

focused on one global religion and one global conflict. There will be no late submission or make-up work for any of the 13 low-point assignments (6 quizzes, 5 microthemes, and 2 essays). But you have the opportunity to earn up to 10% extra credits of the final grade to help offset possible loss of points when missing assignments due to emergency or health reasons, computer or browser crash, Internet connection or Blackboard access, or other technical or non-technical problems you may encounter during the semester (**take care of your health, time management, and IT equipment!**). Final grades will be based on scores obtained out of a total of 100 points PLUS 10 possible extra credit points. Each quiz includes ONE extra credit question (worth 0.5 points) while the final exam includes ONE or more extra credit questions (worth 3 points) drawn from any course materials (study guide, PowerPoint slides, videos, current issues, etc.). Another 4 extra credit points could be earned by participating in one introductory discussion board & completing course evaluation. Grades are assigned according to the following scale: A+ (100% and above), A (96 to 99%), A- (90 to 95%), B+ (86 to 89%), B (83-85%), B- (80 to 82%), C+ (76 to 79%), C (73 to 75%), C- (70 to 72%), D+ (66 to 69%), D (63 to 65%), D- (60 to 62%), & F (below 60%). See Blackboard for assignment instructions & deadlines, which are part of this syllabus. At least the 10% extra credits should help offset missing assignments, and at best they should make all grades in this course jump up one full grade letter.

Course Standards & Policies: Students are responsible for instructor announcements on Blackboard, via email, or during class meetings. Students are expected to enter class on time and remain during the entire scheduled period. By 2:00 pm, each student should have printed his/her FULL name on the attendance sheet (**students are required NOT to miss the beginning of the 5-minute live world news headlines from CNN, RT, or other media outlets at the beginning of each class meeting**). Each student is entitled to THREE absences with no question or grade penalty during the semester. Each additional absence (with or without justification) means missing some course content and will incur a grade penalty of 2 points, which will be deducted from the student's score. Tardiness (coming late or leaving early) with or without justification will incur a grade penalty of 1 point. Therefore, you should manage your absences efficiently! All electronic devices (cell phones, laptops, etc.) must be TURNED OFF before entering the classroom and kept OUT OF SIGHT. Taking class notes should be only on a piece of paper. While the University has chosen to require laptops of its students, the University also recognizes and respects the right of faculty to conduct their classes as they deem appropriate. In this course, laptop and cell phone usage is forbidden in the classroom. Be courteous, treat class members with respect, and try to keep the same classroom seat throughout the semester. Avoid anything (including eating, drinking, sleeping, reading, recording class, using phones or computers, coming late, leaving early, triggering fragrance sensitivity/allergy, or conversing during lectures) that can disturb the class learning process, distract you, or distract others. A student who does not comply with course standards and policies will be asked to leave the classroom, will be reported absent, and his/her action could be reported (to the Office of Student Conduct and Integrity) as a classroom disruption and/or an academic misconduct. Academic dishonesty: 'In the academic community the high value of honesty mandates a corresponding intolerance of dishonesty', which includes cheating, plagiarism, falsification, forgery, obstruction, multiple submission, facilitating academic dishonesty, misconduct in research and creative endeavors, misuse of academic resources, misuse of intellectual property, and violation of ethical and professional standards (See the Code Of Student Conduct at: <https://www.indstate.edu/code-of-student-conduct/academic-policies/defining-misconduct>). Microthemes and essays must be uploaded (by the deadline) through the TurnItIn link, which can help detect plagiarism (email and other forms of submissions will NOT be accepted). Academic dishonesty will subject its author(s) to 0 points on the given assignment or failure in the course, and could lead to further disciplinary action. University policies regarding documented disabilities, academic freedom, expected personal responsibilities, student disclosures of sexual misconduct, it's on blue online education program, and other matters apply to this course and are available at the following links: <https://www.indstate.edu/services/student-success/cfss/student-support-services/disability-student-services>; <https://www.indstate.edu/student-conduct/code-of-student-conduct/standards>; <https://www.indstate.edu/administration/ogc/policy-index/921>; <http://faculty.indstate.edu/melyassini/recommended%20syllabus%20statement.pdf>

Course Required Textbook: Jan Nijman, Peter Muller, and Harm de Blij, *Geography: Realms, Regions and Concepts*, **17th Edition, 2017**. Get an e-book bundle (9781119447573) from ISU Bookstore.

Course Blackboard Documents (assigned short readings, PowerPoint slides, videos or video synopses, current issues in the news, study guides, assignment instructions, and deadlines for assignments) are available at: <http://blackboard.indstate.edu>. **Check your Blackboard course site & email on a daily basis for further instructions, announcements, and details not in the syllabus.**

Course Calendar (details about assignments and deadlines are posted on Blackboard):

Week 1 (8/21-23): Introduction to syllabus and course

Week 2 (8/28-30): Textbook Introduction/Appendices/Glossary/Index, **Quiz1, due 8/30**

Week 3 (9/4-6): North America (Chapter 1), **Microtheme1, Quiz2, due 9/6**

Week 4 (9/11-13): Middle America and South America (Chapters 2 & 3) **Quiz3, due 9/13, 3-week attendance reporting**

Week 5 (9/18-20): Europe and Russia/Central Asia (Chapters 4 & 5), **Microtheme2, Quiz4, due 9/20**,

Week 6 (9/25-27): North Africa/Southwest Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa (Chapters 6 & 7) **Quiz5, due 9/27, interim grading**

Week 7 (10/2-4): South Asia and East Asia (Chapters 8 & 9), **Microtheme3, Quiz6, due 10/4**

Week 8 (10/9-11): Southeast Asia and Austral Realm (Chapters 10 & 11) **Microtheme4, due 10/11**

Week 9 (10/16-18): Pacific realm and Polar Futures (Chapter 12), **Microtheme5, due 10/18**

Week 10 (10/23-25): Critical thinking essay1 (global religion)

Week 11 (10/30-11/1): **Critical thinking essay1 (global religion), essay1 due 11/8**

Week 12 (11/6-8): Critical thinking essay2 (global conflict)

Week 13 (11/13-15): Critical thinking essay2 (global conflict)

Thanksgiving Break, 11/20-22, No classes

Week 14 (11/27-29): **Critical thinking essay2 (global conflict), essay2 due 11/29**

Week 15 (12/4-6): Study Week: Review and conclusion

Week 16 (12/11-13): **Final Exam will be deployed online on Blackboard between 12/12/18 at 11:59 pm and 12/13/18 at 11:59 pm**