

## EASTERN WYOMING COLLEGE - COURSE SYLLABUS FALL 2013

COURSE TITLE: World Regional Geography  
COURSE NUMBER: GEOG 1000  
CREDIT: 3 credit hours  
TIME AND LOCATION: online  
INSTRUCTOR: Glenda M. Banta  
Telephone: 985-312-9261 M-F 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
This is my home phone. DO NOT call after 5:00 p.m.  
E-Mail: [gbanta@ewcmail.wy.edu](mailto:gbanta@ewcmail.wy.edu)  
*Note: I check my e-mail regularly, so this is the best way to reach me.*

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Covers the distributions, traits, and processes of the Earth's peoples and landscapes through the perspective of regional geography, which is the study of the spatial relationships of natural environments and human societies.

### RATIONALE:

GEOG 1000 teaches students about the diversity of human experience by examining the demographic, political, linguistic, social, economic, cultural, and/or religious aspects of human existence in each of the world's major regions.

GEOG 1000 satisfies the Cultural Awareness requirement of EWC's general education requirements.

### INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

*Note:* Geography texts are expensive and the information they contain quickly becomes outdated and inaccurate. For this reason, I **do not require** a text for this course.

If you would like to use a text, I suggest *Essentials of World Regional Geography*, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> edition by White, Dymond, Chacko, and Bradshaw. It is easily found online at Amazon, Alibris, etc. It might also be available at the EWC bookstore; however, I do not place an order for it since it is not required for the course.

To access the EWC library online for research purposes:

username: ewclibrary

password: Lib123!

If you have further questions, please contact a librarian.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will learn to integrate information learned from GEOG 1000 into social decision-making, gain an understanding of how differences in world regions shape public

policy, learn to analyze, shape and adapt to future circumstances, and develop a sensitivity to and appreciation for diverse cultures.

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Do the assigned reading/research on time.
2. Participate in message board discussions on a weekly basis. Discussion topics are listed in the course schedule.
3. All assignments are due by 5:00 p.m. MST on the Friday ending each week. Late assignments are not accepted for any reason. No extensions are granted.
6. Two extra credit opportunities are available. Each is worth 25 points allowing students to make up for one missed Message Board. No other extra credit will be assigned to individual students.

Grades will be based on the following scale:

- A = 90 - 100% (excellent, demonstrates exceptional effort)  
B = 80 - 89% (above average, demonstrates extra effort)  
C = 70 - 79% (average, meets requirements)  
D = 60 - 69% (below average, meets few requirements)  
F = 0 - 59% (failing, does not meet requirements)

Weekly message board participation = 50 points each week.

**Quality participation in the message board discussions is critical as your entire grade is based on it.**

Comprehension (10 points):

Each student must post an initial answer to the original question of 5 to 10 sentences that directly and thoroughly addresses the assigned topic. The answer demonstrates comprehension of key terms and central issues. The student will reply to any requests for clarification posed by the instructor in order to demonstrate comprehension.

Participation (10 points):

Students must post on the message board at least three days per week. After your initial posting, you are expected to reply to other students' postings throughout the week. Replies should be thoughtful and respectful. "I agree" does not count as a reply. The *earlier* you post and *more often* you post, the better your grade will be.

**Early** means during the first 2 days of the assignment so that others have time to benefit from and respond to your post. **Often** means a minimum of 3 (preferably more) days a week. **A lot** is not an option. Waiting until the end of the week and posting 20 comments does not contribute anything to the conversation.

Please note: Students who post only their own response will receive no higher than a C. Actual participation in the discussion is required to earn a higher grade.

Support (10 points):

Students will demonstrate that they have read or viewed suggested material. They will also demonstrate that they have done outside research by including links to and summaries of their sources. Students who choose to cite printed material must state the source of the material. Sources should be valid, applicable, and credible.

Analysis (10 points):

The student's commentary throughout the week demonstrates a level of analysis and critical thinking appropriate to a college level course. Commentary demonstrates the ability to make connections, establish cause and effect, solve problems, apply abstract concepts to real life, etc.

Content (10 points):

The student meets the stated goals of each exercise. Conversations may occasionally stray from the central topic; however, each student must demonstrate a solid understanding of the stated topic.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES:

Eastern Wyoming College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for "qualified individuals with disabilities." If you are a person with a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please notify Mrs. Debra Ochsner, 532-8238, as soon as possible so that arrangements for accommodations may be made.

EXPECTATIONS:

You can and should expect the following from me:

- I will treat each student with respect and will welcome the free exchange of thoughts and ideas.
- I will provide you with regular feedback about your grade and progress in your class.
- I will check my e-mail several times a day in order to address any concerns promptly.

What I expect of you:

- Interact with me and your fellow students using message board and e-mail.
- Complete assignments and participate in class activities.
- Be respectful. Class needs to be a safe place for all to share their thoughts, information and opinions.

ATTENDANCE AND WITHDRAWAL POLICIES (see Eastern Wyoming College Catalog):

Attendance (participation) is critical to your success in this course.

DISCLAIMER

Information contained in this syllabus was, to the best knowledge of the instructor, considered correct and complete when distributed for use at the beginning of the class. However, this syllabus should not be considered a contract between Eastern Wyoming

College and the student. The instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of EWC, to make changes in courses content or instructional technique without notice or obligation

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY:

Academic dishonesty is not tolerated. It is my expectation that you are doing your own work.

Dishonesty includes:

**Plagiarism:** Copying or using the ideas of another without giving proper credit through the use of quotation marks, footnotes, or other forms of reference.

**Cheating:** Making unauthorized use of answers to examinations, tests, quizzes, in-class work, or homework assignments, as well as copying from fellow students or submitting work that has been done by someone else.

Students shall complete all assigned course work individually unless otherwise indicated. Academic dishonesty of any kind shall result in a score of zero on the assignment or examination and may result in withdrawal from the course or a grade of F, as the instructor deems appropriate. In addition, the instructor may refer the student to the appropriate EWC official for further discipline.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. Communication Skills: Graduates will be able to understand and communicate ideas and information in written and spoken English that reveals a mastery of terminology appropriate to their disciplines.
- B. Analytical and Quantitative Reasoning: Graduates will be able to solve problems through critical thinking involving analytical and quantitative reasoning at a level appropriate to their disciplines.
- C. Technology Skills: Graduates will be able to demonstrate competence using technology appropriate to their disciplines.
- D. Social Awareness: Graduates will be able to demonstrate an awareness of the relationship between the individual and the world.
- E. Information Literacy: Graduates will be able to locate, evaluate, and use information effectively.

