SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Social Sciences · Urban & Regional Planning

Nations, Cultures & Globalization Section 81
GEOG 112

Spring 2025   Fully Online   3 Unit(s)   01/23/2025 to 05/12/2025   Modified 02/14/2025

👤 Contact Information

Instructor: Eileen Peña

- **Email:** eileen.pena@sjsu.edu
- **Office:** Washington Square Hall (WSQ) 111B
- **Phone:** By appointment

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-3pm

Class Days/Time: Online, Synchronous Tuesdays 3-5:45pm PST

Classroom: Online, Canvas

Class Zoom link for **Tuesday** class: https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/84998939401?pwd=faLnPFELRtKI95jdFbNaIj3mj619WF.1Links to an external site. (https://www.google.com/url?q=https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/84998939401?pwd%3DfaLnPFELRtKI95jdFbNaIj3mj619WF.1&sa=D&source=calendar&ust=1738084599479562&usg=AOvVaw1RJiM-LP562OgMsK_gx90T)
   Meeting ID: 849 9893 9401
   Password: 463011

🕐 Course Information

Course Format

Course Format: Online Lecture Course via Zoom and Off Campus Technology Intensive, Canvas Online

The lecture portion is online via Zoom, and the curriculum is posted via Canvas.

Students must have reliable internet connectivity and technology such as a computer to access the Zoom government meetings and online tutorials. Students can borrow laptops, iPads, and other technology at no charge from SJSU Student Computing Services | Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library (sjsu.edu).

For student study and workspace with wifi and outlets, SJSU has numerous locations on campus Student Study and Workspace Resources | Learn Anywhere (sjsu.edu).

Free access to software Microsoft Office 365 | Information Technology (sjsu.edu) You can access the Office 365 Portal with your SJSU email address and SJSUOne password.

Internet connectivity or Wi-Fi, and technology such as a computer/laptop to access Zoom and Canvas

Ensure your device meets Zoom system requirements System requirements for Windows, macOS, and Linux – Zoom Help Center

Access to Canvas Learning Management system which is located at https://sjsu.instructure.com/

Final Examination or Evaluation:

The final exam will be online and based on course materials, lecture notes and activities.

🖥️ Course Description and Requisites

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

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.

Letter Graded

✱ Classroom Protocols

Classroom Protocol

In an online university course, classroom behavior (both verbal and digital) should be mature and respectful. This behavior is required in all communications such as discussion forums and other methods of communication – directed both to fellow classmates as well as the instructor. Disrespectful or inappropriate behavior will be handled first by the instructor and secondarily by the college, as necessary.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be

shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](), 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). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

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:

1. 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;
2. Examine how creative works of human expression [as defined in #1] outside the United States have influenced the United States' cultures;
3. Explain how a culture outside the U.S. has changed in response to internal and external influences;
4. 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.

Writing Practice: Students will write a minimum of 3000 words in a language and style appropriate to the discipline.

📘 Course Materials

Required book:

Hope for Cynics: The Surprising Science of Human Goodness

by Jamil Zaki

ISBN-13: 978-1538743065

Adding and Dropping

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes (Late Drop Information). Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub.

University Resources for Students

Accessible Education Center:

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 [pdf] requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) to establish a record of their disability. Counseling and Psychological Services The SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Carlos in the new Student Wellness Center, Room 300B. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit the Counseling and Psychological Services website at sjsu.edu/counseling.

SJSU Cares:

Students experiencing challenges meeting their basic needs including, but not limited to, access to food, shelter, and a safe space are encouraged to contact SJSU Cares. Students who feel that their class performance may be affected by these challenges are encouraged to notify their professors, if comfortable doing so. Faculty members may be able to provide flexibility within the course for students working with a case manager.

Canvas Student Resources | eCampus (https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/ (https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/))

Other student technology resources:

Associated Students Print & Technology Center at on the Student Union (East Wing 2nd floor Suite 2600)

The Spartan Floor at the MLK Library at library.sjsu.edu/services/services (Fourth floor)

Student Computing Services at library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-servicescenter (https://sjsu.campusconcourse.com/library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-servicescenter)

≔ Course Requirements and Assignments

Course Requirements and Assignments

Assignments including quizzes and exams will not be accepted late. Students must work ahead of the due date to complete the work and allow for any potential issues at the last minute. It is suggested that students have a readily available back-up computer and Internet source such as the library or a friend's computer to use in case theirs is not working.

Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Credit-hours statement: University Policy S16-9, "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."

2. 3-unit Lecture: Attendance at the weekly Zoom lecture meeting is required. Any absences must be accompanied by a written communication to the instructor via Canvas messenger or instructor email.

3. Originality and honesty: It is appropriate to cite others' work extensively, with attribution. It is never appropriate to use other authors' language or ideas, from the web or from written documents, as though they were your own. If you have any questions about appropriate citation, please talk to me personally or write me a note. Misuse of written material can result in course failure. Please do not email or call planners

to help you with your assignments/deliverables. If you need help or have any questions, contact the instructor. The purpose of this course is to develop numerous professional skills and independence. University Academic Integrity Policy F15-7 [pdf] Student Conduct and Ethical Development

You are plagiarizing or cheating if you:

✔ For any work completed in this course, use any type of Artificial Intelligence (AI) website or software.

✔ For written work, copy anything from a book, article, or website and add or paste it into your paper without using quotation marks and/or without providing the full reference for the quotation, including page number.

✔ For written work, summarize/paraphrase in your own words ideas you got from a book, article, or the web without providing the full reference for the source (including page number in the humanities).

✔ For an oral presentation, copy anything from a book, article, or website and present it orally as if it were your own words. You must summarize and paraphrase in your own words and bring a list of references in case the professor asks to see it.

✔ Use visuals or graphs you got from a book, article, or website without providing the full reference for the picture or table.

✔ Recycle a paper you wrote for another class.

✔ Copy from a classmate or use someone else's work as if it were your own.

✔ Use technology or smuggle in documents to obtain or check information in an exam situation. In writing a paper, it is always better to include too many references than not enough. When in doubt, always err on the side of caution. If you have any questions or uncertainty about what is or is not cheating, it is your responsibility to ask your instructor. AI Tool Use Generative artificial intelligence tools—software that creates new text, images, computer code, audio, video, and other content—have become widely available. Well-known examples include ChatGPT for text and DALL•E for images. ONLY EXCEPTION: Grammarly. https://www.grammarly.com/ . Students must include Grammarly in their sources and references. This policy governs all such tools, including those released during our semester together. You may not use generative AI tools on assignments in this course. If you choose to use generative AI tools in violation of this policy (or in another class that permits them), please remember that they are typically trained on limited datasets that may be outdated. Additionally, generative AI datasets are trained on pre-existing material, including copyrighted material; therefore, relying on a generative AI tool may result in plagiarism or copyright violations. Finally, keep in mind that the goal of generative AI tools is to produce content that seems to have been produced by a human, not to produce accurate or reliable content; therefore, relying on a generative AI tool may result in your submission of inaccurate content. It is your responsibility—not the tool's—to ensure the quality, integrity, and accuracy of the work you submit in any college course. As specified elsewhere in the syllabus, this course will require electronic submission of essays, papers, or other written projects through the originality assessment service Turnitin. Turnitin will also attempt to detect AI-generated text. Moreover, I will ask the student to complete a similar assignment in class to verify authenticity. If you use generative AI tools to complete assignments in this course in ways that I have not explicitly authorized, I will apply the Code of Academic Integrity as appropriate to your specific case.

Depending on the specific circumstances, a first offense academic integrity violation related to misuse of generative AI could range anywhere from a warning to failing the course. Please act with integrity, for the sake of both your personal character and your academic record. Portions of this policy were created using the non-AI "Generative AI Syllabus Statement Tool (Seaver College)".

4. Readings: Please expect to attend all lectures/discussions and complete all readings before the class period.

5. Deliverables (writing assignments) and participation: During lectures, I will ask questions about the course materials. These questions will help determine whether I have conveyed the information adequately in the lecture and whether you are keeping up with and understanding reading assignments.

✔ Grading Information

Midterm Exam	100 points
Quizzes and/or in-class activities (15 worth 10 points each)	150 points
Map Assignments (15 worth 10 points each)	150 points
Final Exam (not cumulative)	100 points
Total points available	**500 points**

Total Points	Letter Grade
475-500	A
450- 474	A-
435-449	B+
415-434	B
400-414	B-

365-399	C+
335-364	C
300-334	C-
285-299	D+
250-284	D
Less than 250	F

🏛 University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 (PDF) (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf)](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 the [Syllabus Information (https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php)](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

📅 Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change with fair notice from the instructor. Changes will be communicated via Canvas and/or the SJSU Portal.

Week/Lesson/Module	Week of…	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	Learning Outcomes (CLO - see syllabus for #s)
1	Jan 27	Introduction to Geography	1
2	Feb 3	United States Overview	1
3	Feb 10	Global Overview	1

4	Feb 17	American Influences on Other Cultures	1
5	Feb 24	Europe Overview	1
6	March 3	International Shipping Industry	1
7	March 10	China Overview	1
8	March 17	Midterm Exam	2
9	March 24	Other Culture's Influences on America	1
10	March 31	Spring Break	1
11	April 7	Agriculture and Food	1
12	April 14	Japan Overview	1
13	April 21	World Heritage Sites	1
14	April 28	Media in the Geographic News	1
15	May 5	Last Regular Week of Class: Keeping Geography in Your Life	1
16	May 12	Final Exam	3