

1a. COURSE SYLLABUS
1b. GEO 265-02, CID 1539, Spring 08
1c. World Regional Geography-Europe, Asia, Australia
(ONLINE - BLACKBOARD)
1d. 3 Credit Hours

2. Class Meeting Room: Not Applicable, THIS IS AN ONLINE COURSE OFFERED THROUGH BLACKBOARD-- GO TO LOGIN <http://blackboard.shsu.edu/webapps/login>

3. Class Time: Not Applicable

4. Instructor Name: Donald Patrick Albert, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Geography

5. Office Location 325 LDB

6. Instructor Contact Information

E-mail: geo_dpa@shsu.edu

7. Office Hours

N/A. Email contact is the primary mode of contact.

8. Course Description

This is an introductory level course giving a general overview of the land and people. Topics discussed will include the physical environment, cultural characteristics and the various ways people live and make their living. Attention will be focused upon the relationships which exist between location, the physical environment and human activity. Examples of countries covered are the former Soviet Union, Germany, France, China, Japan, and United Kingdom.

There are no prerequisites. Students are expected to complete assigned textbook readings, read **Lectures and Activities**, view **Films** (The Power of Place video series), review **Key Terms**, complete **Study Questions**, complete **Applied Study** questions, take **Quiz (Assignments)** for each chapter. There are seven quizzes. Students are expected to have an active SHSU computer account and be familiar with Blackboard **BEFORE** taking any quizzes. If you have questions concerning Blackboard go to <http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/training/guides/blackboard.html> **Student Manual** or call the HELPDESK 294-1950.

Check **Announcements** in Blackboard before beginning the course, and regularly thereafter in the event there is an important message(s).

9. Course Objectives

To provide you with a survey of important terms, concepts, and theories associated with world regional geography with the idea of broadening your knowledge of Europe, Russia and neighboring countries, East Asia, and Southeast Asia and the South Pacific.

10. Required Textbook

Bradshaw, M., White, G. W., Dymond, J. P., & Chacko, E. (2007). *Contemporary World Geography: Global Connections, Local Voices*, 2nd edition. McGrawHill Higher Education. ISBN-13 978-0-07-282683-8, ISBN-10 0-07-282683-5.



You are required to read and study chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12 from *Contemporary World Geography*, 2nd ed. In addition to reading the text of these chapters carefully, experience has shown that students who review the tables, figures, and maps closely (including the captions) make better quiz scores.

11. Required Headphone: A headphone (headset) is required to listen to the videos (*The Power of Place* video series on geography) that are tied into the course through **External Links**.

12. Attendance Policy – Not applicable; however, regular and consistent access to this courses' Blackboard materials will warrant more class participation points. See item 14 below.

13. Quizzes – There are seven multiple-choice quizzes worth a total of 160 points. All quizzes must be complete before

11:00 AM, Monday, May 12, 2008!

14. Class participation is worth 40 points. This will be assessed using the Blackboard's adaptive release and statistics tracking functions. Regular and consistent entry into the various required content areas over the full length of the course will warrant more points for class participation than accessing the course content over a few days of the course. For example, accessing course content AND having quizzes spaced throughout the approximately five weeks of Summer I will get you more points than doing everything at once.

**Please read syllabus
carefully before starting this course!!!!**

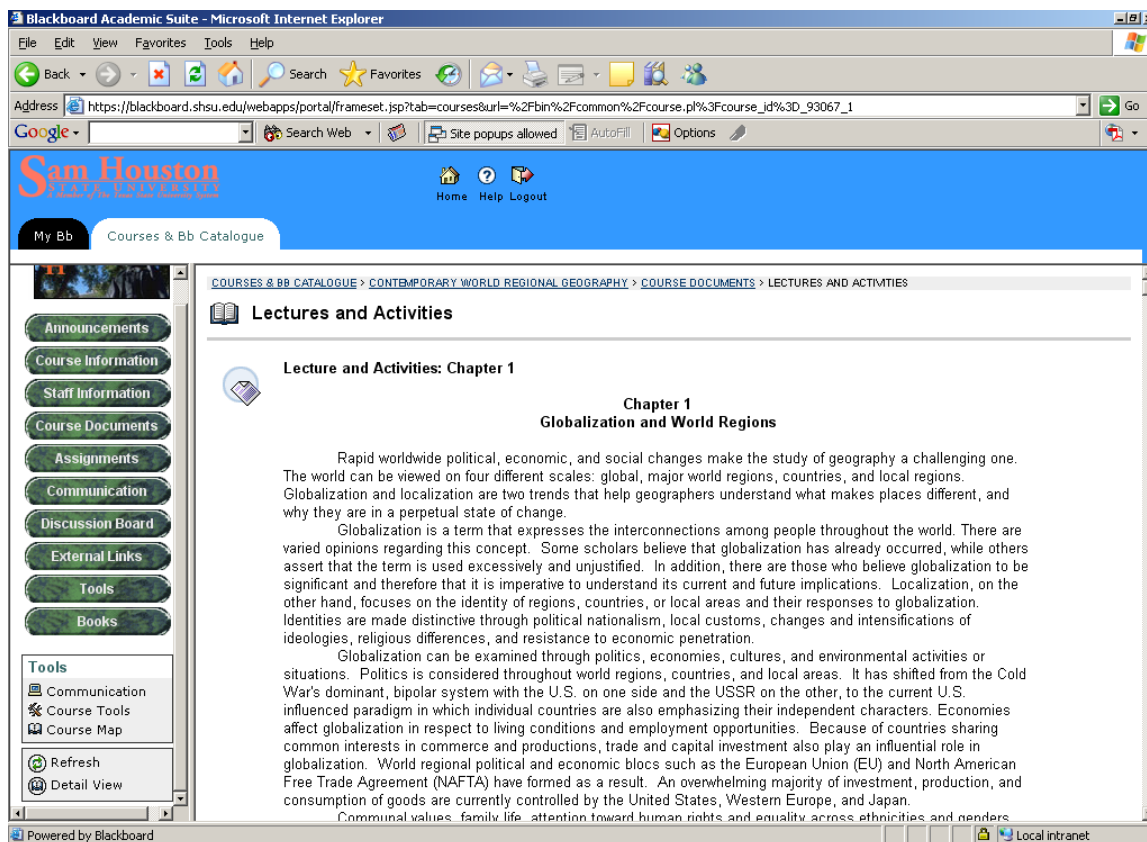
Do Not Wait Until the Last Minute to Get Started!

**Deadline for all Quizzes is
11:00 AM, Monday, May 12, 2008!**

15. How to get started. (Course officially starts Wednesday, January 16th at 8:00 AM.)

First, go to **Course Information** in Blackboard and read the syllabus. Read it carefully! You may want to print the syllabus for convenient access.

Second, go to **Course Documents** in Blackboard then to the “Lecture and Activities” folder and read/print these out (one for each chapter). At the end of each “lecture and activities” there is a list of things to do to prepare for each quiz (an example for Quiz 1 is shown below).



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Blackboard Academic Suite interface. The address bar shows the URL: https://blackboard.shsu.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=courses&url=%2Fbin%2Fcommon%2Fcourse.pl%3Fcourse_id%3D_93067_1. The page title is "Blackboard Academic Suite - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The main content area displays the "Lectures and Activities" page for Chapter 1, titled "Globalization and World Regions". The page includes a navigation menu on the left with options like "Announcements", "Course Information", "Staff Information", "Course Documents", "Assignments", "Communication", "Discussion Board", "External Links", "Tools", and "Books". The main text area contains the following content:

Lectures and Activities

Lecture and Activities: Chapter 1

Chapter 1
Globalization and World Regions

Rapid worldwide political, economic, and social changes make the study of geography a challenging one. The world can be viewed on four different scales: global, major world regions, countries, and local regions. Globalization and localization are two trends that help geographers understand what makes places different, and why they are in a perpetual state of change.

Globalization is a term that expresses the interconnections among people throughout the world. There are varied opinions regarding this concept. Some scholars believe that globalization has already occurred, while others assert that the term is used excessively and unjustified. In addition, there are those who believe globalization to be significant and therefore that it is imperative to understand its current and future implications. Localization, on the other hand, focuses on the identity of regions, countries, or local areas and their responses to globalization. Identities are made distinctive through political nationalism, local customs, changes and intensifications of ideologies, religious differences, and resistance to economic penetration.

Globalization can be examined through politics, economies, cultures, and environmental activities or situations. Politics is considered throughout world regions, countries, and local areas. It has shifted from the Cold War's dominant, bipolar system with the U.S. on one side and the USSR on the other, to the current U.S. influenced paradigm in which individual countries are also emphasizing their independent characters. Economies affect globalization in respect to living conditions and employment opportunities. Because of countries sharing common interests in commerce and productions, trade and capital investment also play an influential role in globalization. World regional political and economic blocs such as the European Union (EU) and North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) have formed as a result. An overwhelming majority of investment, production, and consumption of goods are currently controlled by the United States, Western Europe, and Japan.

Communal values: family life, attention toward human rights and equality across ethnicities and genders.

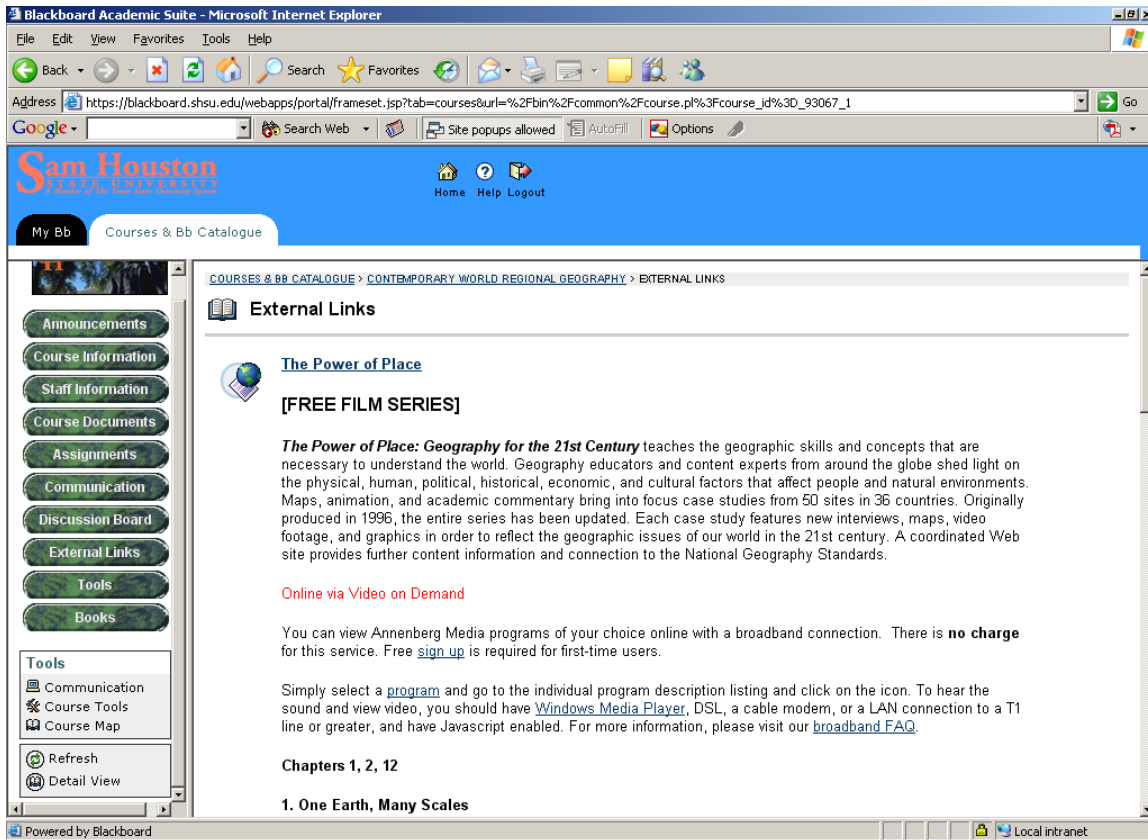
Only after you have read the syllabus and “Lecture and Activities” (see Course Documents) for the respective chapters should you continued.

Note: This Blackboard course uses the “adaptive release” option, therefore, one MUST check “mark reviewed” on Key Terms, Study Questions, and Applied Study Questions for each chapter before respective quizzes are made available.

1. Read Chapter 1 "Globalization and World Regions"



2. View The Power of Place Telecourse Series (GO TO EXTERNAL LINKS TO REGISTER AND VIEW FILMS, BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AND READ “ONLINE VIA VIDEO DEMAND; ALSO EACH TIME YOU VIEW A VIDEO ACCESS IT VIA EXTERNAL LINKS SO THERE IS A RECORD OF YOUR PARTICIPATION):



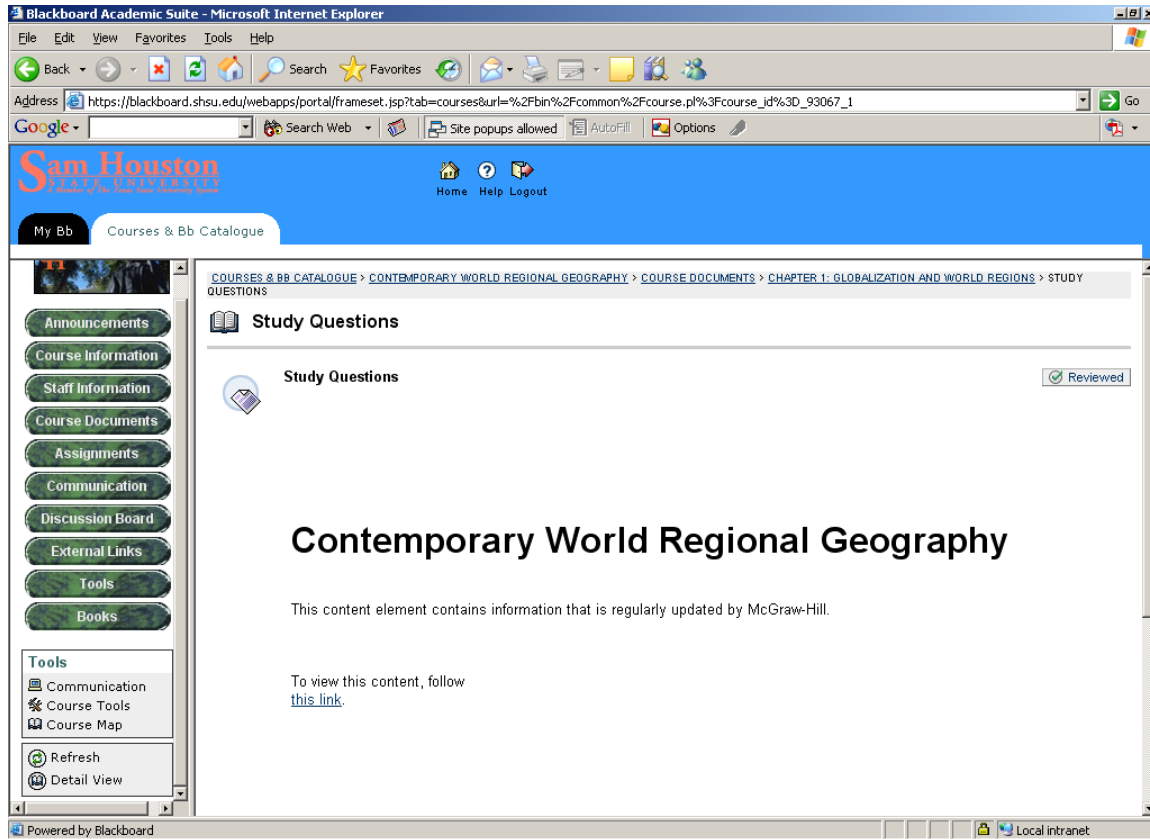
Program 1. One Earth, Many Scales
 Lost in Space? Geography Training for Astronauts
 Globalization and Revolt

3. GO TO AND REVIEW “Course Documents”>Chapter 1: Globalization and World Regions>Key Terms
(BE SURE TO CHECK “MARK REVIEWED” AND FOLLOW LINK PROVIDED)

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Blackboard Academic Suite interface. The address bar shows the URL: https://blackboard.shsu.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=courses&url=%2Fbin%2Fcommon%2Fcourse.pl%3Fcourse_id%3D_93067_1. The page header includes the Sam Houston State University logo and navigation links for Home, Help, and Logout. The main content area is titled "Key Terms" and features a "Reviewed" status indicator. The central heading is "Contemporary World Regional Geography". Below the heading, a message states: "This content element contains information that is regularly updated by McGraw-Hill." A note at the bottom of the content area says: "To view this content, follow [this link](#)." The left sidebar contains a "My Bb" menu with options like Announcements, Course Information, Staff Information, Course Documents, Assignments, Communication, Discussion Board, External Links, Tools, and Books. The bottom of the browser window shows "Powered by Blackboard" and a "Local intranet" icon.

4. GO TO AND COMPLETE “Course Documents”>Chapter 1: Globalization and World Regions>Study Questions

(BE SURE TO CHECK “MARK REVIEWED” AND FOLLOW LINK PROVIDED;
SUBMIT ANSWERS BUT DO NOT EMAIL RESULTS)

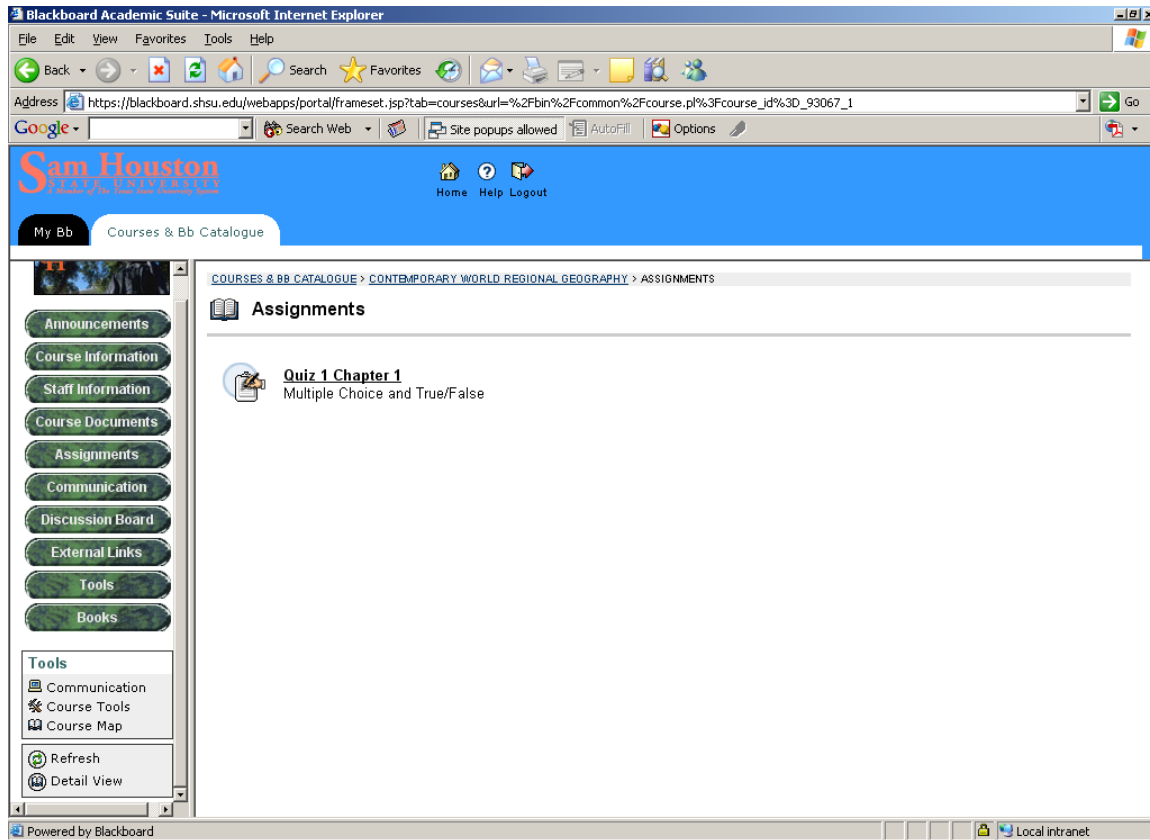


5. GO TO AND COMPLETE “Course Documents”>Chapter 1: Globalization and World Regions>Applied Study Questions

(BE SURE TO CHECK “MARK REVIEWED” AND FOLLOW LINK PROVIDED;
SUBMIT ANSWERS BUT DO NOT EMAIL RESULTS)

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Blackboard Academic Suite. The address bar shows the URL: https://blackboard.shsu.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=courses&url=%2Fbin%2Fcommon%2Fcourse.pl%3Fcourse_id%3D_93067_1. The page header includes the Sam Houston State University logo and navigation links for Home, Help, and Logout. The main content area is titled "Applied Study Questions" and features a "Reviewed" status indicator. The central heading is "Contemporary World Regional Geography". Below the heading, a message states: "This content element contains information that is regularly updated by McGraw-Hill." A link is provided: "To view this content, follow [this link](#)." The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with buttons for Announcements, Course Information, Staff Information, Course Documents, Assignments, Communication, Discussion Board, External Links, Tools, and Books. A "Tools" section at the bottom of the sidebar includes Communication, Course Tools, Course Map, Refresh, and Detail View. The footer of the page indicates "Powered by Blackboard" and "Local intranet".

6. GO TO AND TAKE “Assignments”>Quiz 1 (Chapter 1)



You will find a similar list (without the screen shots) at the end of each chapter’s “Lecture and Activities.” Since this course is using Blackboard adaptive release option, you **MUST** follow the above steps otherwise you will not be able to take your quizzes. In fact you can not even see the actual quizzes under **Assignments**, until you check “mark reviewed” on Key Terms, Study Questions, and Applied Study Questions (all found under Course Documents in its respective chapter folder).

In addition, Blackboard will also count the day and time you accessed the syllabus, “Lecture and Activities,” videos, key terms, and study quizzes. Frequent and consistent access will garner higher class participation than waiting and doing everything over a couple of days.

DO NOT OPEN UP QUIZES UNTIL READY TO TAKE IT!! ONCE A QUIZ IS OPENED YOU ARE FORCED TO COMPLETE IT (On completing a quiz press the **SUBMIT** button and **NOT the SAVE** button). Remember you are forced to complete a quiz once it is opened, so if you save a quiz, it can not be reopened.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO COPY THE QUIZZES BEFORE OR AFTER SUBMITTING IT FOR GRADING.

If you plan to submit more than one quiz during a single session, it is **ADVISED** to log out after each submitted assignment and then re-login to begin another assignment. After each quiz you should check your gradebook to make sure a numerical score has been assigned.

If you get the (!) symbol that means you went overtime. Do not immediately panic as I allow a one-minute grace period beyond the allotted 30 minutes. If your time falls within the grace period no points will be deducted. If you go over more than 1 minute, points will be deducted from your score. See following paragraph for overtime policy.

Students are given a 30-minute limit on each of the eight quizzes. There are seven quizzes worth a total of 160 points; there are 40 points for class participation (regular Blackboard access). Therefore, the course is based on 200 points. Blackboard should issue a one-minute warning.

This is your clue to finish. Should the warning fails to appear, for whatever reason, do your best to stay within the 30 minute time limit. If you should go over the allotted time, a **ONE-MINUTE** grace period will be permitted. If you go ONE SECOND over this grace period (31 minutes and one second) 5 points will be deducted from your quiz grade. Thereafter, for each additional minute, or portion of a minute overtime, 5 points will be deducted.

System errors will be indicated by a “lock” symbol in the gradebook. System errors that occur before the due date will be handled in the following manner. If system errors are the result of SHSU’s server being down etc., then you will be able to retake the exam without penalty. If system errors occur for any other reason, you will be allowed a total of 3 retakes without penalty; however, beginning on the fourth system error, 25 points will be deducted per system error.

If you experience a system error notify the instructor by email **immediately**, and I will clear it as soon as it is convenient for me. Once I have cleared the system error, you will have to retake the test before the deadline.

If the computer/Internet provider you use is subject to system errors, I recommend that you make arrangements to use another more reliable computer system and/or Internet provider when it comes time to take the online exams. If you are unable to gain access to a reliable computer system that will allow you to watch the videos and interact with the required content areas appropriately, this course will not be suitable for you and I suggest you enroll in the campus version of this course.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO PARTICIPATE AND COMPLETE THE QUIZZES.

**Deadline for all Quizzes is
11:00 AM, Monday, May 12, 2008!**

Chapter quizzes will appear under Assignments only after you have checked “mark reviewed” on Key Terms, Study Questions, and Applied Study Questions for each chapter.

Assignments Item #	Chapter	Questions /Points	Time Limit
1. MC/TF Quiz	CH 1 Globalization and World Regions	25 Points	30 minutes

2. MC/TF Quiz	CH 2 Concepts in World Regional Geography	25 Points	30 minutes
3. MC/TF Quiz	CH 3 Europe	25 Points	30 minutes
4. MC/TF Quiz	CH 4 Russia and Neighboring Countries	25 Points	30 minutes
5. MC/TF Quiz	CH 5 East Asia	25 Points	30 minutes
6. MC/TF Quiz	CH 6 Southeast Asia and South Pacific	25 Points	30 minutes
7. MC/TF Quiz	CH 12 A World of Geography	10 Points	30 minutes All quizzes are due by 11:00 AM, Monday, May 12, 2008! Any system error or other problems should be resolved well before this time so that time remains to complete the quizzes by the deadline
Class Participation	Access to Content Area	40 Points	Consistent access of course content (syllabus, lectures and activities, key terms, study questions, applied study questions, quizzes, videos) throughout the length of the course will garner more credit than doing everything just over a few days. Your quizzes should be taken about two weeks (10 to 14 days) apart

16. Grading Plan – The maximum total score for all assignments and class participation is 200 points. Grades are based on the percentage of the points a student earned over all points (200). For example, if a student earns 180 points by a combination of quizzes and class participation, then that student would receive a 90% or A.

<59.9%=F; 60-69.9%=D; 70-79.9%=C; 80-89.9%=B; 90-100%=A.

17. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including

but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

18. STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

19. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

20. COURSE OUTLINE

Chapter 1 Globalization and World Regions

Planet Earth: A World of Variety, Change, and Closer Links

Geography in Today's World

Geography of Regions

Geography at Work: Mapmakers and GIS Analysts

Regions and Globalization

Point-Counterpoint: Facets of Globalization

Major World Regions

Globalization and the Origins of World Regions

Chapter 2 Concepts in World Regional Geography

Regional Geography Basics

Issues of People and Land

Issues of Political Freedom

Point-Counterpoint: HIV/AIDS

Issues of Economic Inequality

Issues of Cultural Freedom and Discrimination

Natural Environmental Issues

Geography at Work: China's Landscapes and Global Change

World Regions, Human Development, and Human Rights

The Rest of the Book

Chapter 3 Europe

European Influences

Diversity, Conflict, and Technological Innovation

Natural Environment

Global Changes and Local Responses

Point-Counterpoint: The European Union

Subregions

Western Europe

Northern Europe

Geography at Work: Business Development

Mediterranean Europe

East Central Europe

Personal View: Bosnia-Herzegovina

Chapter 4 Russia and Neighboring Countries

New Relationships

Crossroads, Imperialism, and Cultural Diversity

Natural Environment

Global Changes and Local Responses

Point-Counterpoint: Russia: Still a World Power?

Geography at Work: Wine Industry

Subregions

The Slavic Countries

Personal View: Russia

The Southern Caucasus

Central Asia

Chapter 5 East Asia

East Asian Miracle

Cultural and Political Influences
Natural Environments
Globalization and East Asia
Point-Counterpoint: Population Policies in China
Personal View: Beijing Tourist Guide
Subregions
Japan
The Koreas
China, Mongolia, and Taiwan
Geography at Work: Frontier Forces

Chapter 6 Southeast Asia and South Pacific

A World of Influences
Natural Environments
Geography at Work: The Indian Ocean Tsunami of December 2004
Globalization and Local Change
Point-Counterpoint: Singapore
Subregions
Southeast Asia
Personal View: Malaysia
Australia and New Zealand
South Pacific Islands
Antarctica: A Region?

Chapter 12 A World of Geography

Eyes Opened
Diverse Worlds and Geographies of Conflict
Globalization and World History
A Case Study: Southern China
Geography at Work: AAG President in Iran: Reconciling Differences

1/10/08