GEO 3471 - WORLD POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

Section: B060

College of Sciences

School of Politics, Security, and Intl Affairs

Course Information

Term: Summer 2026
Class Meeting Days: ASC
Class Meeting Location: Online
Modality: WW
Credit Hours: 3.00

Instructor Information

Richard Tyre
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Teaching Assistants

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The Teaching Assistants will be assisting with YellowDig accolades and short answer elements from the quizzes.

Course Description

GEO 3471 COS-POLS 3(3,0)World Political Geography: PR: ENC 1102 or POS 2041 or C.I. Analysis of factors which affect power relations among nations, including area, location, political styles, ethnic divisions, and the politics of energy. Fall, Spring.

We think of politics and geography as separate areas of interest; after all we have two separate disciplines, Political Science and Geography, each with their own institutional expressions, their own textbooks, etc. But in many ways they should be looked at as a seamless whole. Human geography is produced and politics is at the center of that production. Likewise politics always has a geography and cannot avoid it; think of the simple distinction between „domestic‟ and „foreign‟ policy or the structure of the American state: the idea of a distinction between state and federal governments and their respective, *geographically defined,* jurisdictions. Hence: ***Political Geography*.**

Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- **-analyze the impact of political geography and its concepts on the global issues.**
  -appreciate the intersection between political science, international relations, and geography.

  -understand the actors and stakeholders behind major global conflict issues.

  -critically analyze the popular media and print for accuracy and political bias.

  -participate in real-life simulated work in Political Geography.

Required Course Materials and Resources

World Regional Geography
Authors: Caitlin Finlayson
Online Access: https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/BookDetail.aspx?bookId=335

Course Assessment and Grading Procedure

Weekly Online Regional Quizzes: 20%

Online Analysis Papers and Discussions via Yellowdig: 40%

Online Final Exam: 30%

Global Citizen Essay: 10%

Grading Scale

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Letter Grade	Percentage
A	94-100%
A-	90-93%
B+	88-89%
B	84-86%
B-	80-83%
C+	78-79%
C	74-76%
C-	70-73%
D+	67-69%
D	64-66%
D-	61-63%
F	0-60%

Communication Expectations

High Impact Practice Course: Global Learning

This course will be a Global Learning-designated course. The University of Central Florida defines Global Learning (GL) courses as those that offer students a chance to explore symbiotic, international systems and their impacts on humanity from multiple points of view. AAC&U defines global learning as "a critical analysis of and an engagement with complex, interdependent global systems and legacies (such as natural, physical, social, cultural, economic, and political) and their implications for people's lives and the earth's sustainability. Through global learning, students should 1) become informed, open-minded, and responsible people who are attentive to diversity across the spectrum of differences, 2) seek to understand how their actions affect both local and global communities, and 3) address the world's most pressing and enduring issues collaboratively and equitably." GL courses at UCF will prepare students to ethically and collaboratively contribute to discussions about and finding solutions to issues faced by international organizations and the people impacted by their activities.

There are several academic activities that are central components of a GL course:

- **Intercultural competencies—whereby students learn to think and act appropriately, and to communicate and work with people from different cultural backgrounds.**
- **High-Impact Practices (HIPs)—in which students participate in educational experiences that demand considerable time and effort, facilitate learning outside of the classroom, and require meaningful interactions with faculty and other students.**
- **Metacognition—in which students develop self-awareness and the ability to reflect and learn from their experiences.**

Weekly Course Activities

For the first portion of the semester, each week students will examine a different geographic global region. Within each regional study, the student is expected to:

- **Read the Textbook**
- **Read and Listen to the BBC New's Daily Update for that region**
- **Read the Regional Application to Political Geography**
    - **Post on Yellowdig your research and personal views based on**

your life experiences about the topic

- **Complete the Quiz, which includes a short answer response question.**

For the final portion of the semester, the students will dive into specific topics related to Political Geography, but with a global perspective. Within each topic, the student is expected to:

- **Watch the Videos Explaining the Topics with Diverse POVs**
- **Research the Topic and Given Organizations**
    - **Post on YellowDig your research and personal views based on your life experiences about the topic**
- **Complete the Essay**
    - **Essay must include an understanding of the complexity of the topic from diverse multiple perspectives**

Final Examination

The Final Examination will involve

- **An online, multiple choice, short answer, and fill in the blank quiz**
- **A Global Citizen Essay, connecting topics that interest you to think as a Global Citizen**

Policies for Course Grade

Makeup Work Policy

Due to the nature of this course, late work will not be accepted.

Missed/Late Assignments

Each week, a different topic will be explored. It is important that you stay up with the topics as, at the end of each week, we will finalize grades for that unit and move on. Once grades are finalized for a unit, they cannot be changed. Late work will not be accepted.

Make-up Assignments for Authorized University Event or Co-curricular Activities

Students who represent the university an an authorized event or activity (for example, student athletes) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event must provide the instructor with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will be applied if the student gives advance notice and communicates with the instructor following UCF policy. In the case of an authorized university activity, it is your responsibility to show the instructor a signed copy of the Program Verification Form for which you will be absent, prior to the class in which the absence occurs or due date you need extended. For more information, see UCF Policy 4-401.

Make-up Assignments for Religious Observances

A student who desires to observe a religious holy day of his or her religious faith must notify their instructor as soon as practicable prior to the observance. Students who are absent because of religious observances will be permitted a reasonable amount of time to complete any missed work. For more information, see UCF Regulation 5-020.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy

Use of Generative AI (GenAI) is freely permitted but must be disclosed. Students are allowed to use Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) tools on assignments if the usage is properly disclosed and credited. For example, text generated from Copilot should include a citation such as: "Copilot. Accessed 2023-12-03. Prompt: 'Summarize the Geneva Convention in 50 words.' Generated using Copilot." Any attempt to represent GenAI output inappropriately as your own work will be treated as plagiarism. Ultimately, students are responsible for the accuracy and veracity of submitted work whether AI-generated or not.

Disability Access & Accommodations

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing equal access to all students with disabilities (ADHD, learning disabilities, Autism, chronic medical conditions, physical disabilities, etc.). To receive consideration for reasonable disability-related course accommodations, disabled students must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and complete the steps required for SAS to review accommodation requests. More information can be found on the UCF Student Accessibility Services website under the Start Here tab or by contacting SAS directly (Ferrell Commons 185; sas@ucf.edu; Phone - 407-823-2371).

Approved accommodations are shared with course instructors via the SAS Course Accessibility Letter. Implementing certain accommodations may require discussion and specific considerations of the course design, course learning objectives, and the individual academic and course challenges experienced by the student. While students with disabilities or chronic health needs are also encouraged to discuss any course concerns with professors in addition to contacting SAS, professors are not required to facilitate disability-related adjustments to the course unless the professor has received a Course Accessibility Letter from SAS that outlines approved accommodations.

Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Code of Conduct at Student Conduct and Integrity Office. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

a. **Academic misconduct is defined as any submitted work or behavior that obstructs the instructor of record's ability to accurately assess the student's understanding or completion of the course materials or degree requirements (e.g., assignment, quiz, and/or exam). Examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to: plagiarism, unauthorized assistance to complete an academic**

exercise; unauthorized communication with others during an examination, course assignment, or project; falsifying or misrepresenting academic work; providing misleading information to create a personal advantage to complete course/degree requirements; or multiple submission(s) of academic work without permission of the instructor of record.

b. **Any student who knowingly helps another violate academic behavior standards is also in violation of the standards.**

c. **Commercial Use of Academic Material. Selling of course material to another person and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the University and the instructor of record. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, the instructor of record's slide deck, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, and handouts.**

d. **Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements. The solicitation of assistance with an assignment, lab, quiz, test, paper, etc., without authorization of the instructor of record or designee is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to asking for answers to a quiz, trading answers, or offering to pay another to complete an assignment. It is considered Academic Misconduct to solicit assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements, even if the solicitation did not yield actual assistance (for example, if there was no response to the solicitation).**

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule*. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and respond to academic misconduct when necessary. Penalties for violating rules, policies, and instructions within this course can range from a zero on

the exercise to an "F" letter grade in the course. In addition, an Academic Misconduct report could be filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, which could lead to disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, or deferred suspension or separation from the University through suspension, dismissal, or expulsion with the addition of a "Z" designation on one's transcript.

Being found in violation of academic conduct standards could result in a student having to disclose such behavior on a graduate school application, being removed from a leadership position within a student organization, the recipient of scholarships, participation in University activities such as study abroad, internships, etc.

Title IX

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at Let's Be Clear and UCF Cares.

For more information on access and community engagement, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- **Title IX – ONAC – Office of Nondiscrimination & Accommodations Compliance & askanadvocate@ucf.edu**
- **Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services – Student Accessibility Services & sas@ucf.edu**
- **Access and Community Engagement (including the Ginsberg Center for Inclusion and Community Engagement, Military and Veteran Student Success, and HSI Initiatives)**
- **UCF Compliance and Ethics Office – Compliance, Ethics, and Risk Office & complianceandethics@ucf.edu**
- **The Ombuds Office is a safe place to discuss concerns.**

Reporting an Incident or Issue

If you believe you have experienced discrimination by any faculty or staff member, contact the Office of Nondiscrimination & Accommodations Compliance via the ONAC website or at 407-823-1336. You can also choose to report using the UCF Integrity Line either anonymously or as yourself at 1-855-877-6049 or by using the online form. UCF cares about you and takes every report seriously. For more information see the Reporting an Incident or Issue Webpage.

Deployed Active-Duty Military Students

Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

Campus Safety

At UCF Public Safety and Police, safety is the top priority. Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise, it's important to be familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- **In an emergency, always dial 911.**
- **Every UCF classroom has an Emergency Procedure Guide posted on a wall near the door, which will show you how to respond to a variety of situations. This guide can also be found online here.**
- **In the event of an active threat, remember AVOID, DENY, DEFEND. Choose the best course of action and act immediately. Watch the video here to learn more.**
    - **AVOID. Pay attention to your surroundings and have an exit plan. Get as much distance and as many barriers between you and the threat as quickly as possible.**
    - **DENY. When avoiding is difficult or impossible, deny the threat access to you and your space. Lockdown by creating barriers, turning the lights off and remaining quiet and out of sight. Make sure your cell phone is silenced, but do not turn it off.**
    - **DEFEND. When you are unable to put distance between yourself and the threat, be prepared to protect yourself.**

Commit to your actions, be aggressive and do not fight fairly. Do whatever it takes to survive.

- For emergencies on campus, UCF will utilize the UCF Alert system. All UCF students, faculty and staff are automatically enrolled to receive these email and text alerts, however, it's a good idea to frequently ensure your contact information is up to date.

Financial Aid Accountability

All instructors/faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete this activity by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Class Schedule

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Modules
1	Intro to Geography, Europe, & Russia	Modules 1, 2, & 3
2	North America & Middle/ South America	Modules 4 & 5
3	Sub-Saharan Africa & North Africa/SWAsia	Modules 6 & 7
4	South Asia & East/Southeast Asia	Module 8 & 9
5	Oceania & Supranationalism	Modules 10 & 11
6	Colonialism & Hegemony	Modules 12, 13, & Final Exam Due