

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
2013
Foundations of the Geography of World Business: Geog 2143a

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:00-2:30, and by appointment
Lectures: Tuesdays 2:30-4:30, SSC 2050

Teaching Assistants: TBA

Calendar Description: Geographical theories of local and international trade; relationships between the location of production and flows of goods, services and factors of production among countries and regions; the geographical patterns of world commerce.

Objectives: This course introduces you to the commercial geography of the world economy. An awareness of geographical diversity through knowledge of different places is provided. A basic understanding of the geography inherent in the concepts of economic development and financial, investment and trade trends is provided. Emerging economies are emphasized.

Course format: The course is lecture based with class discussion. Much of the material is drawn from current events highlighted in the media. Lecture attendance is vital. There is no textbook.

Lecture Topics*:

Sept 10 Introduction, *Film: Credit Where Its Due*
Sept 17 Globalization,, *The New Age of Walmart*, readings as assigned
Sept 24 Globalization, *Bomb Under the World*, **Proficiency Quiz 1**, readings as assigned
Oct 1 Globalization, *Mind Over Money*, readings as assigned
Oct 8 Globalization, Population, **Proficiency Quiz 2**, readings as assigned
Oct 15 Energy, readings as assigned
Oct 22 Energy, **Proficiency quiz 3**
Oct 29 Energy
Nov 5 Energy, **Proficiency Quiz 4**
Nov 12 Population, readings as assigned
Nov 19 Population, *The People Paradox*, readings as assigned, **Proficiency quiz 5**
Nov 26 Population
Dec 3 China, **Proficiency Quiz 6**, readings as assigned

*Tentative, subject to change. Course content and order of presentation may differ from this general syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances.

Course Requirements:

Active participation in class and regular attendance. This means participation.

Evaluation:

There will be 6 proficiency quizzes of about 40 minutes each, and a final. The quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions, computer graded. The final exam will also be multiple choice but manually graded. There will several random attendance checks during the term.

Any computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams will be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

You have the option of having your course mark based on your quizzes only or the final exam and quizzes, but not both. The final for the course is a 'resurrection final', that is you can substitute your mark on the final examination for one-quarter of the course mark. So if you do poorly on the quizzes all is not lost, you can take the final and maybe partially 'resurrect' your course mark, taking the final is not without risk. If your mark is less than your quiz average your course mark may drop. You are not required to take the final if you are satisfied with your course mark based on your quizzes.

- 1) 6 Quizzes at 15.83% each with no final option, 11.67% each with the final option. Attendance marks will be 5% of the course mark. **Quizzes will not be reevaluated after 2 weeks from the day the quiz was given.**
- 2) Final Exam (2 hours): 25% with final option

You should also note that any marks in the course are considered preliminary until you receive your final mark from the Registrar. Adjustments of marks may be made before final submission to the Registrar.

Prerequisites

None

Accommodation for Medical Illness

Quizzes missed due to medical illness will be made up during 2 scheduled makeup quiz sessions outside of regular class hours. The first makeup will cover material addressed in quizzes 1 to 3, the second makeup will cover material from quizzes 4 to 6. The makeup quizzes will be short answer.

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Electronic devices are prohibited during any portion of this course without the instructor's permission.

EXTENSIONS, LATE ASSIGNMENTS, PLAGIARISM, ADDS/DROPS, APPEALS

You are advised to read the course calendar to familiarize yourself with the University's regulations and procedures concerning grades, regulations, penalties and appeals ('relief').

Plagiarism is unacceptable and those who do so will be persecuted to the fullest extent allowed under the University's regulations. Please avoid this experience and do your own work.

The date of the final examination is set by the Office of the Registrar and once confirmed will not be changed. If you consider that you have grounds to write the final examination on an alternate date, you must follow the procedure established by the Dean's Office and complete the appropriate forms. The same holds for dropping the course.

Should you feel that your final grade in the course is biased, inaccurate or unfair, you do have the right to appeal your mark. Be aware that marks may be raised--**as well as lowered**--through an appeal process. Please refer to the Western Calendar 2012, prior to doing so. It is very much in your own interest to seek assistance and adjustments as early as possible, and always in advance of the event.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition

of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

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Support Services

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Western's commitment to accessibility

The University of Western Ontario is committed to achieving barrier free accessibility for persons studying, visiting and working at Western.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Code of conduct: Students in geography are expected to conduct themselves in a polite and civil manner. Students are reminded of the University Code of Conduct for Students: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf>

If you are having problems, **SPEAK UP!** I am more than happy to help you with difficulties you are having in the course. This help is conditional upon you doing your job. That is, you should read the text and study the slides before you come to see me. The session is much more fruitful if you have tried to understand the material first. I will not redo a class lecture because you didn't attend. Please attend the lectures, it makes everyone's life much easier.

Review and or read any material to be covered in a class **before** class. I assume you have done this when I present material.