

SYLLABUS
GEOG 202: Geography of Europe, Winter 2019
MW 10:00-11:20 am, 125 McKenzie + Discussion Sections

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

GTFs: TBA
Discussion sections X and Y
Office Hours:

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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 and take notes
- Attend and participate in discussion sections (9% of grade)
- Take periodic in-class pop quizzes (10 in all; 9% of grade, with the lowest dropped)
- Complete three exercises outside of class (each worth 14% of grade)
- Take two exams covering the two halves of the course (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 (one point off for each day late). 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. 7 Introduction to the course
What is Europe?

Reading: Text, chapter 1

EXERCISE # 1 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – JAN. 7

Jan. 9 & 14 Basic characteristics of the physical environment
Landforms, climate, vegetation
Human alteration of the environment

Reading: Text, chapter 2

Jan. 16 The peopling of Europe
Basic demographic characteristics of Europe

Reading: Text, chapter 3

NO CLASS ON JAN. 21 - MLK HOLIDAY

Jan. 23 People-environment interactions
Case study: Iceland (Guest lecture by National Geographic Explorer M Jackson)

Reading: TBA

Jan. 28 & 30 The cultural diversity of Europe I
The geography of European languages

Reading: Text, chapter 4

EXERCISE # 1 DUE IN CLASS – JAN. 28

EXERCISE # 2 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – JAN. 30

Feb. 4 & Feb. 6 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 11 FIRST EXAM (MIDTERM - DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)

Feb. 13 Land use and settlement patterns in the rural sector
Life in the rural sector—past and present

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

Feb. 18, 20 & 25 Economic foundations of modern Europe
The Industrial Revolution and its consequences
The rise of the service sector
Deindustrialization and its consequences

Reading: Chapter 8 & pp. 2275-289 of chapter 9

EXERCISE # 2 DUE IN CLASS – FEB. 18

EXERCISE # 3 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – FEB. 20

Feb. 27 & Mar. 4 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. 6 Europe's Changing Social and Ethnic Geography
The changing role of recent migrants in European society

Reading: Text, chapter 11

Mar. 11 & 13 The post-WWII movement toward European integration
From EEC to EC to EU
Whither European integration (Brexit and all that)

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

EXERCISE # 3 DUE IN CLASS – MAR. 11

MAR. 19, 10:15 am SECOND EXAM (covering the second half of the class)
[In the usual classroom]

SUMMARY SCHEDULE FOR ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS

1/7 EXERCISE # 1 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

1/28 EXERCISE # 1 DUE IN CLASS

1/30 EXERCISE # 2 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

2/11 FIRST EXAM (MIDTERM) (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)

2/18 EXERCISE # 2 DUE IN CLASS

2/20 EXERCISE # 3 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

3/11 EXERCISE # 3 DUE IN CLASS

3/19 SECOND EXAM (END OF TERM - 10:15 am in 125 McKenzie)