

**San José State University**  
**Department of Urban and Regional Planning, College of Social Sciences**  
**Geography 112: Nations, Cultures, and Territorial Disputes**

**Course and Contact Information**

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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesdays 2-4 via Zoom, or by appointment (email me, and we can set up a date/time outside of my office hours to connect.) The Zoom link for my office hours is as follows:  Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <a href="https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/81105034045">https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/81105034045</a>  Click on the above link during my office hours, and it will put you into a virtual waiting room, and the host (me☺) will let you in ASAP.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	On-line
<b>Classroom:</b>	On-line, Canvas
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST), Upper Division Standing (60 units) Completion of Core General Education
<b>GE/SJSU Studies Category:</b>	Area V

**Course Format**

**Online**

This course is an online-only course. No in-person class meetings are required. Access to a computer with a reliable Internet connection as well as a word processing program (such as MS Word) are required. The course is through Canvas learning management system. Information about Canvas, including links to log-in are here: <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/>

## **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.

### **Learning Outcomes - Upon successful completion of this course, students will 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 course essay)

**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 course essay)

**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 course essay)

**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 course essay)

### **Required Text:**

**Payne, R. (2017) *Global Issues: Politics, Economics, and Culture*. 5<sup>th</sup> 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.**

### **Prerequisites and Requirements**

- Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST)

- Upper Division Standing (60 units)
- Completion of Core General Education
- You are responsible for understanding the politics and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, withdrawal, etc. found at:

<http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/docs/Student%20Conduct%20Code%202013.pdf>

**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 course essay. (See below for more details.)

**Course Requirements:**

**Chapter Quizzes [70%]:** 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. You will have two chances for every answer with your second answer being worth only .5 points. Thus, please remember that for every time that you try to answer the question after your first attempt, you will not receive full points.

**Chapter “Journal” Responses and Discussions [14%]:** 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, which demonstrate that you have read the material and thought deeply about it. You will receive 1 point per Chapter if you respond intelligently to each of these “Journal” prompts. (Make sure you read your response out loud to yourself and spellcheck it before submitting it.:)

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 7 of the 12 Discussion Modules. I want you to write about 300-400 words in each response. Your response will be posted for the read of the class to see and read. 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.

**Course Essay [16%]:** There is a course paper required for this course – a short essay (about 2-3 pages) based on your learning and understanding of a select current world issue as a result of this class (and other relevant outside experiences). Per our Canvas Course site, you will have a choice of writing on ONE of the two designated topic areas. The course essay is worth 16 points or 16% of your final grade. More details on this assignment will be available via our Canvas course site later in the term.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points (% of Total)</b>
Quizzes (7)	10 points each (70% total)
Chapter “Journal” Responses & Discussions (7)	2 pts total (1 per Chapter Journal Response & 1 per each Discussion response (14%))
Course Essay	16 points (16%)
 Total	 100 (100%)

## Final Examination or Evaluation

**The final exam (Chapter 11 Quiz) will be online on Wednesday, May 17, and based on course materials from Chapter 11 of the required online text.**

### *Grade Scale*

Percent	Letter Grade	Percent	Letter Grade
95-100	A	77-79	C+
90-94	A-	74-76	C
87-89	B+	70-73	C-
84-86	B	60-69	D
80-83	B-	<60	F

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material: Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission (namely me) to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

**Grading Policies:** A strong performance in all areas of assessment is necessary to achieve the highest grade in this course. **Please remember that this course must be passed with a C or better as a CSU graduation requirement.**

Please remember that success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica.

Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

For more information see: [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>.

Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

### **University Policies (Required)**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

## Geography 112 Course Schedule (Subject to Change with Fair Notice, via Canvas Announcements)

### Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/25	Introduction and Chapter 1, Global Issues Discussion Module 1 due 1/30
2	1/30	Chapter 1 Journal Responses due 2/1 Chapter 1 Quiz due 2/3
3	2/6	Chapter 2 Journal responses due 2/8 Quiz due 2/10, Discussion Module 2 due 2/6
4	2/13	Chapter 3 Human Rights Discussion Module 3 due 2/13
5	2/20	Chapter 3 Journal Responses due 2/22 Quiz due 2/24
6	2/27	Chapter 4 Promoting Democracy Discussion Module 4 due 2/27 Journal response due 3/1 Quiz due 3/3
7	3/6	Chapter 4 Discussion Module 5 due 3/6
8	3/13	Chapter 7 The Global Financial Crisis Discussion Module 6 due 3/13 Journal Responses due 3/15 Quiz due 3/17
9	3/20	Discussion Module 7 due 3/20
10	3/27	Spring Break
11	4/3	Chapter 8 Global Trade Journal responses due 4/5 & quiz due 4/7 Discussion Module 8 due 4/3
12	4/10	Discussion Module 9 due 4/10
13	4/17	Chapter 11 Population and Migration Journal responses due 4/19
14	4/24	Discussion Module 10 due 4/24
15	5/1	Course Essay due on Friday, May 5
16	5/8	Discussion Module 11 due 5/8
17	5/15	Discussion Module 12 due 5/15
Final Exam	5/17	<b>Final Exam:</b> <b>The exam will be on Wednesday, May 17. It will cover Chapter 11 and be available from 5:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. via our Canvas classroom.</b>