



# SYLLABUS

Department of Geography | Kansas State University

# F11

**Lecture – Tuesday/Thursday 2:30 – 3:45 PM**  
**Kedzie Hall 106**

**Class Instructor:** Jeremy Aber  
 Office: 164-G Seaton Hall

email: aber@ksu.edu

Office Hours: 1:00 – 2:30 T TH or by appointment

**Text:**

*Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World, 3rd Edition.* by L. Rowntree, M. Lewis, M. Price, and W. Wyckoff. Third Edition. Published by Pearson/Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ.

**Course Description:**

This course is an overview of the various regions of the world. We will look at some of the more important aspects of those regions and how the regions connect to each other through the lens of Globalization. Because the world is a large and complex place it will be impossible to cover everything, so I will cover what I think are the more important aspects. We will start the class by talking about some general geography concepts and about some global issues. After that we will start covering regions starting with the most familiar one, North America, then expanding our way south and then east to more distant and likely less familiar regions. We will finish the class by connecting the regions back into a cohesive global perspective.

**Schedule Highlights (Full schedule at the end of the syllabus):**

Week 1	Tuesday, August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Class begins
Week 4	Thursday, September 15 <sup>th</sup>	First Exam
Week 9	Tuesday, October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Second Exam
Week 12	Thursday, November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Third Exam
Week 16	Thursday, December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Last Class Lecture
Finals Week	Monday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Final Exam

**Grading:**

A = 90% or above of all possible points

B = 80-89% of all possible points

C = 70-79% of all possible points

D = 60-69% of all possible points

F = below 60% of all possible points

Your final semester grade will depend on the following criteria:

4 exams                                      80% (400 points total)

Homework assignments                20% (100 points total)

**Exams:**

Exams will be worth 100 points each. There will be four (4) equally weighted exams throughout the semester for a total of 400 points from the exams. The exams will be what I call semi-comprehensive. The main focus for each exam will be on the sections covered for the exam, but material from previously tested parts of the course that connects to current material will be considered fair game. This is primarily because the various regions of the world interact with each other and it is important to understand those interactions. Globalization, one of the major themes of the class, is a term that describes these interactions between the various regions. There can be some surprising and very interesting interactions, even between regions that are physically far apart. Unless otherwise noted, you are responsible for knowing all material in the relevant chapters in the textbook, assignments, and all material discussed in class.

**Homework Assignments:**

There will be 100 points available from homework assignments:

News reviews (2 reviews for 20 points each)

Other assignments (total of 60 points all together)

**News analysis assignment:**

This assignment is described in more detail in the News Review assignment sheet (found on K-State Online in the 'Files & Content' section). During the semester each student will review two (2) international news stories. Each news story reviewed will be worth 20 points.

**Miscellaneous homework assignments:**

There will be 60 points of homework assignments that will be assigned at various times throughout the semester. These points may take the form of short in-class assignments, attendance, or quizzes.

**Honesty Policy and Class Conduct**

Kansas State University has an Honor System based on personal integrity, which is presumed to be sufficient assurance that, in academic matters, one's work is performed honestly and without unauthorized assistance. Undergraduate and graduate students, by registration, acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Honor System. The policies and procedures of the Honor System apply to all full and part-time students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate courses on-campus, off-campus, and via distance learning. The honor system website can be reached via the following URL: <http://www.k-state.edu/honor/> A component vital to the Honor System is the inclusion of the Honor Pledge which applies to all assignments, examinations, or other course work undertaken by students. The Honor Pledge is implied, whether or not it is stated: "On my honor, as a student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work." A grade of XF can result from a breach of academic honesty. The F indicates failure in the course; the X indicates the reason is an Honor Pledge violation.

I expect you to conduct yourselves in a manner befitting adults in a professional academic setting. This means that we should feel free to discuss the class material as needed for effective learning. This also means that behavior that disrupts the ability of others to learn in class will not be tolerated. Anyone engaging in disruptive behavior may be asked to leave the classroom and in some cases (i.e. the behavior continues), may have points taken away. It is expected that cell phones will be turned off prior to the start of class.

I will present the material in a way that I think will be the most instructive for you, the student. You should feel free to ask questions you have regarding the class material during lecture or stop by my office to ask them. The most effective way to learn this material (and, indeed, most college material) is to read the relevant material before the lecture, then ask for clarification on material that is still confusing after it has been presented in lecture.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Any student with a disability who needs a classroom accommodation, access to technology or other assistance in this course should contact Disability Support Services and let me know as well.

### **Office Hours**

I keep an open door policy. I make a point to be in my office during scheduled office hours (1-2:30 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays) and for scheduled appointments, but if you want to take a chance on me being in my office, you can stop by at any time.

#### *General guidelines:*

1. Between 10 am and 4 pm on weekdays there is a good chance that I am in the office.
2. Try to keep appointments between 8 am and 5 pm on weekdays. I am almost never in the office on the weekends.
3. If the door is open and you see me at my desk, come on in.
4. I share an office with others; the door may be open when I am not there.

### **Email**

I try to respond to emails within 24 hours. If you send an email to me and have not gotten a response within 48 hours you should prompt me for a response, sometimes emails get lost in the jumble of my inbox.

### **Late assignments and exams**

Any assignments turned in after established due dates will have a 10% per day penalty. If you miss an exam time and we have not made prior arrangements, you will lose 10% per day.

Exam Schedule conflicts – If you have an officially excused conflict with any exam time (athletics, school sponsored event, major surgery, etc.), let me know as soon as you can about the conflict. This will let us work out a good, hopefully mutually agreeable, response to the conflict. Most times I will ask you to take the exam prior to the regularly scheduled time, but I am flexible.

**Anticipated Schedule, week by week (subject to change!)**

Week 1 – August 23<sup>rd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> – **Introduction** and **Geographic Technology**

Week 2 – August 30<sup>th</sup> & September 1<sup>st</sup> – **Globalization** and **Environment** – Chapters 1 & 2

Week 3 – September 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> – **Environment**, continued; **North America** – Chapters 2 & 3

Week 4 – September 13<sup>th</sup> – **North America**, continued – Chapter 3

**September 15<sup>th</sup> – First Exam**

Week 5 – September 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> – **Latin America** Chapter 4

Week 6 – September 27<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> – **The Caribbean** Chapter 5

Week 7 – October 4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> – **Sub-Saharan Africa** Chapter 6

Week 8 – October 11<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> – **Southwest Asia and North Africa** Chapter 7

**October 11<sup>th</sup> – First News Review Due**

Week 9 – October 18<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> – **Europe** Chapter 8

**October 18<sup>th</sup> – Second Exam**

Week 10 – October 25<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> – **Russian Domain** and **Central Asia** Chapters 9 & 10

Week 11 – November 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> – **Central Asia**, continued and **East Asia** Chapters 10, & 11

Week 12 – November 8<sup>th</sup> – **East Asia**, continued Chapter 11

**November 10<sup>th</sup> – Third Exam**

Week 13 – November 15<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> – **South Asia** and **Southeast Asia** Chapters 12 & 13

Week 14 – November 22<sup>nd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> – No classes, Thanksgiving Break

Week 15 – November 29<sup>th</sup> & December 1<sup>st</sup> – **Southeast Asia**, continued & **Australia and Oceania**,  
Chapters 13 & 14

Week 16 – December 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> – Synthesis and Review

**December 6<sup>th</sup> – Second News Review Due**

Week 17 – **December 12<sup>th</sup> – Final Exam 9:40 – 11:30 AM**