requirements in protecting your confidential information.

# **Recording of Class Sessions**

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in the course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in the course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.

## **Absence for Official University Events or Activities**

All courses follow the practices related to approved absences as noted by the Student Manual of Operating Procedures (Sec. 1 -501).

# **Absence for Religious Holidays**

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious holiday are requested to inform the instructor by the second class meeting of the semester.

## **Campus Carry**

We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in all courses. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <a href="http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php">http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php</a>.

#### **UT Tyler Resources for Students**

**UT Tyler Counseling Center (available to all students)** 

TAO Online Support Center (online self-help modules related to mental & emotional health)

Military and Veterans Success Center (supports for our military-affiliated students)

**UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry** 

**UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships** 

**UT Tyler Registrar's Office** 

Office of International Programs

Title IX Reporting

Patriots Engage (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)

Incidence of Scholastic Dishonesty: You will receive an automatic zero on the assignment. All cases of plagiarism or cheating will result in an automatic zero for the assignment!

Course Schedule and Assignments
All modules must be completed in the order listed below. I will not open modules early or close modules past their deadline based on your personal schedule.

	personal schedule.									
Module	Lectures and Reading	Exam	Intro	Assignment	Module Open	Module Closing				
	Assignments (Book Chapters)		Assignment		Date	Date				
1	Getting Started	1	1	Homework	Aug. 22, 2022	Sept. 7, 2022				
	Introduction Lecture Lesson			Assignment 1	(Monday) 9 am	(Wednesday)				
	(Chapter 1: Introduction)					midnight				
	-What is Geography?									
	-Maps									
	-Regions									
	North America Lecture Lesson									
	(Chapter 2)									
	-Physical Environment									
	-Population									
	-Cities									
2	Middle America Lecture Lesson	2		Homework	Sept. 8, 2022	Sept. 26, 2022				
2	(Chapter 3)	2		Assignment 2	(Thursday) 9 am	(Monday) midnight				
	-Physical Environment			Assignment 2	(Thursday) 9 am	(Wonday) infulight				
	-Population and Economy -Film									
	South America Lecture Lesson									
	(Chapter 4)									
	-Physical Environment									
	-Cities									
	-Geopolitics									
3	<b>Europe Lecture Lesson (Chapter</b>	3		Homework	Sept. 27, 2022	Oct. 12, 2022				
	5)			Assignment 3	(Tuesday) 9 am	(Wednesday)				
	-Physical Environment					midnight				
	-The People									
	-Political and Economic									
	Geography									
	Russia Lecture Lesson (Chapter									
	6)									
	-Physical Environment									
	-The People									
	-Russia Today									
4	North Africa/SW Asia Lecture	4		Homework	Oct. 13, 2022	Oct. 31, 2022				
4	Lesson (Chapter 7)			Assignment 4	(Thursday) 9 am	(Monday) midnight				
	-Physical Environment and			7 issignment 4	(Thursday) 5 am	(Wonday) intelligit				
	Population									
	-Geography of the Veil									
	-Geography of the Vell -Israel and Settlement									
	SubSaharan Africa Lecture									
	Lesson (Chapter 8)									
	-Physical Environment									
	-South Africa									
	-Film	_								
5	South Asia Lecture Lesson	5		Homework	Nov. 1, 2022	Nov. 16, 2022				
	(Chapter 9)			Assignment 5	(Tuesday) 9 am	(Wednesday)				
	-Physical Environment and					midnight				
	Population									
	-Food and Spices									
	East Asia Lecture Lesson									
	(Chapter 10)									
	-Physical Environment and									
	Population									
	-Language and Family									
	-Film									
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6	Southeast Asia Lecture Lesson	6	Homework	Nov. 17, 2022	Dec. 9, 2022
	(Chapter 11)		Assignment 6	(Thursday) 9 am	(Friday) midnight
	-Physical Environment and				
	Population				
	-Tourism and Human Sex				
	Trafficking				
	Austral Lecture Lesson				
	(Chapter 12)				
	-Physical Environment and				
	Aboriginals				