

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

Instructor:	Dr. Kathrine Richardson, Professor
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Office Hours:	Tuesdays 2-4 via Zoom. Please see Canvas Announcements for Zoom meeting information and access
Class Days/Time:	On-line
Classroom:	On-line, Canvas
Prerequisites:	Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST), Upper Division Standing (60 units) Completion of Core General Education
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	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: Culture, Civilization, 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 courses 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 Compare systematically the ideas, values, images, cultural artifacts, economic structures, technological developments, and/or attitudes of people from more than one culture outside the U.S. (First, second, third, and fourth Journal responses, chapter quizzes, and course essay)

LO2 Identify the historic context of ideas and cultural traditions outside the U.S., and how they have influenced American culture. (First, second, third, and fourth Journal responses, chapter quizzes, and course essay)

LO3 Explain how a culture outside the U.S. has changed in response to internal and external pressure. (First, second, third, and fourth Journal responses, chapter quizzes, and course essay).

Required Text:

**Payne, R. (2017) *Global Issues: Politics, Economics, and Culture*. 5th 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 and the course essay. (See below for more details.)

Course Requirements:

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. 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. In sum, I make each quiz worth 15 points – although the online quiz marks it out of 75 points.

Chapter “Journal” Responses [20%]: 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 a total of five points 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.)

Course Essay [20%]: 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 write on the topic area, The Struggle for Global Supremacy. The course essay is worth 20 points or 20% of your final grade. More details on this assignment will be available via our Canvas course site.

Assignment	Points (% of Total)
Quizzes (4)	15 points each (60% total)
Chapter “Journal” Responses (4)	5 points each (20%)
Course Essay	20 points (20%)
Total	100 (100%)

Final Examination or Evaluation

The final exam (Chapter 4 Quiz) will be online on Thursday, JANUARY 19 and based on course materials from Chapter 4 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)

Date	Topic/Reading	Assignments	Due
1/3-1/7	Ch. 1 Global Issues	Chapter 1 Journal Responses & Chapter Quiz	Sat., Jan. 7 10:00 p.m.
1/8-1/12	Ch. 2 The Struggle for Primacy	Chapter 2 Journal Responses & Chapter Quiz	Thurs., Jan. 12 10:00 p.m.
1/13-1/16	Ch. 3 Human Rights	Chapter 3 Journal Responses & Chapter Quiz	Monday, Jan. 16 10:00 p.m.
1/16-1/20	Course Essay	Course Essay	Wed. January 18 10:00 p.m.
1/17-1/20	Ch. 4 Promoting Democracy	Chapter 4 Journal Responses & Chapter Quiz	Thursday, Jan. 19 10:00 p.m.
1/19	Final Exam (Chapter 4 Quiz)	Chapter 4 Quiz	Thursday, Jan. 19 10:00 p.m.