EUROPE: COURSE OUTLINE

This course provides a broad introduction to the geography of Europe, with a particular focus on Western Europe\(^1\). More detailed coverage of Eastern Europe is provided by a separate course: 01:450:332 (Newly Independent States and Eastern Europe.)

The course has several objectives: (1) to increase your knowledge of Europe’s human and environmental geographies; (2) to explain the ways in which European lands and populations have interacted to create distinctive landscapes; (3) to examine the territorial organization of Europe spatially and at different scales; and (4) to provide information about contemporary problems faced by Europe, its component regions and major cities.

Information gained by taking this course will come partly from lectures, readings and other formal materials provided by the instructor. Where appropriate, there may also be presentations by visiting speakers who possess special knowledge about a particular European area or issue. Student participation and involvement is essential. This includes leading in-class discussions and making oral presentations.

You are expected to:

1) Complete assigned readings on time;
2) Lead and participate in class discussions as designated
3) Promptly submit written assignments;
4) Be prepared to deliver a formal oral presentation of your assignment

\(^1\) The area included within the following countries: Iceland, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, U.K., Ireland, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Malta, Cyprus, Greece and the mini-states of Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino and Vatican City.
TOPICS FOR LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

Sep. 4: Introduction: Why are we here and what are we going to do?
Sep. 8: Bounding Europe
Sep. 11: Navigating aerial imagery sources

ENVIRONMENT
Sep. 15: The European landscape: Natural processes
Sep. 18: The European landscape: Natural risks
Sep. 22: The European landscape: Human modification
Sep. 25: The European landscape: Cherished landscapes
Sep. 29: Resources

CULTURE
Oct. 2: Population
Oct. 6: Local and regional language differences: Diversity or division?
Oct. 9: Language change: Patterns of endangerment & multilingualism
Oct. 13: MIDTERM EXAM
Oct. 16: Sacred landscapes: Religious underpinnings of European culture
Oct. 20: Secular people: Public ethics and new European institutions
Oct. 23: Scale & geopolitics: Appropriate contexts for living
Oct. 27: Scale and geopolitics (continued)

LIVELIHOOD
Oct. 30: Agriculture and rural life
Nov. 3: Agriculture and rural life (continued)
Nov. 6: The decline of heavy industry and manufacturing
Nov. 10: The shift to tertiary industrialization: Services and information
Nov. 13: Tourism

URBANIZATION
Nov. 17: Europe’s historical cities: Problems and prospects
Nov. 20: Urban changes induced by globalization
Nov. 24: Social and ethic transitions
Nov. 25: TBA
Nov. 28: THANKSGIVING RECESS

Dec. 1: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS - I
Dec. 4: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS - II
Dec. 8: Emerging Europe
Dec. 16: FINAL EXAMINATION (1 PM-3 PM)
TEXTS AND OTHER SOURCES

The required text is: Alexander B. Murphy, Terry G. Jordan-Bychkov and Bella Bychkova Jordan. 2014. *The European Culture Area: A Systematic Geography*. New York: Rowman and Littlefield. 6th edition. It can be obtained from the Rutgers Bookstore and may be available for rental online (e.g. at skyo.com, bookreter.com or chegg.com).

A (preliminary) schedule of textbook readings is included below. A list of supplemental readings will also be distributed; these will include articles in on-line academic journals and other sources as well as original materials that will be added to the Sakai site for this course. <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

PRELIMINARY READING SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 8 - Sep. 11</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep. 15 - Sep. 18</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Sep. 29 – Oct. 2</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Oct. 6 – Oct. 9</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Oct. 16 - Oct. 20</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Oct. 23 – Oct. 27</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 6</td>
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<td>Oct. 30 - Nov. 3</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 7</td>
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<td>Nov. 6</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 8</td>
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<td>Nov. 10 – Nov. 13</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 9</td>
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<td>Nov. 17 – Nov. 20</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 10</td>
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<td>Nov. 24 – Nov. 25</td>
<td>Murphy et al. Chapter 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 1 – Dec. 4</td>
<td>No Readings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 8</td>
<td>Murphy et al, Chapter 12</td>
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ASSIGNMENTS

A term project is an important part of this class. See “Assignment” link on the class Sakai page for further details. Please make sure that your name is prominently affixed to each file.

GRADES

Course grades will be based on a midterm exam (30% of final grade), a term paper (40%), and a final exam (30%). If there are additional assignments grading weights will be modified accordingly. There is no provision for undertaking additional work to increase a grade. Attendance and active participation in class are expected. Makeup tests will not be given except in cases of documented emergencies.
CHEATING AND OTHER INFRACTIONS

University policies on ethical standards in relation to the preparation of written submissions and examinations will be *strictly* observed (see Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity, Sakai Site Resources link). Among other things this means no cheating on examinations, assignments or attendance records. All assignments must be original (i.e. your own work and not submitted in another course). For additional policies see: Department of Geography, Policy on Classroom Etiquette (Sakai Site Resources link).

INSTRUCTOR’S OFFICE HOURS

Dr. Mitchell is available for consultation at his office in the Department of Geography (Lucy Stone B-232, Livingston campus, Tel: 848-445-4345) from 2.00-3.00 p.m. on Mondays. Brief queries may be submitted via E-mail to jmitchel@rci.rutgers.edu.

*Tip for communicating electronically with the Instructor: ALWAYS identify yourself and the course for which you are enrolled.*