

GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE
University of Florida, Department of Geography
GEA 3500, Class Number:
Spring 2023, 3 Credits
Online class, Canvas e-Learning System

Professor: Heidi Lannon, Ph. D.
Class Time: **This is an Online, asynchronous class**
E-Mail: lannon@ufl.edu (However, best to contact through Canvas)

Access Hours: Tuesday, 8am to 10am. Additional office hours by appointment.
Graduate Teaching Assistant: Yihe Yang
E-Mail: yiheyang@ufl.edu
Access Hours: Contact through Canvas

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/93668927426?pwd=U0pJVXUyTFNETjdmK1Vib1FqbUM1UT09>

Meeting ID: **936 6892 7426**, Passcode: **geography**

E-mail will be responded to within 24 hours on week days only

I am delighted to talk to you about any aspects of your education (even majoring in Geography). I am committed to undergraduate teaching and interaction and if I can help you in any way, please let me know.

Department of Geography's Main Office Location: TUR 3141
For questions or to inquire about majoring in Geography, please contact the Undergraduate Coordinator: Dr. Liang Mao, Ph.D., Associate Professor Email: liangmao@ufl.edu Telephone: (352) 294-7502
Web site information: <http://geog.ufl.edu/programs/undergrad/>
Geographic Coordinates: 82.34312 West Longitude, 29.64990 North Latitude

Course Description

The course will emphasize the significance of Europe's physical and cultural environments, and economic and political affairs in a globalizing world. This course presents the Geography of Europe in a comprehensive and systematic survey of Europe's population, natural resources, and regional geography. The class will incorporate lectures, guests, reading, various media and exercises.

Rather than snooty, lazy, conquering and privileged populations impacted by corruption, immigration and environmental degradation, we will consider the diverse and resilient landscapes and people. Media stereotypes and contemporary questions will be addressed in geographical context and evaluated through assignments. Students will be asked to address their preconceptions and work to understand contemporary Europe.

This course will enhance student awareness of how geographic concepts apply to, and have influenced their lives specific to the continent of Europe. Students should anticipate the requirement to develop an understanding of the approaches used by geographers to identify and analyze physical and cultural landscapes, and human-environment relationships of Europe.

Class Objectives

The objective of this course is the development of an understanding of the importance of the geography of the continent of Europe and provide an academic and practical foundation to evaluate the historical, current, and future issues and events in Europe. The relationships between physical environment and human systems are the basic tenants of geography. The physical and human landscapes of Europe will be evaluated in relation to current events, politics and challenges, while considering the historical perspective.

The course is constructed to incorporate writing and research in the examination of the origin and evolution of the physical and human landscape of Europe. Assignments will emphasize all scales geography from global economic dimensions to grains of sand, using original research and design, and intensive writing. The course will provide essential background material and concepts will be considered systematically. While the course will be divided into sections, students should anticipate the interconnectedness of the discipline of Geography. The class will follow these general sections:

- Introduction to the regional geography of Europe
- Physical Geography (natural resources, tectonics, landforms, climate, soil, vegetation,)
- Human-Environmental Interactions (deforestation, pollution, impact of conservation, environmental problems, natural hazards)
- Cultural Geography (language, religion, and population geography (birth and death rates, age cohorts, disease, mobility)
- Economic/Political Geography (empire building and colonialism, European Union, conflict, refugees and migration)
- Development (urbanization, city structures, rural urban migration, housing, globalization, economic development, transportation)
- Social Geography (role of women, education, popular culture, tourism)

This class will NOT be about geography trivia. My goal for this course is to instill an ability to write and think geographically, rather than the requirement to memorize information. While this course is by its nature fact based, the assignments are designed to develop the following important skills: (1) written and verbal communication; (2) research and critical thinking; (3) problem evaluation and analysis; and (4) application of knowledge. Each assignment will provide the opportunity for a student to demonstrate creativity in applied geography.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

This in an Online Class. If you are reading this you have already mastered the essentials of the Learning Management System (Canvas). I expect you to check the Learning Management System (Canvas) for messages and content at least 3 times a week. I suggest you conduct yourself online as you would in person. To that end, it may help if you assign yourself regular times each week to review the lectures, take quizzes and post discussion items. This is a 3 credit class. You should anticipate it will be rigorous and you should spend considerable time per week reviewing lectures, taking notes, reading the text, and working with assigned partner(s). In addition, you should anticipate time needed to be spent on homework, assignments, quiz completion, and preparation for the exam and the final.

Each member of this class will be preparing a presentation that may be with others and support from your peers is essential. While I understand that the requirement to develop a group online presentation may be daunting, every student will participate and I expect demonstrated effort and creativity, and respect for each other.

One of the advantages of taking an **online class** is that you do not need to arrive on time or worry about turning off or checking your cell phone. HOWEVER, I suggest that when you are reviewing the lectures you remove all other distractions, such as cell phones, social media, the television, etc. I encourage talking in classes that I teach in person, and you should use the discussion format to “talk” to you class peers. I will monitor the discussions, but if you need to contact me, please do not use the discussion board. Your decision to sign up for this class is voluntary, so I anticipate you are willing to do a substantial amount of self directed work. You may contact me through the Learning Management System (Canvas) (preferred) or by e-mail. I do not have a telephone in my office. I will endeavor to respond to the Learning Management System (Canvas) within 24 hours on weekdays. To excel in this class you should make a conscious decision to complete the level of participation outlined above. Please be aware that respect for your peers online, as it would be in person, is required.

Class decorum and discussion of complicated and controversial issues

The Core values of the University of Florida will be always adhered to in the class. Students and faculty learn best when they are encouraged to ask questions and express their diverse opinions on course content, which may include images, texts, data, and theories from across the disciplines. This is especially true in courses that deal with provocative or contemporary issues. Students may encounter concepts of race, color, sex, and/or national origin. We teach these important issues because understanding them is essential for anyone who seeks to make economic, cultural, and societal contributions to today’s complex world. With this in mind, we do not limit access to, or classroom discussion of, facts, ideas, and opinions—including those that some may find uncomfortable, unwelcome, disagreeable, or even offensive. In response to challenging material, we should challenge ourselves to ask honest questions and thoughtfully engage one another’s ideas. Hostility, disruptive and disrespectful behavior, and provocation for provocation’s sake have no place in a classroom; reasonable people disagree reasonably. The mission of the University of Florida, fulfilled through this and your other classes includes the exploration of intellectual boundaries, the creation of new knowledge, and the pursuit of new ideas.

<https://president.ufl.edu/initiatives/uf-core-values/additional-resources/> (Links to an external site)

If you have concerns about classroom issues, disagreements, or grades, please let me know. If the problem cannot be resolved, you should email the department chair, Jane Southworth at jsouthwo@ufl.edu. Email to the chair should include a clear description of your concern, and any supporting documents. If a resolution cannot be reached at the departmental level, you will be referred to the Office of the UF Ombuds, <https://www.ombuds.ufl.edu> (Links to an external site.).

Required

- Good Attitude
- A supplement (not required) to this course is Ostergren, R. C., & Lebosse, M., (2011) *The Europeans, a geography of people, culture and environment*. Second Edition, The Guilford Press, London. ISBN 978-1-59385-384-6. This text is available on reserve in the Marston Science library.
- I suggest you access a copy of Tiersky, R., & Jones, E., (eds.), (2015) *Europe today, A twenty-first century introduction*. 5th Edition, Roman and Littlefield, Plymouth, UK. ISBN 978-1-4422-2110-9. You do not need to purchase it. I will make a copy of the book available to you on reserve in Marston Science library.
- You should have access to a decent Atlas that includes detailed maps of the European region, for example Goode’s World Atlas or Google Maps

- Proficient use of the library databases for research of scholarly materials for assignments. A library materials and database orientation through the UF library is suggested if you have completed one.
- Good written and oral communications skills. This class will include written assignments and an expectation for college level writing in the discipline of geography. References to scholarly material must be made in APA style. There is information on this style in Modules. All work should be well structured, clear and concise.

Student Evaluation

Assignment	Points % (100 total)	Due Dates on Class Calendar
1a – Syllabus Evaluation	1 point	Submitted via Canvas, by Friday Module 1
1b – Production of a FlipGrid Introduction	1 point	Submitted via Canvas, by Friday Module 1
1c - Introduction - Evaluation of the Origin of Personal Stereotypes of classmate	3 points	Submitted via Canvas, by Friday Module 2
2a – Semester Class Project Report	15 points	Submitted via Canvas, presented in class, due Friday of the Module the issue is raised
2b - Project Presentation (Presentation MUST be given in class for credit for this assignment)	10 points	
3 - Evaluation of European Values demonstrated by Advertisements	10 points	Due Friday, Module 11 Submitted via Canvas
4 - European Meme and written explanation	10 points	Due Friday, Module 13 Submitted via Canvas
Vote on peers' Meme		Due Friday, Module 14
Discussion posts (5)	10 (2 points each)	Submitted regularly via Canvas (<u>no later</u> preferably well before Friday on Module 3, Module 7, Module 9, Module 12, Module 14)
Map Quizzes (2)	10 points (5 each)	Taken in Canvas, timed. Due Friday, Module 4, Module 5)

Examination	20 points	Taken in Canvas, timed Due Friday, Module 10
Comprehensive Final Exam – multiple choice, true/false, matching	10 points	Taken in Canvas, timed, due on date shown below. Due WEDNESDAY Module 15

Canvas e-Learning System

This class will be conducted using the e-Learning System, Canvas. The syllabus, course calendar, reading materials and resources will be available through Canvas. All assignments must be posted through Canvas unless otherwise instructed. Grades will be posted in Canvas. The best method of contact for Dr. Lannon is through Canvas email. Please consult <http://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

If you experience problems with the e-Learning system, such as log-in issues, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk at the Hub, 392-HELP for assistance.

Reading and Literature Citation

The material covered each week is outlined on the course calendar in Canvas. I expect you to read the relevant parts of the text, review the posted lecture and other articles prior to class so that you can participate in class discussion. This class is designed to evaluate diverse issues and groups of students will lead discussions. Debates should be scholarly in nature, but also include informed opinions, that you should be aware may not be parallel to others.

In your assignments and presentations, I expect you to cite all sources using APA standards. The suggestion to attend a library orientation will assist you if you are unsure of literature citation standards. You will be provided class time to familiarize yourself with library access and materials. It is sufficient under an image or after work attributed to an author, to use Last Name and Date (Lannon, 2013). After a direct quotation you should use Name, Date, Page Number (Lannon, 2013, page 23). At the end of every assignment and presentation please include a complete reference list. If you are consistent, and include all the relevant information (Author Name, Publication Date, Article or Book Title, Publisher and Location, Number of Pages, if applicable), I will be satisfied.

Discussion Techniques

1. Listen to each other and learn a variety of perspectives upon which you can build your opinions in favor or against an issue.
2. Discussions should be focused. The text provides issues upon which we will base class discussion.
3. Connections between the various subdisciplines of Geography will enhance your ability to evaluate issues.
4. Insight from readings, supplemented by awareness of current events and connections to your personal interests or other classes will enhance your discussion skills.

Class Attendance

Class attendance will not be taken unless required by the University. However, consistent attention to the class materials is strongly recommended. If you keep up with the materials you will be better prepared to participate in essential analyses and discussion necessary for assignments.

Academic Honesty, Regulations and the Honor Code

The very nature of higher education requires that students adhere to accepted standards of academic integrity. Details on student responsibilities and regulations can be viewed at <http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/academic-regulations.aspx>

Academic dishonesty (cheating) is not accepted in any class at the University of Florida. The practice of any type of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the entire class. You will find me to be a flexible faculty member in all aspects except academic honesty.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

In compliance with University of Florida policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that you may require as a student with a disability. You must be registered with Disabilities Resource Center (DRC) in Reid Hall for disability verification and determination of reasonable academic accommodations. Requests for academic accommodations need to be made during the first week of the semester (except for unusual circumstances) so arrangements can be made. For more information, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/ 352-392-8565

Course Evaluation

The University of Florida provides you with 10 criteria with which to evaluate the quality of instruction. I would be grateful to receive feedback on this class. Feedback can be provided online at <http://evaluations.ufl.edu>. I will add the rating system to our class Canvas page to facilitate your completion. I am sincerely committed to improving the class experience for you and always learn something from student feedback.

Grading Scale

GRADE	PERCENTAGE
A	92-100
A-	90-91.99
B+	88-89.99
B	82-87.99
B-	80-81.99
C+	78-79.99
C	72-77.99
C-	70-71.99
D+	68-69.99
D	62-67.99
D-	60-61.99

F	<59.99
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Note the Grading scale is to 2 decimal places. At the end of the semester do NOT ask for extra credit to make your grade higher. There are plenty of opportunities throughout the semester.

Grades are used as a tool to measure performance. To perform well in this class, the following will help you: (1) attend class regularly (2) take lecture notes and set aside time to read the pertinent parts of the text (3) participate in class exercises. If you are not doing well and have studied, read, and attended class, please e-mail me or come and see me – do not wait until the end of the semester.

Meeting deadlines matters! All assignments are due on the due date shown on the Calendar. Late assignments will be marked down a letter grade for each day they are late (i.e., from an A to a B for being a day late). A day is defined as 24 hours and begins immediately after 11:59pm. ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN THROUGH THE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CANVAS).

GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE

Please consult the Calendar on The Learning Management System (Canvas) for exact dates

Module	TOPICS and ASSIGNMENTS
Introduction	Welcome and Introduction. Syllabus and class expectations. Introduce Assignments
Module 1	Lecture(s) - Overview of the importance of Geography. Plan and complete Assignment 1a and 1b Clip. Identify class peer to introduce for Assignment 1c DUE: Friday, Assignment 1a & 1b Introduction clip & Syllabus Review
Module 2	Lecture(s) - Defining Europe, what and where. Orient yourself with the library, if necessary. Geographic Issues Assigned, Begin Issue organization. DUE: Friday, Assignment 1c – Written introduction of peer classmate
Module 3	Lecture(s) - Regions of Europe, People & Environment DUE: Friday 5pm, Discussion Post 1, Europe or Not, practicing the Eye of the Geographer.
Module 4	Lecture(s) - European Physical Environments DUE: Friday, Map Quiz 1 (Physical Geography)
Module 5	Lecture(s) - Natural Hazards of Europe, Venice Case study Issue 4 - Italian Politics, coalition governments & Berlusconi, Issue 15 - Status of Turkey DUE: Friday, Map Quiz 2 (Human, Cultural)

Module 6	<p>Lecture(s) - – Climates of Europe</p> <p>Issue 14 – European Approach to Climate change, Issue 17 – Response to Natural Disasters Issue 1 - France, Macron Leadership/reelection & the Gilet jaune</p>
Module 7	<p>Lecture(s) - Population Dynamics of Europe –</p> <p>Issue 5 - Scandinavia & the Middle Way, Issue 8 – Poland - Post Communism, Issue 12 – European Diaspora and diversity</p> <p>DUE: Friday, Discussion Post 2</p>
Module 8	<p>Lecture(s) - Human Environmental Interactions in Europe Review for Map Quizzes</p> <p>Issue 18 – Use of the Mediterranean, Issue 10 - Future of Ukraine Issue 21 – Waterways and Supply</p>
Module 9	<p>Lecture(s) - Culture & Identity – Language</p> <p>Issue 7 - Russia & Europe, Issue 19 – Balkans, status of Kosovo, Issue 11 – Immigration and Migration</p> <p>DUE: Friday, Discussion Post 3</p>
Module 10	<p>Lecture(s) - Religion, Religious Architecture. Review for Exam</p> <p>DUE: Friday, EXAMINATION in Canvas</p>
Module 11	<p>Lecture(s) - European Political Systems, Political Geography of Europe, The Political Landscape The Rise of Empires</p> <p>Issue 2 – United Kingdom, recent politics & Brexit ramifications, Issue 6 – Beyond the Fiesta, Spain, Issue 9 – Europe and Integration</p> <p>DUE Friday - Assignment 3 - Evaluation of European Values demonstrated by Advertisements</p>

<p>Module 12</p>	<p>Lecture(s) – Urbanization, Cities and Post War Architecture</p> <p>Issue 16 - Status of Cyprus, Issue 20 – COVID-19 response Issue 23 – European approaches to transportation</p> <p>DUE: Friday, Discussion Post 4</p>
<p>Module 13</p>	<p>Lecture(s) - Work & Leisure. Work on Meme and explanation Issue 3 – Crime, terror, and gun control, Issue 13 - European commodity supply chain, Issue 24 - Future of Greece</p> <p>DUE Friday- Assignment 4 - Europe Meme and written explanation</p>
<p>Module 14</p>	<p>Lecture(s) - Making a Living. European Consumption Complete poll on peer meme submission</p> <p>Issue 22 – Econometrics and unemployment</p> <p>DUE: Friday, Discussion Post 5</p>
<p>Module 15</p>	<p>Future of Europe Review for Final Exam</p> <p>Reading Days</p> <p>FINALS. Final will be given on Canvas Due by Wednesday</p>