Hi Prospective Geography 104 Students,

I am Jason Burgdorfer and will be the instructor for World Regional Geography during the Fall 2017 semester. This exciting course takes you on tour of the World’s twelve regions (Latin America, East Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Europe...) discussing their unique features and current issues. Also discussed will be how globalization is creating interconnectivity between regions and driving change within them. For a full schedule of class topics see the course calendar in the syllabus attached to this orientation letter.

This course is offered in a quick eight week 100% online format utilizing Canvas starting Monday August 21st and ending on Saturday October 14th. The course will be broken up into weekly modules in Canvas covering material from one or two region chapters of your textbook each week. Each week there will be one or two chapters to read, three discussion board questions, one regional synthesis/activity, one or two chapter practice quizzes, and one test to complete by deadlines posted in the syllabus. There will be no final exam in this class or term paper in this class. The weekly regional synthesis will serve as the writing component of this class. More details on class assignments can be found the attached syllabus.

You will need to purchase Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World, 5th Edition, by Rowntree, Lewis, Price, and Wycoff, 2017, Pearson. The book is available for purchase in the COC bookstore on the Valencia Campus. It is very important that you purchase this textbook as soon as possible so that you will have it for the first week of class starting On Monday August 21st. We will be using Chapter One of the textbook during the first week of class so be sure to get a head start on the readings.

To succeed in this class it is recommended that you complete to following in this order for each week’s learning module. 1. Read the assigned chapters. 2. Review the assigned chapter lecture presentation slides. 3. Take the chapter practice quizzes. 4. Post your answers to the discussion board questions. 5. Post your responses to other student’s posts in the discussion board. 6. Complete the regional synthesis/activity. 7. Review for the test. 8. Take the weekly test. Since this is a condensed eight week class, workload will be double per week than your normal full semester 16 week class. In order to achieve an A in the class expect to put about 12 hours of work per week in to this class.

The course’s Canvas page will become available to you a couple days before class starts. In the meantime it is recommended that you begin to read chapters 1 and 2 of your textbook. As soon as you have access to Canvas you are welcome to begin working on the first week’s assignments.

When you login to the course’s Canvas page for the first time please find the “Start Here” section on the courses Home Page and follow the instructions to get started working on the first week’s learning module. To log in to Canvas follow use this web address: https://coc.instructure.com/login/canvas

Attached to this orientation letter you will find a preliminary syllabus that is subject to change for this class showing class policies, readings schedule, grading, assignments, and test dates.

If you have any questions please feel free to email me at jason.burgdorfer@canyons.edu

Jason Burgdorfer
Geography and Geology Instructor
College of the Canyons
Tentative Syllabus
Geography 104: World Regional Geography
College of the Canyons
Fall 2017 (8/21/17 - 10/14/17)

Course and Instructor Information:
Section # 28974
Instructor: Jason Burgdorfer
Class Meeting Times/Place: Online – Canvas
https://coc.instructure.com/login/canvas
Office Hours: Online and by Appointment for Phone
Email: jason.burgdorfer@canyons.edu

Course Description
Examines the interdependency, connectivity, and diversity of the world's regions, both in natural environments and cultural societies. It also explores sensitive equity and ethnic issues facing society. Field trips may be required.

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Evaluate how the inter-relationships among cultural and physical characteristics of each world realm, affect globalization and interdependency.
2. Use maps to analyze the spatial distribution of physical and cultural features on Earth.

Grading Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coursework Item</th>
<th>Number of Coursework Items</th>
<th>Points for Each Item</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Posts</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Synthesis/Activity</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Tests</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Survey/Reflection</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points in Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course is graded out of 1000 points. Students who earn more than 900 points will receive an A, 800-899 points will receive a B, 700-799 points will receive a C, 600-699 points will receive a D, and 599 points and below will receive a F.

Practice Quizzes: In Canvas you will find quizzes pertaining to each of the 14 chapters of the textbook used in this class. These quizzes are there for practice and self assessment to see if you understand the material as your read through it in the textbook and review each chapter’s PowerPoint presentations. The quizzes will not be scored on accuracy; but you will receive 10 points for completing each week’s chapter practice quizzes. Feel free to take the quizzes several times. Quizzes for each week will open up on Mondays at 12:01 am and be due by 11:59PM on Thursdays. You will not be able to take the practice quizzes after this time on Thursdays.
**Discussion Board Posts:** Each week you will be required to answer three discussion board questions concerning the week’s regions and topics. Your answers to the week’s discussion questions must be posted by 11:59pm Thursday of each week. Please note that you will not be able to see other students’ posts until you have posted your own answer. Each answer is expected to be answered in a paragraph form and at least 100 words per question. Each question will be graded out of 10 points for a total of 30 points. You will also be required to provide meaningful academic comments, responses, feedback, and/or discussion on at least one other student’s post. Your replies to other students’ posts will be worth an additional 5 points.

**Regional Synthesis or Activity:** In lieu of writing a term paper, each week you will instead write a synthesis of key aspects and issues faced in the regions covered that week. In these syntheses you will discuss the interrelationships between the cultural and physical features in each region, draw connections between regions, and tie it all together to globalization. This will submitted in the form of a written assignment approximately 400 words in length. These will be due at 11:59pm each Sunday. Canvas will automatically check for plagiarism on these synthesis submissions.

**Weekly Tests:** At the end of each week you will take an online test through Canvas consisting of 40 multiple choice, map identification, diagram/chart interpretation, and true false questions. Each week’s test will only cover that week’s chapters. Each week’s test will open up in Canvas each Friday at 12:01am and will be due by 11:59pm on Sunday. You will have **45 minutes** to complete each test.

**Academic Integrity:** This class will strictly follow College of the Canyons Academic Integrity Policy. It can be found at: [http://www.canyons.edu/offices/tlc/Handouts/PDFs/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement.pdf](http://www.canyons.edu/offices/tlc/Handouts/PDFs/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement.pdf). Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one’s own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information. This includes reusing assignments/paper you used in another class. If you have any questions about this or have any doubt about whether your work is or is not your own, please contact the instructor. **Canvas automatically scans all of your assignments for plagiarism.**

**Support for Students Outside the Classroom:**
*Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS):* Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of disability should contact the DSPS office at (661) 362-3341 to establish eligibility and coordinate accommodations. [http://www.canyons.edu/offices/dsps/](http://www.canyons.edu/offices/dsps/)

**Associate Degree for Transfer:** By completing this course you have completed one of the six classes required for the geography associates transfer degree. Considering taking additional geography classes at College of the Canyons to earn this degree.

**Geography AA-T Degree Requirements:**
- GEOG 101 Physical Geography 3 Units
- GEOG 102 Human Geography 3 Units
- ANTHRO 103 Cultural Anthropology 3 Units
- GEOL 101 Physical Geology 3 Units

**Plus six units from the following:**
- GEOG 101L Physical Geography Lab 1 Unit
- GEOG 103 Weather and Climate 3 Units
- GEOG 104 World Regional Geography 3 Units
- GIS 101 Geographic Information Systems 3 Units

*Total Units 18 Units*

*Math 140 Statistics is also often required by transfer institutions.*
### World Regional Geography Course Calendar (Subject to Modification)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Textbook Readings Due</th>
<th>Discussion Question Posts, Practice Quizzes and Map Activities Due:</th>
<th>Weekly Test and Regional Synthesis/Activity Due By:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week One</td>
<td>8/21-8/27 Concepts of World and Human Geography</td>
<td>Chapters 1</td>
<td>Thursday 8/24 11:59pm Week 1 Discussion Posts Chapters 1 Practice Quiz</td>
<td>Sunday 8/27 11:59pm Activity 1 Week 1 Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Two</td>
<td>8/28-9/3 Physical Geography and the Environment; North America</td>
<td>Chapter 2, 3</td>
<td>Thursday 8/31 11:59pm Week 2 Discussion Posts Chapter 2 and 3 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sunday 9/3 11:59pm Regional Synthesis Week 2 Test</td>
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<td>Week Three</td>
<td>9/4-9/10 Latin America; The Caribbean</td>
<td>Chapters 4, 5</td>
<td>Thursday 9/7 11:59pm Week 3 Discussion Posts Chapter 4 and 5 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sunday 9/10 11:59pm Regional Synthesis Week 3 Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Four</td>
<td>9/11-9/17 Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>Thursday 9/14 11:59pm Week 4 Discussion Posts Chapter 6 Practice Quiz</td>
<td>Sunday 9/17 11:59pm Regional Synthesis Week 4 Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Five</td>
<td>9/18-9/24 Southwest Asia and North Africa; Europe</td>
<td>Chapters 7, 8</td>
<td>Thursday 9/21 11:59pm Week 5 Discussion Posts Chapter 7 and 8 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sunday 9/24 11:59pm Regional Synthesis Week 5 Test</td>
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<td>Week Six</td>
<td>9/25-10/1 The Russian Domain; Central Asia</td>
<td>Chapters 9, 10</td>
<td>Thursday 9/28 11:59pm Week 6 Discussion Posts Chapter 9 and 10 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sunday 10/1 1:59pm Regional Synthesis Week 6 Test</td>
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<td>Week Seven</td>
<td>10/2-10/8 East Asia; South Asia</td>
<td>Chapter 11, 12</td>
<td>Thursday 10/5 11:59pm Week 7 Discussion Posts Chapter 11 and 12 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Sunday 10/8 11:59pm Regional Synthesis Week 7 Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Eight</td>
<td>10/9-10/14 Southeast Asia Australia and Oceania</td>
<td>Chapters 13, 14</td>
<td>Thursday 10/12 11:59pm Week 8 Discussion Posts Chapter 13 and 14 Practice Quizzes</td>
<td>Saturday 10/14 11:59pm Regional Synthesis Week 8 Test</td>
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