

DOUGLAS D. JONES

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Virtual Office Hours: M-F 11:00am - 12:00pm

T-W 5:00 - 6:00pm

BRAZOSPORT COLLEGE

GEOG 1303 World Geography

Section 40

online

Fall 2020

3 credit hours

"I knew that I would be going places, and I just wanted to know where I was when I got there." - - Michael Jordan, basketball superstar, responding to a question of why he majored in and graduated with a degree in geography at the University of North Carolina

Geography is the science of place and space and the geographic viewpoint embraces ecological and spatial perspectives. The ecological perspective addresses the way human societies are affected by the physical environment and the way the physical environment is affected by human activities. The spatial perspective addresses why things are located where they are and the connections (such as cultural, economic, physical and political) between places. Thus, the geographer brings together all the specialties within the social and physical sciences as well as insights from the humanities.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course aims to provide an understanding of the discipline of geography by examining the concepts, themes and tools of geography through a global survey of the world's various political units and regions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To gain knowledge of the concepts, themes and tools of geography.
2. To learn distinctions between different geographic regions of the world.
3. To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, and cultural forces on different regions.
4. To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.
5. To develop an appreciation for the spatial interaction within and between geographic regions.
6. To become acquainted with various global and regional problems.

REQUIRED BOOK

World Regional Geography by Royal Berglee is available online at no cost through a Creative Commons license. Either of the two websites listed below can be used to access the textbook.

<http://2012books.lardbucket.org/books/regional-geography-of-the-world-globalization-people-and-places/index.html>

<http://www.saylor.org/site/textbooks/World%20Regional%20Geography.pdf>

State textbook policy - "A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer."

COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Students can access course material by clicking on the Virtual Campus button at the bottom of the BC webpage or type <https://online.brazosport.edu> into your internet web browser. User name is first initial of first name, last name, and last 4 digits of your Student ID number (ex: jdoe1234). Initial password is lowercase letters bc followed by your

six digit PIN number (ex: bc123456). (Your PIN number is the number issued by the registrar that you use to register online through myBC.)

Students who have difficulty logging in for the first time or have other technical issues such as browser problems can contact the Brazosport College Information Technology Center by emailing helpdesk@brazosport.edu or by phoning the IT Helpdesk at 979-230-3266.

COURSE PROCEDURES

An internet course offers flexibility but the content and requirements of this course are similar to courses delivered in a traditional classroom setting. It is imperative that each student maintains a disciplined pace over the semester in order to successfully complete the course. The student is responsible for all materials presented in the BC Virtual Campus and in the textbook, *including illustrations and maps*. (Chapter outlines in the Virtual Campus are NOT a substitute for actually reading the textbook!)

Submission of work constitutes evidence of attendance. If a student stops “attending,” he/she will NOT be administratively withdrawn by the instructor. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate the withdrawal process before the college deadline for such action.

EXAMINATIONS

There will be four exams. The exams could be a combination of multiple choice, true-false, matching, and short answer. **Exams will utilize Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor. If you have problems using the software on your computer or tablet, call the IT Helpdesk at 979-230-3266.**

QUIZZES

There will be many quizzes/assignments over the duration of the semester. *Late work will receive reduced credit.*

DISCUSSION

One of the features of the Virtual Campus is the ability to share perspectives through use of the discussions tool. Some of the discussions concern articles posted in the Virtual Campus. For those discussions, be sure to write about the information in the article before addressing your own personal thoughts about the topic. Demonstrate conclusively that you did in fact read the material you are analyzing. *Late work will receive reduced credit.*

Course participants should respond to one another with respect at all times. Differing viewpoints are likely to be expressed and are welcome as long as each posting is stated in appropriate, respectful language. If you disagree with an idea stated in a classmate’s posting, your response should focus on the substance of the idea without attacking or insulting the person who expressed the thought you take issue with. In short, we should be able to disagree without being disagreeable.

GRAMMAR

This is an academic course at an institution of higher education. Ensure that all written course communications (including email) are grammatically correct. This includes but is not limited to capitalization, punctuation, sentence structure and spelling. Do not write discussions in a style like you are texting a friend. You should be communicating with your instructor and fellow classmates in a professional manner. Discussions should be approached as if you are writing a document for management at work.

GRADING

Course grades will be determined as follows:

Exam 1	16 %
Exam 2	16 %
Exam 3	16 %
Exam 4	16 %
Quizzes	16 %
Discussions	20 %

Note: If a student stops attending/participating in the course, he/she will NOT be administratively withdrawn by the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to initiate the withdrawal process before the college deadline for such action.

Grade scale is as follows:

90.0 – 100	A	70.0 – 79.9	C
80.0 – 89.9	B	60.0 – 69.9	D
		< 60	F

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Honesty is the cornerstone of academic integrity of any educational institution. It is the foundation upon which the student builds personal integrity and establishes a standard of personal behavior. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Brazosport College Standards of Student Conduct and is punishable as prescribed by Board of Regents policies. Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to, cheating on a test or assignment, plagiarism and collusion. **Students guilty of scholastic dishonesty shall receive a grade of zero for that course component and could possibly be subject to dismissal from the class with a failing grade by the Dean of Student Services.** The full policy regarding the Brazosport College Standards of Student Conduct can be found in the BC Student Guide and Calendar. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Student responsibilities include:

- Reading and understanding the course syllabus
- Upholding the Brazosport College Standards of Student Conduct
- Attending class
- Completing assignments
- Communicating with the instructor

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. BC offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. Please contact the Special Populations Counselor at 979-230-3236 for further information.

TITLE IX STATEMENT

Brazosport College faculty and staff are committed to supporting students and upholding the College District's non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX and Brazosport College's policy FFDA (Local), discrimination based on sex,

gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression is prohibited. If you experience an incident of discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty or staff member at BC, please understand that they are “Responsible Employees” and must report what you tell them to college officials. You can also contact the Title IX Coordinators directly by using the contact information below.

Kelli Forde Spiers, Director, Student Life and Title IX Coordinator
Office J-117D; 979-230-3355; kelli.fordespiers@brazosport.edu

Mareille Rolon, HR Coordinator and Deputy Title IX Coordinator Office C-114; 979-230-3303;
mareille.rolon@brazosport.edu

Additional information is found on the Sexual Misconduct webpage at www.brazosport.edu/sexualmisconduct.

STUDENT CONDUCT STATEMENT

Students are expected to be aware of and follow the Brazosport College Student Code of Conduct. Students have violated the Code if they “fail to comply with any lawful directions, verbal or written, of any official at BC.” Lawful directions include precautions and requirements taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at Brazosport College. Students who do not follow safety requirements, including the wearing of a mask, may be removed from class by their instructor and referred to the Dean of Student Services.

CAMPUS CLOSURE STATEMENT

Brazosport College is committed to the health and safety of all students, staff, and faculty and adheres to all federal and state guidelines. The College intends to stay open for the duration of the semester, and provide access to classes and support services on campus in the safest way possible. The College will also comply with lawful orders given by applicable authorities, including the Governor of Texas, up to and including campus closure. It is possible that on campus activities may be moved online and/or postpone if such orders are given.

WRITING CENTER

The Brazosport College Writing Center provides online services to students. Writing Center tutors can assist with brainstorming, organizing and developing paragraphs, understanding professors’ directions, learning about MLA or other styles, learning how to avoid plagiarism, improving mechanics, and using Microsoft Word. For more information, visit online at <https://www.brazosport.edu/students/for-students/student-success-center/writing-center/>

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

I want every student to succeed in learning course material so please contact me if you are having difficulty with the work in this course.

COURSE OUTLINE

Module 1

Chapter 1 – Introduction to the World	chapter 1
Introduction to World Regional Geography outline notes	chapter 1
Alternative World Maps video	
The Future of Food	
Chapter 2 – Europe	chapter 2
Europe outline notes	chapter 2
The Difference between the United Kingdom, Great Britain and England video	

Rhine River video
Rick Steves Rhine River video
Chapter 3 – Russia chapter 3
Russia outline notes chapter 3
The Strategic Importance of the Caspian Sea video

Discussion: Introductions – due by Sept 4
Discussion: Alternative World Maps – due by Sept 4
Discussion: The Future of Food – due by Sept 4
Discussion: Difference between the UK, Great Britain and England – due by Sept 11
Discussion: Rhine River – due by Sept 11
Discussion: Strategic Importance of the Caspian Sea – due by Sept 11

open-note Quiz: chapter 1 – available Sept 2-4
open-note Quiz: chapter 2 – available Sept 9-11
open-note Quiz: chapter 3 – available Sept 9-11

Exam 1 – available Sept 14-16 – requires use of Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor

Module 2

Chapter 4 – North America chapter 4
North America outline notes chapter 4
Map: People speaking a language other than English at home
Canada & the United States (Bizarre Borders Part 2) video
Chapter 5 – Middle America chapter 5
Middle America outline notes chapter 5
Mariachi and it's Roots weblink
Mexican Mariachis History video
Mariachi Music – The Handbook of Texas weblink
The banana industry of the Windward Islands video
Chapter 6 – South America chapter 6
South America outline notes chapter 6
Brazil's Geographic Challenge video

Discussion: People speaking a language other than English at home – due by Sept 25
Discussion: Canada & the United States (Bizarre Borders Part 2) – due by Sept 25
Discussion: Mariachi – due by Oct 2
Discussion: The banana industry of the Windward Islands – due by Oct 2
Discussion: Brazil's Geographic Challenge – due by Oct 9

open-note Quiz: chapter 4 – available Sept 23-25
open-note Quiz: chapter 5 – available Sept 30-Oct 2
open-note Quiz: chapter 6 – available Oct 7-9

Exam 2 – available Oct 12-14 – requires use of Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor

*(***Tuesday, October 13 is the first day of early voting in Texas for the general election***)*

Module 3

Chapter 7 – Subsaharan Africa chapter 7
Subsaharan Africa outline notes chapter 7
Nigeria's Geographic Challenge video
Chapter 8 – North Africa & SW Asia chapter 8
North Africa & SW Asia outline notes chapter 8
On Location in Muscat, Oman video

Saudi Arabia's Geographic Challenge video
Chapter 9 – South Asia
South Asia outline notes
A history of the Kashmir conflict video
On Location in Goa, India video
On Location in Male, the Maldives video

chapter 9
chapter 9

Discussion: Nigeria's Geographic Challenge – due by Oct 23
Discussion: On Location in Muscat, Oman – due by Oct 30
Discussion: Saudi Arabia's Geographic Challenge – due by Oct 30
Discussion: A history of the Kashmir conflict – due by Nov 6
Discussion: On Location in Goa and On Location in Male, the Maldives – due by Nov 6

open-note Quiz: chapter 7 – available Oct 21-23
open-note Quiz: chapter 8 – available Oct 28-30
open-note Quiz: chapter 9 – available Nov 4-6

Exam 3 – available Nov 9-11 – requires use of Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor

*(***Monday, November 2 is the last day to withdraw from a class for the semester***)*

*(***Tuesday, November 3 is election day – polls open 7am-7pm***)*

Module 4

Chapter 10 – East Asia
East Asia outline notes
China's territorial claims video
On Location in Pusan, South Korea video
On Location in Tokyo, Japan video
Chapter 11 – Southeast Asia
Southeast Asia outline notes
On Location in Vietnam video
On Location in Singapore video
Chapter 12 – Australia and New Zealand
Australia and New Zealand outline notes
On Location in Tasmania, Australia video
Chapter 13 – Pacific and Antarctica
Pacific and Antarctica outline notes

chapter 10
chapter 10

chapter 11
chapter 11

chapter 12
chapter 12

chapter 13
chapter 13

Discussion: China's territorial claims– due by Nov 20
Discussion: On Location in Pusan, South Korea & On Location in Tokyo, Japan – due by Nov 20
Discussion: On Location in Vietnam & On Location in Singapore – due by Nov 20
Discussion: On Location in Tasmania, Australia – due by Dec 4

open-note Quiz: chapter 10 – available Nov 18-20
open-note Quiz: chapter 11 – available Nov 18-20
open-note Quiz: chapter 12 – available Dec 2-4
open-note Quiz: chapter 13 – available Dec 2-4

Exam 4 – available Dec 7-9 – requires use of Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor