SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Social Sciences · Urban & Regional Planning

Geography 112 – Nations, Culture, and Globalization

In a world with rapidly diminishing resources, new conflicts and collaborations are emerging based on factors such as ethnicity, economic opportunity, religion, and nationalism. This course explores global circumstances leading to conflict and/or collaborations.

Contact Information

Instructor:	Professor Kathrine Richardson
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Email:	Kathrine.richardson@sjsu.edu Please, feel free to e-mail me or Zoom into office hours with any questions you have, big or small!
Office Hours:	Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. by Zoom, click the link, and you will be put into a waiting room. Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/82052517348 Also available via email and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Asynchronous
Classroom:	Clark Hall 224
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	SJSU Studies Area (V)

Course Description and Requisites

Course Description: Geography 112 is an SJSU Studies course in Area V: Cultures and Global Understanding. Courses in this area should give students an appreciation for human expression in cultures outside the U.S. and an understanding of how that expression has developed over time. The course should also increase students' understanding of how traditions and cultures outside the U.S. have influenced American culture and society, as well as how cultures in general both develop distinctive features and interact with other cultures. Specifically, this course is a geographic exploration of some of the most pressing contemporary world issues in politics, economy, security, human-environment relations and the interaction of cultures. Reading and writing assignments, and short chapter film clips are all used to gain a better understanding of these complex problems and their geographic dimensions. Students will develop their ability to think critically, independently, relationally, and contextually, and to communicate their views effectively, particularly in writing.

GE Area(s): V. Cultures and Global Understanding

Prerequisite(s): Completion of Core General Education and upper division standing are prerequisites to all SJSU studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended.

Note(s): All of SJSU Studies courses require completion of the WST and upper division standing.

Letter Graded

Classroom Protocols

You are expected to arrive to class on time. Do not use cellphones, texting, or email in class.

Course Format

This class will be offered entirely online via Canvas.

Class Communications

Course materials (the syllabus, guidelines for assignments) may be found on the course website on Canvas. I will communicate with students by email, through Canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking email for important messages about the class.

Program Information

Welcome to this General Education course.

SJSU's General Education Program establishes a strong foundation of versatile skills, fosters curiosity about the world, promotes ethical judgment, and prepares students to engage and contribute responsibly and cooperatively in a multicultural, information-rich society. General education classes integrate areas of study and encourage progressively more complex and creative analysis, expression, and problem solving.

The General Education Program has three goals:

Goal 1: To develop students' core competencies for academic, personal, creative, and professional pursuits.
Goal 2: To enact the university's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and justice by ensuring that students have the knowledge and skills to serve and contribute to the well-being of local and global communities and the environment.
Goal 3: To offer students integrated, multidisciplinary, and innovative study in which they pose challenging questions, address complex issues, and develop cooperative and creative responses.

More information about the General Education Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) can be found on the GE website (https://sjsu.edu/general-education/ge-requirements/overview/learning-outcomes.php).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

GE Area V: Cultures and Global Understanding

SJSU Studies courses -- Areas R, S, and V -- help students integrate knowledge between and among disciplines. Courses in Area V: Cultures and Global Understanding examine multiple aspects of human expression in cultures and societies outside the United States, including how such cultures develop and influence one another as well as U.S. cultures and societies.

GE Area V Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of an Area V course, students should be able to:

LO1 analyze historical, social, and/or cultural significance of creative works of human expression (examples include, but are not limited to, written works, images, media, music, dance, technologies, designs), from at least one cultural tradition outside the United States. (Journal responses, Discussion questions, chapter quizzes, and select topic essays)

LO2 examine how creative works of human expression [as defined in #1] outside the United States have influenced the United States' cultures; . (Journal responses, Discussion questions, chapter quizzes, and select topic essays)

LO3 explain how a culture outside the U.S. has changed in response to internal and external influences (Journal responses, Discussion questions, chapter quizzes, and select topic essays)

LO4 ; appraise how the study of creative works of human expression from outside the United States shapes one's own understanding of cultural experiences and practices. (Journal responses, Discussion questions, chapter quizzes, and select topic essays.)

Writing: The minimum writing requirement for this course is 3000 words in a language and style appropriate to the discipline. Writing will be assessed for clarity, accuracy and conciseness as well as content. The writing requirement will be met through each Chapter's Journal responses, a chapter Discussion topic, and the two select topic essays. (See Course Requirements and Assignments below for more details.)

Course Materials

Required Texts/Readings

Payne, R. (2023) *Global Issues: Politics, Economics, and Culture*. 8th Edition. Pearson.
ISBN: 9780134635454

When you sign in to our class via Canvas, you will be able to purchase the book and etext learning package directly through Pearson Publishing.

Course Requirements and Assignments

1) **Chapter Quizzes [60%]:** At the end of every Chapter, there is a 15 question multiple-choice quiz. The quizzes are open Etext, so feel free to consult the text for your answers.

2) **Chapter "Journal" Responses [5%]:** For every chapter that we cover, there are "Journal" responses sprinkled throughout the text (anywhere between 5-12 per chapter). Thus, you will be required to respond to **EACH** of these responses with **at least** three to four well written sentences (~50-60 words per response prompt), which demonstrate that you have read the material and thought deeply about it. You will receive 1 point per Chapter for your responses.

3) **Discussion Responses [5%]:** The Discussions include the reading of very interesting academic articles written by CQR Press, which cover current, important, and pressing issues around the world. They can be access via the left side bar in our class Canvas site. Throughout the duration of the term, you are to read and respond to the prompts/ question for seven of the 11 Discussion Modules. I want you to write about 300-400 words in each response. Your response will be posted so that it may be seen, read, and commented on by other class members. So please be thoughtful, professional, and respectful in your discussion responses. You will receive one point for each Discussion response, for a total of 7 points.

4) **Select Topic Essays [30%]:** There are two short essays required for this course. Each will be about 3 pages in length (~1000 words/essay) and will be based on your learning and understanding of a select current world topic/issue as a result of this class (and other relevant outside experiences). The two select topic essays are worth 15 points each for a total of 30 points, or 30%, of your final grade. More details on these two essay assignments will be available via our Canvas course site.

Final Examination or Evaluation

The final exam (Chapter 11 Quiz) will be online on Thursday, May 15, and based on course materials from Chapter 11 of the required online text.

Grading Information

Grades on assignments will be regularly updated on Canvas. You can always email with questions about your current grade.

Weighting of Assignments

Assignment Activity	GELO's Assessed	Percentage of Grade
Quizzes	1, 2, 3, 4	60%
Journal Responses	1, 2, 3, 4	5%
Discussion Responses	1, 2, 3, 4	5%
Select Topic Essays	1, 2, 3, 4	30%

Policy on Late Work: Late papers will be marked down 10% for each day late. I do not grant extensions except in cases of unforeseeable circumstances. If such circumstances arise, you should contact me immediately. For the second essay, in order to get grades in at the end of the semester, I will not accept any papers after the due date except in truly unforeseeable circumstances. If such circumstances arise, you must contact me immediately.

Grade Scale

Grade	Range	Notes
A	94 to 100 points	
A-	90 to 93.99 points	
B+	87 to 89.99 points	
B	83 to 86.99 points	
B-	80 to 82.99 points	
C+	77 to 79.99 points	
C	73 to 76.99 points	
C-	70 to 72.99 points	
D+	67 to 69.99	
D	63 to 66.99	
D-	60 to 62.99	
F	Below 60 points	

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on Syllabus Information web page (https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Schedule – Subject to change with fair notice via Our Canvas Course Announcements

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/23	Introduction and Chapter 1 Global Issues
2	1/27	Chapter 1 Discussion Module 1 due 1/29
3	2/3	Chapter 1, Discussion Module 2 due 2/5, Chapter 1 Journal Responses due 2/6, Chapter 1 Quiz due 2/7
4	2/10	Chapter 2 The Struggle for Primacy Discussion Module 3 due 2/12, Chapter 2 Journal Responses due 2/13, Chapter 2 Quiz due 2/14
5	2/17	Chapter 3 Human Rights Journal Responses due 2/19 Quiz due 2/21
6	2/24	Chapter 4 Promoting Democracy Discussion Module 4 due 2/26 Draft of 1st Select Essay due 2/28
7	3/3	Chapter 4 Journal response due 3/5 Quiz due 3/7
8	3/10	Chapter 7 The Global Financial Crisis Discussion Module 5 due 3/12 Chapter 7 Journal Responses due 3/13 Chapter 7 Quiz due 3/14
9	3/17	Discussion Module 6 due 3/19 Final version of 1st Select Essay due 3/21
	3/24	Chapter 8 Global Trade Journal responses due 3/26 & quiz due 3/28
11	3/31	**Spring Break – No class**
12	4/7	Discussion Module 7 due 4/9
13	4/14	Chapter 11 Population and Migration Journal responses due 4/16
14	4/21	Discussion Module 8 due 4/23 Draft 2nd Select Essay due 4/25
15	4/28	Discussion Module 9 due 4/30
16	5/5	Discussion Module 10 & 11 due 5/7 Final Version 2nd Select Essay due on 5/9
17	5/12	**Final Exam:** **The exam will be on Thursday, May 15. It will cover Chapter 11 of the etext by Payne and be available from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. via our Canvas classroom.**
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