

**SYLLABUS**  
**GEOG 202: Geography of Europe, Winter 2018**  
MW 10:00-11:20 am, 125 McKenzie + Discussion Sections

**Instructor:** Alexander B. Murphy, 173 Condon Hall, abmurphy@uoregon.edu  
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:30 – 3:30 or by appointment

**GTFs:** TBA  
Monday discussion sections  
Office Hours:

TBA  
Thursday/Friday discussion sections  
Office Hours:

**Course description:** This course looks at Europe's basic physical and human patterns/landscapes from a geographical perspective, focusing on how those patterns/landscapes came into being and how they have shaped Europe and the wider world over time. The course looks at regional variations in Europe through a problem-oriented approach—focusing not just on 'where' questions, but considering 'why there' and 'so what.' Particular attention is devoted to the character of the physical and human-created landscape, cultural variations and their implications, settlement patterns, political divisions, and economic patterns and processes.

**Text:** Murphy, Alexander B.; Jordan-Bychkov, Terry G.; and Bychkova Jordan, Bella. *The European Culture Area: A Systematic Geography*, 6th ed. Boulder, Colo.: Rowman & Littlefield, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the text).

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify and describe Europe's main physical and human geographical characteristics
- Understand the principal forces shaping those characteristics
- Comprehend how differences in geographical context can influence cultural, socio-economic, and political developments
- Appreciate some basic differences in the ways the world looks from Europe as opposed to the United States
- Grasp the nature and importance of geographical ways of thinking and analysis about a world region

**Course Requirements and Grading:**

- Read the assigned pages in the textbook *before coming to class*
- Attend class meetings
- Attend and participate in discussion sections (5% of grade)
- Take periodic in-class pop quizzes (11 in all; 10% of grade, with the lowest dropped)
- Complete three exercises outside of class (each worth 15% of grade)
- Take two midterms (each worth 20% of grade)

Note: All three exercises must be completed in order to pass the course. Penalties will be

assessed for late exercises unless the circumstances are exceptional. To ensure a level playing field for everyone, there will be no options for extra-credit work. **To ensure a level playing field for everyone, there will be no possibilities for extra-credit work.** Instead, everyone's grades will be based on the items enumerated above.

Learning Environment: Everyone should respect the class as a place for learning. Showing respect for your peers is absolutely essential to a good group learning process. That means tolerance of differing opinions, listening as well as talking, and refraining from personal attacks. Violations of academic integrity, such as plagiarism and cheating, are unacceptable (see <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/>). Suspected violations will be reported to the Director of Student Judicial Affairs. If that office finds the student to be guilty of a violation, it may result in a failing grade for the course. **Electronic devices such as smart phones and pagers must be turned off during class.** Research shows that most students learn better by taking handwritten notes rather than typing on a laptop. If you nonetheless decide to use a laptop, you must sit in the first two rows of the classroom and use your computer only for note taking. Violation of this policy will result in the loss of points that count toward the final grade in the class.

### **Course Outline and Reading Assignments:**

**Jan. 8** Introduction to the course  
What is Europe?

*Reading:* Text, chapter 1

### **EXERCISE # 1 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – JAN. 8**

**Jan. 10 & 17** Basic characteristics of the physical environment  
Human alteration of the environment

*Reading:* Text, chapter 2

### **NO CLASS ON JAN. 15 - MLK HOLIDAY**

**Jan. 22** The peopling of Europe  
Basic demographic characteristics of Europe

*Reading:* Text, chapter 3

**Jan. 29 & 31** The cultural diversity of Europe I  
The geography of European languages

*Reading:* Text, chapter 4

### **EXERCISE # 1 DUE IN CLASS – JAN. 29**

### **EXERCISE # 2 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – JAN. 31**

**Feb. 5**                   The cultural diversity of Europe II  
The geography of European religions

Reading: Text, chapter 5

**Feb. 7**                   The rise of the European state system  
The disconnect between cultural and political boundaries

Reading: Chapter 6

**FEB 12 FIRST MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)**

**Feb. 14 & 19**       Land use and settlement patterns in the rural sector  
European agriculture in transition  
Economic foundations of modern Europe

Reading: Text, chapter 7 and pp. 233-235 of chapter 8

**EXERCISE # 2 DUE IN CLASS – FEB. 19**

**Feb. 21 & 26**       The Industrial Revolution and its consequences  
The rise of the service sector  
Transportation developments and their impacts  
Deindustrialization and its consequences

Reading: Text, pp. 235-271 of chapter 8 & pp. 2275-289 of chapter 9

**EXERCISE # 3 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – FEB. 21**

**Feb. 28 & Mar. 5**   The nature and development of the European City  
Land use and landscapes of the urban sector  
The changing character of the European city

Reading: Text, chapter 10

**Mar. 7**                   Europe's Changing Social and Ethnic Geography  
Approaches to social welfare  
The role of recent migrants in European society

Reading: Text, chapter 11

**EXERCISE # 3 DUE IN CLASS – MAR. 12**

**Mar. 12 & 14**       The European unification project  
Whither European integration  
Opportunities and Challenges in Contemporary Europe

*Reading:* Text, pp. 289-297 of chapter 9 and chapter 12

**MAR. 19, 10:15 am SECOND MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING SCHEDULED  
FINAL EXAM PERIOD FOR THE CLASS)**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE FOR ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS**

1/8 EXERCISE # 1 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

1/29 EXERCISE # 1 DUE IN CLASS

1/21 EXERCISE # 2 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

2/12 FIRST MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)

2/19 EXERCISE # 2 DUE IN CLASS

2/21 EXERCISE # 3 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

3/12 EXERCISE # 3 DUE IN CLASS

3/19 SECOND MIDTERM EXAMINATION (10:15 am)