

# Texas A&M University-Texarkana

## Course Syllabus

*Geography 1303 World Regional Geography  
Fall 2020*

**Instructor: Michelle Crane**

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**Course Description:** This course is an introduction to the world's major regions seen through their defining physical, social, cultural, political, and economic features. These regions are examined in terms of their physical and human characteristics and their interactions. The course emphasizes relations among regions on issues such as trade, economic development, conflict, and the role of regions in the globalization process.

**Course Delivery Method:** Face to Face

**Required Textbooks/Resources:** Below are the required texts for the course. Additional readings will be assigned and will be available on the course website. Students should also purchase a set of 12 or more colored pencils, which you will need to bring to class.

Complete Atlas of the World, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: Classic Mapping for the Modern World.  
ISBN-13: 978-1465486202  
ISBN-10: 1465486208

Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Explain Everything About the World. Tim Marshall.  
Scribner, 2015.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- \* Define and explain the geographic concept of “region”.
- \* Locate significant geographic features of regions of the world and describe their cultural, economic, political, and physical characteristics.
- \* Demonstrate knowledge of each region’s role in a globalizing world.
- \* Apply geographic concepts to understanding current events, conflicts, and issues in a regional context
- \* Demonstrate an understanding of spatial distributions and patterns
- \* Interpret spatial distributions and patterns through maps and other visual representations,
- \* Create maps and other visual representations of data collected through independent research.

**Course Outline:**

Additional readings may be assigned.

Week	Unit/Region	Class Meeting Outline	Reading Assignment	Assignment
1	Intro to WRG		Prisoners of Geography Intro Atlas pages	
2		No class - Labor Day	Atlas Pages	
3	North America		PoG Ch. 3: Unites States Atlas pages	Quiz
4	Middle America		PoG Ch. 9: Latin America Atlas pages	Quiz
5	South America		Atlas pages	Quiz Project 1 Due
6	Europe		PoG Ch. 4: Western Europe Atlas pages	Quiz
7	Russia and Central Asia		PoG Ch. 1: Russia Atlas pages	Quiz

8	North Africa/Southwest Asia		PoG Ch. 6: The Middle East Atlas pages	Midterm
9	Subsaharan Africa		PoG Ch. 5: Africa Atlas pages	Quiz
10	South Asia		PoG Ch. 7: India and Pakistan Atlas pages	Quiz Due
11	East Asia		PoG Ch. 2: China and Ch. 8 Korea and Japan Atlas pages	Quiz
12	Southeast Asia		Atlas pages	Quiz
13	Australia and New Zealand		Atlas pages	Quiz
14	Pacific and World Oceans		Atlas pages	Quiz Project 2 Due
15	Polar Regions	Last Class Meeting	PoG Ch. 10: The Arctic Atlas pages	Quiz
16		Final Exam		Final

**Methods of Evaluation:** Your grade for this course will consist of

10 quizzes = 20%

2 projects = 35%

2 exams = 35%

Participation = 10%

*Reading Assignments and Quizzes:* Readings will be assigned from the required texts each week. A few other readings will be provided, as well. These will be available on the class website. Weekly quizzes will cover the reading assignments. The quizzes will be available online and must be completed by noon on the day we meet for class. There will be a total of 12 quizzes, but 2 quiz grades will be dropped. Each quiz will be worth 100 points.

*Projects:* There will be three major projects over the course of the semester. Instructions for each project will be given in class, but the projects will be completed primarily outside of class time. Each project is worth 100 points and will be due at 5pm on the date listed.

Field Study Assignment = 15% of your final grade

Thematic/Regional Mapping Project = 20% of your final grade

*Exams:* You will have 2 major exams for this course.

Midterm: The midterm will cover the material from the readings and notes from Weeks 1 through 8. It will be worth 100 points and comprise 15% of your final grade.

Final: The final will cover the material from the readings and notes from Weeks 9 through 15. The final will be worth 100 points and comprise 20% of your final grade.

**Field Studies:** Working in the field is an essential part of the study of geography. We will do some field work (limited to campus) during class time, but you will have to complete one field assignment on your own time for the second class project. In addition, you will have the opportunity to attend an OPTIONAL field study. This trip is NOT REQUIRED, but you will receive extra credit for attending. We may have an additional optional field study as a class. More information regarding these trips will be provided as details become available.

**Grading Scale:** A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = 0-59%

**Library/Media Resources Assessment:** Two of the course projects will require fairly extensive research. The resources needed to complete these assignments are primarily web-based and can be accessed at home or on campus.

**Student Participation:** Students are responsible for beginning their participation on the FIRST CLASS DAY by logging on and completing assignments according to the COURSE CALENDAR. Failure to submit online assignments between the first day of classes and the University census date (according to the University schedule) will result in an ADMINISTRATIVE DROP from the course.

In addition, students are REQUIRED to attend class every week. This is especially critical given that we only meet once a week, so one absence is the same as missing an entire week of classes. You will be given one EXCUSED absence IF the instructor is notified PRIOR to the class you will miss. UNEXCUSED absences will result in the loss of one letter grade for the Participation grade for each day missed. Students should log in to Blackboard regularly to keep apprised of and changes or announcements and to locate supplemental materials and instructions.

**Course Etiquette:** Students will be respectful and professional during class and when interacting with other students and the professor outside of class times (office hours, field studies, etc.) This includes respecting class time by limiting the use of phones and personal electronic devices to class content only.

**Discussion Board Standards:** Participation in discussion boards is optional. Content of posts should be kept professional and school appropriate.

**Disability Accommodations:** Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of 'F' in the course and/or disciplinary actions. For additional information, see the university catalog.

**A&M-Texarkana Email Address:** Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

**Drop Policy:** To drop this course after the census date, a student must complete a [Drop/Withdrawal Request Form](#), located on the University Registrar's webpage or obtained in the Registrar's Office. The student must submit the signed and completed form to the instructor of each course indicated on the form to be

dropped for his/her signature. The signature is not an “approval” to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form must be submitted to the Registrar’s office for processing in person, email [Registrar@tamut.edu](mailto:Registrar@tamut.edu), mail (7101 University Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503) or fax (903-223-3140). Drop/withdraw forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar’s Office for processing. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission. If a student stops participating in class (attending and submitting assignments) but does not complete and submit the drop/withdrawal form, a final grade based on work completed as outlined in the syllabus will be assigned.

### **Blackboard Mobile for iOS and Android Devices**

Android and iOS devices are currently supported using the Blackboard Mobile App, available for free from your App Store or scan the code below:



The Blackboard Mobile App provides limited access to courses, including the ability to read and contribute to discussions, check grades and announcements, access content, read and comment on blogs, reflect in journals, link to your personal Dropbox, and receive push notifications when courses are updated. Limited course features may also be available via your mobile device's browser; however, your mobile device does not replace your personal computer and should not be used as a substitute for one. High stakes assignments, tests, etc. should be completed on your personal computer, and not on your mobile device.