



World Geography (WGEO) 1B Syllabus

Course Name

WGEO 1B

World Geography – Semester B

Course Information

In World Geography Studies, students examine people, places, and environments at local, regional, national, and international scales from the spatial and ecological perspectives of geography. Students describe the influence of geography on events of the past and present with emphasis on contemporary issues. A significant portion of the course centers on the physical processes that shape patterns in the physical environment; the characteristics of major land forms, climates, and ecosystems and their interrelationships. It also centers on the political, economic, and social processes that shape cultural patterns of regions; types and patterns of settlement; the distribution and movement of the world population; relationships among people, places, and environments; and the concept of region.

Students analyze how location affects economic activities in different economic systems throughout the world. Students identify the processes that influence political divisions of the planet and analyze how different points of view affect the development of public policies. Students compare how components of culture shape the characteristics of regions and analyze the impact of technology and human modifications on the physical environment. Students use problem-solving and decision-making skills to ask and answer geographic questions.

WGEO 1B is the second semester of this two-semester course, dealing primarily with physical and cultural geography of the world. The topics included in this semester are:

1. North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia
2. Africa South of the Sahara
3. South Asia
4. East Asia

5. Southeast Asia
6. Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica

Course Delivery Method

Online

Contacting Your Instructor

You may contact your instructor through the Blackboard messaging system. Technical support is available 24/7 at www.k12.ttu.edu.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to:

1. develop practical use of your geographic skills;
2. understand the six essential elements for the National Geography Standards;
3. list the Earth's many different landforms and major bodies of water;
4. describe the many factors that affect the world's climate;
5. understand that geographers divide the world into cultural regions; and
6. describe the physical and cultural characteristics of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia; Africa South of the Sahara, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia; and Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica.

WGEO addresses the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These can be found at the [Texas Education Agency](http://www.tea.state.tx.us) website.

Textbook and Materials

Textbook(s)

The required **digital** textbook for this course is:

- Boehm, R.G. (2016). *World Geography*. Bothell, WA: McGraw Hill Education. ISBN 978-0-02-143345-2

The **print** textbook is optional:

- Boehm, R.G. (2016). *World Geography*. Bothell, WA: McGraw Hill Education. ISBN 978-0-02-145457-0

Technical Requirements

- Internet access – preferably high speed (for accessing Blackboard)
- Email
- Word processing software such as Microsoft Word

- Adobe Reader (download from Adobe.com)
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching/listening to course content)
- PDF app (free options available)

Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following:

- using a word processor
- Internet search engines and browsers
- creating PDFs (see **Requirements for Creating PDFs** in the Syllabus section of your course)

Course Organization

This course consists of six lessons and a final examination. Each lesson contains the following:

- Introduction and Instructions
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Learning Activities
- Assignments

Each lesson includes several activities that present content knowledge. Each lesson also includes multiple graded assignments to ensure that you learn the content that has been presented in the activities. Some of the assignments are automatically-graded quizzes, and some are written assignments or activities that your instructor will grade. Be sure you read all instructions carefully and ask your instructor for help if something is not clear.

Course Outline

Please note that some assignments will be hidden from you when you start the course. As you move through the lessons and complete assignments, more will unlock for you.

Lesson	Topic	Approximate Time for Completion
Lesson 1	North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia	Three weeks
Lesson 2	Africa South of the Sahara	Three weeks
Lesson 3	South Asia	Two weeks
Lesson 4	East Asia	Two weeks
Lesson 5	Southeast Asia	Three weeks

Lesson	Topic	Approximate Time for Completion
Lesson 6	Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica	Three weeks
Final Exam		

Assignment Schedule

Each of the following must be completed to complete the course. Items with an asterisk (*) indicate that these are summative assessments for the course.

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
1	1-3	Checkpoint 1 (Non-graded) 1.0.c. North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia: Regional Atlas Questions 1.1.b. Regional Overview of North Africa Video Questions 1.1.c. Lesson 1 Review: Answering the Guiding Questions 1.1.d. Global Connections: Arab Spring 1.2.a. Eastern Mediterranean and Northeast Asia Must Know Terms Quiz 1.2.c. Assignment 1: Research Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) 1.2.d. Assignment 2: Disputed Areas of the Eastern Mediterranean Chart 1.2.e. Assignment 3: Case Study: How Have Sunni & Shia Beliefs Led to Conflict? 1.3.a. Regional Overview of Southwest Asia & Central Asia Video Questions 1.3.b. Lesson 2 Review: Answering the Guiding Questions 1.3.c. Assignment 4: Descriptive Letter of Travels in the Arabian Peninsula Lesson 1 Discussion Forum
2	4-6	2.0.b. Africa South of Sahara: Regional Atlas Questions 2.1.a. Transition Zone Must Know Terms Quiz 2.1.b. Nigerian Youth Scenario Assn. 2.1.c. Map of the Transition Zone of Africa Questions 2.2.a. Blood Diamonds Article & Summary 2.2.b. East and West Africa Must Know Terms Quiz 2.2.c. Excerpt from United Nations Report Analysis 2.3.a. Equatorial Africa & Southern Africa Must Know Terms Quiz 2.3.b. History of HIV/AIDS in Africa Summary

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
		2.3.c. Life Expectancy at Birth Essay Lesson 2 Discussion Forum
Exam 1		*Exam 1
3	7-8	3.0.b. Regional Atlas Map Study Questions: South Asia 3.0.c. Geo@Work South Asia Challenge 3.1.a. Mapping of South Asia Questions 3.1.b. Chapter 25 Cultural Geography of India Reading Questions 3.1.c. Why Geography Matters: India's Population Structure Questions 3.2.a. Pakistan & Bangladesh Must Know Terms Quiz 3.2.b. Global Connections: South Asia on the Brink Map Analysis 3.2.c. Chapter 26 Test: Pakistan and Bangladesh 3.3.a. Basic Hindu Beliefs Chart Assignment 3.3.b. Essay on Human Environmental Interaction in South Asia 3.3.c. Chapter 27-1 Quiz: Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, & Sri Lanka Lesson 3 Discussion Forum Checkpoint 2 (Non-graded)
4	9-10	4.0.b. Regional Atlas Map Study Questions 4.0.c. Video Questions for East Asia 4.1.a. China & Mongolia Must Know Terms Quiz 4.1.b. Understanding Settlement in China Mapping Questions 4.1.c. Case Study: "Are Limits on Growth Best for China?" 4.2.a. Japan Must Know Terms Quiz 4.2.b. Compare/Contrast Research Paper 4.2.c. Global Connections: "The Tohoku Earthquake & Tsunami" 4.3.a. North Korea & South Korea Quiz 30-1 4.3.b. Compare/Contrast of North & South Korea's Governments 4.3.c. Cause/Effect Relationship in North Korea 4.3.d. Deforestation of North & South Korea
Exam 2		*Exam 2
5	11-13	5.0.a. Regional Atlas Map Study Questions 5.1.a. Southeast Asia Must Know Terms Quiz 5.1.b. Southeast Asia Mapping Questions 5.1.c. Why Geography Matters: "Emerging Markets in Southeast Asia" 5.2.a. Southeast Asia Quiz 31-1 5.2.c. Effects of Imperialism on Southeast Asia Assignment 5.2.d. Profile of Southeast Asia Chart Assignment 5.2.e. Video Questions for Southeast Asia

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
		5.3.a. Southeast Asia Quiz 31-2 5.3.b. Natural Disasters in Southeast Asia Assignment Lesson 5 Discussion Forum
6	14-16	6.0.b. Video Quiz: Geography of the World: Australia, New Zealand, & the Pacific Islands: Land & Resources 6.1.a. Venn Diagram of the Aborigines & Maori Peoples 6.1.b. Australia & New Zealand Assessment 6.1.c. Migrants to Australia Chart & Essay Question 6.2.a. Case Study: "Who Owns the High Seas?" Questions 6.2.b. Global Warming & Antarctica Article Summary 6.2.c. Oceania Assessment Checkpoint 3 (Non-graded)
Exam 3		*Exam 3
		Final Exam

Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 50% coursework average;
- 50% summative assessment average, including the final exam;
- A passing course grade is 70 or higher.

Students must attempt all assignments in the course. The final exam will not be available until all assignments have been accepted and graded by the teacher.

Students who score below 70% on the final exam will be eligible for one re-exam opportunity.

Coursework

The graded assignments within each lesson are formative in nature. This means that they are designed to assist you in applying and demonstrating the lesson concepts, as well as identifying areas in which you need additional review. You may use all the lesson's learning activities to assist you as you complete the graded assignments.

Summative Assessments

Summative assessments are those that allow you to demonstrate mastery of the course objectives. For summative assessments, you will NOT be allowed to use the learning materials. These are opportunities for you to show what you have learned by that point in the course. Summative assessments may be proctored using the online proctoring system Proctorio. Information about Proctorio is provided in **Remote Proctoring** in the

Syllabus section of your course. The summative assessments for this course are as follows:

- **Summative Assessments (20% of Course Grade)**
 - Exam 1 (110 points)
 - Exam 2 (90 points)
 - Exam 3 (60 points)
- **Summative Final Exam (30% of Course Grade)**

Course Completion

- Students may not complete the course in less than 30 days.
- All courses expire six months after the enrollment date.

Academic Integrity

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

“Scholastic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

[TTU OP 34.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day](#)

“Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code §11.20.2.

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

Student Expectations

You will be expected to log into the Blackboard course regularly to be aware of possible announcements/reminders and to pace your progress in the course.

Students are expected to maintain an online environment conducive to learning, which includes “netiquette” (Internet etiquette). Please review the basic rules for [Online Discussion Netiquette](#). Ensure that your email messages, discussion board postings, and other electronic communications are thoughtful and respectful. Diverse opinions are

welcome in this course, and you are expected to demonstrate an open mind and courtesy when responding to the thoughts and ideas of others.

The following are prohibited:

- making offensive remarks in email or the discussion board;
- using inappropriate language or discussing inappropriate topics online;
- spamming;
- hacking;
- using TTU or Blackboard email or discussion boards for commercial purposes;
- using all caps (considered shouting in online communications); and
- cyber-bullying or online harassment of any type.

Inappropriate behavior shall result in consequences ranging from a request to correct the problem, to removal from the course or even the university, depending on the severity of the behavior. Disciplinary actions will be taken according to the TTU K-12 Student Handbook.

Communication

- You can expect a reply from your instructor within 2 business days.
- Use the Blackboard Course Messages tool for sending messages to your instructor.

Submitting Assignments

You will submit all assignments through the Blackboard Assignment Tool, rather than by mail or email.

Technical Difficulties

Getting Help

For student assistance with Blackboard, visit [TTU K-12 Support](#).

Computer Problems

A working computer is necessary for online coursework. Computer problems will not be accepted as a valid reason for failure to complete course activities within the allotted time frame. Identify a second computer, before the course begins, that you can use if you experience computer problems.

Server Problems

When the Blackboard server needs to be taken down for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing you of the time and date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems, your course instructor will notify you.

Lost or Corrupted Files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of technology failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students' own computer problems, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any disputes, the instructor may request or require you to resubmit the files. In some instances, the instructor may need to open another attempt within Blackboard, so communication with your instructor is critical in these circumstances.