

**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: 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. (Journal responses, Discussion questions, 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. (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 pressure. (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. (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 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, which include the following: 1. Global Trade Relations; or 2. The Struggle for Global Supremacy. The final paper/exam 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.

Assignment	Points (% of Total)
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 Thursday, December 8, 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+



Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
2	8//22	Chapter 1 Journal Responses due 8/26 Chapter 1 Quiz due 8/28
3	8/29	Chapter 2: The Struggle for Primacy Discussion Module 2 due 8/31
4	9/5	Chapter 2 Journal responses due 9/9 Quiz due 9/11
5	9/12	Chapter 3 Human Rights Discussion Module 3 due 9/14
6	9/19	Chapter 3 Journal Responses due 9/23 Quiz due 9/25
7	9/26	Chapter 4 Promoting Democracy Discussion Module 4 due 9/28
8	10/3	Chapter 4 Journal response due 10/07 Quiz due 10/09 Discussion Module 5 due 10/5
9	10/10	Chapter 7 The Global Financial Crisis Discussion Module 6 due 10/12
10	10/17	Chapter 7 Journal Responses due 10/21 Quiz due 10/23
11	10/24	Chapter 8 Global Trade Discussion Module 7 due 10/26
12	10/31	Chapter 8 Journal responses due 11/4 & quiz due 11/6 Discussion Module 8 due 11/2
13	11/7	Chapter 11 Population and Migration Discussion Module 9 due 11/9
14	11/14	Chapter 11 Journal responses due 11/18 quiz due 11/20 Discussion Module 10 due 11/16
15	11/21	Catch-up week and Thanksgiving Break
16	11/28	<b>Course Essay due on Friday, December 2</b> Discussion Module 11 due 11/30
17	12/5	Discussion Module 12 due 12/6
Final Exam	12/8	<b>Final Exam:</b> <b>The exam will be on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8. It will cover Chapter 11 and be available from 5:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. via our Canvas classroom.</b>