Global and Regional Economies
GEO 2500: 3 Credits
Section: 083G
Turlington Hall (TUR): Room 1315
Spring 2014

Course Meeting Times: (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Period 03): 9:35-10:25 AM

Instructor: Matthew G. McKay

Office Location: TUR 3142

Office Hours:
Wednesday: 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Friday: 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
*(Other times by appointment)

Contact Information:
Department of Geography: (352) 392-0494
Fax: (352) 392-8855

Mailing Address:
Department of Geography, University of Florida
3141 Turlington Hall, P.O. Box 117315
Gainesville, FL 32611-7315

Department of Geography’s Main Office’s Hours of Operation:
Monday through Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (860) 690-6192 (direct/voice mail)
Email: mmckay1@ufl.edu

Geographic Coordinates: 82.34312 West Longitude, 29.64990 North Latitude

For questions or to inquire about majoring in Geography, please contact the following professor:

Undergraduate Coordinator: Dr. Mossa, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Email: mossa@ufl.edu
Telephone: (352) 294-7510
Web site information: http://geog.ufl.edu/programs/undergrad/
University Catalog Description of Course:

“Contemporary perspectives, themes and research in economic geography, focusing on issues and problems associated with regional and global economic and demographic change. Regional variations and disparities in growth and development are analyzed and policy implications discussed.” (Source: University of Florida Undergraduate Catalog 2013-14, https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/courses/descriptions/geography.aspx).

Course Description:

The discipline of geography includes two main branches --physical and human, and this course focuses exclusively on the latter. This course essentially is one in economic geography but with an overarching focus on contemporary issues and debates about global and regional economic integration. Variations with respect to economic growth and development, as well as issues pertaining to demographics, will be addressed. Topics for discussion include debates about globalization, reasons for uneven development, and studying such issues within the developed and the developing world. This course will utilize lecture format and class discussion for instructional purposes.

OBJECTIVE:

COURSE OUTCOMES: At the completion of this course, students should be able to: 1) develop an understanding of concepts and issues related to globalization, uneven economic development, and global production networks; 2) develop an understanding of how increasing globalization of our world today affects developed and developing economies; and 3) develop the ability to critically analyze current issues related to economic geography.

REQUIRED TEXT:


RECOMMENDED TEXT:


This particular text will provide students the opportunity make more sense out of Economic Geography issues by providing a background in Economics. This book is highly recommended if a student has not taken an undergraduate course in Economics. Nonetheless, this book is useful even if one is already an Economics major. It is available at retail establishments such as Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com, etc.
SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS: The instructor will submit additional readings digitally or in hard copy as deemed necessary throughout the semester to reinforce the learning. Please check E-Learning (Sakai) periodically for updates in this regard, and please check your University of Florida email account regularly for any announcements that I will make on this subject or on any other relevant topic/concern related to the course.

GRADING:

1) Class Assignments: 5%
2) Attendance and Participation: 10%
3) Article Reaction Paper 1: 20%
4) Article Reaction Paper 2: 20%
5) Film Review: 15%
6) Midterm Exam: 15%
7) Final Exam: 15%

100% - TOTAL COURSE EVALUATION

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

These assignments will take the form of “writing to learn” exercises and are primarily designed to foster students’ critical thinking and writing skills. Students should expect to start some class periods with a brief writing exercise, with the exact number thereof depending upon how far lectures and discussions progress throughout the semester. Here is how the in-class writing assignments will take place: the class period will start, and students will have the first 20 minutes of class for brainstorming and to complete the writing. The topic will not be given in advance, so while there is no precise way to prepare for it, merely coming to class regularly and having a general idea of what has been discussed in previous class sessions will suffice as far as writing a thoughtful response to the prompt is concerned. Students may refer to their textbook and/or course notes while completing this assignment.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Regular classroom attendance and participation are key components of student success, however, for full credit toward attendance, students are expected to be at every class meeting throughout the entire class session, and must not be reading other materials (including laptop computers, cell phones, etc.). While students can take notes during class with laptop computers, they should be used for note-taking exclusively, and not for surfing the Web or for completing assignments for other classes. Participation entails responding to questions directed by the instructor and to provide comments when prompted.

TWO ARTICLE REACTION PAPERS:

Each article reaction paper will be based on a periodical/journal article on a topic related to the course content and you are required to write a summary of and a reaction to each article.
FILM REVIEW:

One film will be shown during the semester, which relates to globalization that has spatial implications. The film review will require a written summary and answers to a set of questions, and will be due one week after the conclusion of the film.

MIDTERM EXAM:

The midterm exam will include material from the beginning of the semester to the class immediately preceding the exam date.

FINAL EXAM:

The final exam will occur during the designated final examination date and time, and will only include information covered after the Midterm to the end of the semester.

FINAL GRADES WILL BE ASSIGNED AS FOLLOWS:

\[
\begin{align*}
A &= 94.0-100 \\
A- &= 90.0-93.9 \\
B+ &= 87.0-89.9 \\
B &= 84.0-86.9 \\
B- &= 80.0-83.9 \\
C+ &= 77.0-79.9 \\
C &= 74.0-76.9 \\
C- &= 70.0-73.9 \\
D+ &= 67.0-69.9 \\
D &= 64.0-66.9 \\
D- &= 60.0-63.9 \\
E &= < 60.0
\end{align*}
\]

NO CLASSES: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 20; Spring Break: March 1-8

GRADING POLICY: This course will adhere to the University of Florida’s policies on grading, as found at the following Web link.

https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

MAKE-UP EXAM POLICY: A penalty of 15 points will be assessed to a missed exam without a confirmed excuse (i.e., documented verification provided by a certified professional such as a physician, confirmation by Student Health Care Services or the Counseling and Wellness Center, etc.). Exams not made up will automatically be given a grade of F. NOTE: A missed final exam equals an F in the course.
SIX CONFIRMED EXCUSES FOR MISSING AN EXAM:

1) Illness: I will need to see a physician’s (i.e., doctor’s) note and receive emailed notification of your absence. This note does not need to violate your privacy, however, it does need to indicate that you were treated by a medical professional who can attest to your need to miss class during an examination or that would preclude you from taking such an exam when scheduled.

2) Wake/Funeral/Memorial Service Attendance: I will need proof of attendance with the date of the ceremony listed clearly in writing.

3) Mandatory courtroom appearance: This can be for a criminal or civil summons, or it may be for mere jury duty. However, I will need a copy of your official court summons with the date of attendance clearly listed.

4) UF Athletic or Performance participation: I will need appropriate documentation IN ADVANCE.

5) Military service assignments: I will need proper documentation and it is a courtesy to the instructor to provide this information in advance.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

This is not a correspondence course and thus your physical presence in the classroom is required. You are expected to attend class regularly, and as such, I will take attendance every class session to get to know everyone’s name and to learn more about the students. Punctuality and regular attendance are essential components toward student success (given the amount of material discussed during class time), however, you are responsible for all the material covered in class, whether you are present or absent.

NOTE: Please see the following link for more information on attendance, as this course will adhere to the University of Florida’s regulations in this regard.

https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you need course adaptations or accommodations due to a documented disability, if you have emergency medical information that you need to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

If students need classroom adaptations/accommodations, then they must begin the process by registering with the Dean of Students Office.

Additionally, please see the Disability Resource Center for arrangements in this regard (if you have not done so already) in 0001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall).

Contact information for this center can be found at www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/
OTHER KEY INFORMATION FOR SHORT-TERM/LONG-TERM SERVICES RELATED TO ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, OR PERSONAL ISSUES:

The University Counseling & Wellness Center: (352) 392-1575  
(http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx)

The Student Health Care Center (352) 392-1161

The University Police Department can be contacted at (352) 392-1111 or dial 911 for emergencies.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If I have indicated that you have problems with grammar and writing style, I will encourage you to take your Article Reaction Paper(s) and/or Film Review to the Writing Studio and work with the consultants there to assist in strengthening your papers. Anyone is eligible to utilize their services, which are FREE of charge, so take advantage of what they are able to assist you with in the process. Even students who typically earn A and B grades are welcome make an appointment at the Writing Studio. One-on-one assistance and consultation is available. I am also available to provide general assistance as requested as well.

Contact Information:

The Writing Studio (within the University Writing Program)  
302 Tigert Hall  
(352) 846-1138  
http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-center/

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT CITATIONS AND REFERENCES:

Using others’ words, ideas, images, graphics, illustrations, maps, diagrams or other intellectual property requires proper citations and documentation. One’s own words describing information gathered from elsewhere (in addition to direct quotations) requires proper citation and documentation to avoid plagiarism. You are responsible for knowing the rules of referencing sources for your writing. The following Web link will provide you with the citation style used in the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, which is a top-tiered, peer-reviewed scholarly journal published by the Association of American Geographers (AAG). I recommend that you use the following guide as a reference to maintain consistency throughout the course with your proper citations/documentations that is in accordance with academic scholarship (for the Article Reaction Papers and Film Review):

http://www.aag.org/galleries/default-file/ANNALSSTYLESHET.pdf
ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION:

Students will be expected to evaluate the quality of instruction in this course based upon 10 criteria. Evaluations can be completed online at this site:
https://evaluations.ufl.edu

Evaluations are typically able to be completed during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students shall be made aware of when the evaluations will be accessible online. The summary results of these evaluations will be available at the following site:
https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/

POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC HONESTY:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “(W)e, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

OTHER COURSE POLICY ISSUES:

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

University classrooms are professional environments and you are expected and required to act accordingly. Class attendance is more than a mere physical presence in the classroom – it means the following rules are expected and required: no reading of novels, magazines, newspapers, notebooks, or anything else during class. Playing of games, passing notes, having side conversations with neighbors, or using laptops are not permitted. ABSOLUTELY NO TEXT MESSAGING DURING CLASS TIME! You should set your cell phones to mute or vibrate and put them away for class (unless there is an extenuating circumstance that would require it, but please notify me accordingly IN ADVANCE as a courtesy). Lastly, it is okay to disagree with others about their opinions, but please show due respect accordingly. You are all in this together and my job is to best facilitate the learning environment equally amongst all students.

CLASS CANCELATION:

In the event that the university is closed due to inclement weather or for some other unforeseen circumstance, then that class meeting’s itinerary is moved to the next scheduled class session. However, it is your responsibility to keep up-to-date with any changes that might occur with adjustments to the class schedule and with respect to due dates.
THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER OR MODIFY THE CONTENT COVERED AND THE SCHEDULE FOR DUE DATES AT ANY TIME DURING THE SEMESTER.

I look forward to working with you all this semester. Good luck, learn geography, and have fun in this class too! Much of your education is what you make of it, so do your part to make the best of this experience while you earn credits toward your university degree. Have a great semester!

IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH YOUR PROGRESS DURING THE SEMESTER, PLEASE SEE ME AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER TO ADDRESS CONCERNS. ADDITIONALLY, IF ENGLISH IS NOT YOUR FIRST LANGUAGE AND THIS MAY PRESENT A PROBLEM IN YOUR COMMUNICATING IN WRITING IN THIS COURSE, PLEASE SEE ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ASSIST YOU WITH MOVING FORWARD. WELCOME TO “GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIES”! I LOOK FORWARD TO BEING YOUR INSTRUCTOR!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATES/TOPICS:</th>
<th>READING ASSIGNMENTS DUE:</th>
<th>WRITING ASSIGNMENTS DUE:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1</td>
<td>1/6, 1/8, &amp; 1/10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Introduction of instructor and meeting of students; discussion of syllabus, course policies and procedures, etc.; Pre-assessment; Introduction of course</td>
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<td>WEEK 2</td>
<td>1/13, 1/15, &amp; 1/17:</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>WEEK 3</td>
<td>1/20: NO CLASS; 1/22. &amp; 1/24</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>WEEK 4</td>
<td>1/27, 1/29, &amp; 1/31:</td>
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<td>Due 1/29: Article Reaction Paper #1</td>
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<td>Film</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>WEEK 5</td>
<td>2/3, 2/5, &amp; 2/7:</td>
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<td>Due 2/7: Film Review</td>
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<td>WEEK 6</td>
<td>2/10, 2/12, &amp; 2/14:</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td>WEEK 7</td>
<td>2/17, 2/19, &amp; 2/21:</td>
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<td>2/21: Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>WEEK 8</td>
<td>2/24, 2/26, &amp; 2/28:</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
<td>Due 2/28: Article Reaction Paper #2</td>
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<td>SPRING BREAK: 3/3, 3/5, &amp; 3/7</td>
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<td>WEEK 9</td>
<td>3/10, 3/12, &amp; 3/14:</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>WEEK 10</td>
<td>3/17, 3/19, &amp; 3/21:</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>WEEK 11</td>
<td>3/24, 3/26, &amp; 3/28:</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>WEEK 12</td>
<td>3/31, 4/2, &amp; 4/4:</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<td>WEEK 13</td>
<td>4/7, 4/9, &amp; 4/11 (NO CLASSES: AAG CONFERENCE)</td>
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<td>WEEK 14</td>
<td>4/14, 4/16, &amp; 4/18:</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<td>WEEK 15</td>
<td>4/21 &amp; 4/23:</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
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<td>4/25: READING DAY</td>
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<td>WEEK 16</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM: Group 1C: Thursday, 5/1/14: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td>
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**SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**