

## Course Syllabus

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### Summary

<b>Course Title</b>	Geography of Asia
<b>Course No.</b>	GEOG16343
<b>CRN</b>	25698
<b>Start/End Dates</b>	1/26/21 - 5/10/21
<b>Term/Module</b>	Spring 21

<b>Delivery Method</b>	<b>Number of Face-to-Face Meetings</b>
Online	0

### Course Description

With over 4 billion people living in an area comprising over 17 million square miles, Asia is at once the largest continent and most populous by wide margins. Japan and South Korea, the regional economic powers of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, have seen serious competition arise from their much larger neighbors. Today China and India are industrializing rapidly and parts of Southeast Asia have also witnessed strong growth.

Physically, "the roof of the world" (as the Himalayas are known), monsoon climatic systems and a good deal of the geologically volatile Pacific Ring of Fire are found here. The Ring of Fire has lived up to its nickname in recent years with major temblors in New Zealand, Japan, Indonesia and across the Pacific in Chile. Over the course of this semester students will appreciate the dynamic nature of the region and will explore the relationships that exist between human activity and various Asian geographies.

## Instructor

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<b>Name</b>	Charles D. McGlynn, Ph.D.
<b>Email</b>	mcglynn@rowan.edu
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Virtual Office Hours</b>	Post questions and comments for the instructor to the Office Hours board (in <b>Discussions Area</b> ). The instructor will respond within approximately 48 hours. For faster or more private correspondence, use email or phone.

## Objectives

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This is an upper level course; students will be expected to gain an appreciation for the inter-relations of Asia's physical, cultural, political and economic realms. By the end of this course you should be able to use geographic analysis to evaluate the essential differences between the various countries, the various sub- regions, and between realms of Asia and the West.

## Prerequisites

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None

## Materials and Texts

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1. **Required text:** Asia's Cauldron by Robert D. Kaplan, Random House Publishing, 2015
2. **Required Video Access:** A subscription to Amazon Prime

## Schedule

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The following schedule is tentative and may be changed with prior notification from the instructor.

Week	Start Date	Readings, Activities & Assignments
<b>1&amp;2</b>	1/26/21	<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prologue and Chapter 1 of Asia's Cauldron</li> </ul> <b>Lectures:</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture 1</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DQ 1</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignment 1</li> <li>Begin MA1 - Asia Country Project (due week 7)</li> </ul>
<b>3&amp;4</b>	2/9/21	<p><b>Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 2 of Asia's Cauldron</li> </ul> <p><b>Lectures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture 2</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DQ 2</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignment 2</li> </ul>
<b>5&amp;6</b>	2/23/21	<p><b>Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 3 of Asia's Cauldron</li> </ul> <p><b>Lectures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture 3</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DQ 3</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignment 3</li> </ul>
<b>7&amp;8</b>	3/9/21	<p><b>Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 4 of Asia's Cauldron</li> </ul> <p><b>Lectures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture 4</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DQ 4</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignment 4</li> </ul> <p><b>Quizzes/Exams:</b></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exam 1</li> </ul>
<b>9&amp;10</b>	3/23/21	<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 5 of Asia's Cauldron</li> </ul> <b>Lectures:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture 5</li> </ul> <b>Discussions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DQ 5</li> </ul> <b>Assignments:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignment 5</li> </ul>
<b>11&amp;12</b>	4/6/21	<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 6 of Asia's Cauldron</li> </ul> <b>Lectures:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture 6</li> </ul> <b>Discussions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DQ 6</li> </ul> <b>Assignments:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignment 6</li> </ul>
<b>13&amp;14</b>	4/20/21	<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 7 of Asia's Cauldron</li> </ul> <b>Lectures:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture 7</li> </ul> <b>Discussions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DQ 7</li> </ul> <b>Assignments:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assignment 7</li> <li>MA1-Project due</li> </ul>
<b>15</b>	5/4/21	<b>Readings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newspaper article</li> </ul> <b>Lectures:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lecture 8</li> </ul> <b>Discussions:</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DQ 8</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 8</li> </ul> <p><b>Quizzes/Exams:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exam 2</li> </ul>
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## Assignment Outline

### Weekly discussion (25% of grade) and assignments (25% of grade)

- 1) Each week at least one assignment involving a reading selection, video, map and / or digital handout will be assigned. You will answer questions related to them. There will also be at least one weekly question for the class discussion board.
- 2) Students will adopt a country (first come first serve) and be responsible to provide weekly updates to the class on it via the class discussion board. Keep abreast of current events and be prepared to share your insights with the class.
- 3) This is a class where your personal experience and/or observations of world events and places can enliven discussion and enhance the learning process *and* positively impact your grade.

### Major Assignment: 25% of grade

Your project will involve examining the site and situation of a major city in your adopted country. It does not have to be the national capital. Second tier cities such as Kyoto, Shanghai, Cebu, Kaohsiung, Karachi, Bogra and Busan are welcome (this list is by no means complete, there are of course far more second tier cities than 1<sup>st</sup> tier/capitals) You will need to be able to access data for the city and the bigger it is, the easier this usually is. Dili, the capital of East Timor has a population of under 200,000, but because it's the capital there is plenty of information available.

Your assignment is to develop a PowerPoint presentation **with speaker notes for each slide**. You will introduce the city's site, situation and historical settlement before focusing on additional spatial aspects. Please choose at least 3 additional topics. Possibilities include economic issues, languages, religions, tourism, and notable social/political issues such as migration, crime, taxation, pollution and child labor. Of course this list is not meant to be exhaustive, there are many more possibilities that could be explored. Short video links may be included as well. **No voice-over is required for this project.**

You may also choose investigate the various nationalities in your country **if they play a significant role in the city you have chosen**. For example the Kurds are very important in Mosul, Kirkuk and Baghdad, Iraq. (They do not need to be a majority) A partial list of other important ethnic minorities in Asia would include the Hmong, Uighers, Tibetans, Koryo, Ingorot, Sinhalese, Tamils and Khmer.

[www.realclearworld.com](http://www.realclearworld.com), [www.newgeography.com](http://www.newgeography.com), [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com), <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook>, [www.geography.usgs.gov](http://www.geography.usgs.gov), [www.geography.about.com](http://www.geography.about.com), are all good resources with articles, links and information from many sources on a wide variety of topics. **You are also strongly encouraged to search additional websites here and abroad including academic journals, national boards (tourism, environmental...), and**

newspapers of record.

### Exams: 25% of grade

Two exams will be required. A midterm exam and a final exam will cover each ½ of the semester (not cumulative) Questions will come from the textbook, lectures, videos and assigned readings. The format may include any/all of the following question types: multiple choice, fill-in, matching, short answer and essay questions.

*Your academic success is important. If you have a documented disability that may have an impact upon your work in this class, please contact me. Students must provide documentation of their disability to the Academic Success Center in order to receive official University services and accommodations. The Academic Success Center can be reached at 856-256-4234. The Center is located on the 3rd floor of Savitz Hall. The staff is available to answer questions regarding accommodations or assist you in your pursuit of accommodations. We look forward to working with you to meet your learning goals.*

*General semester averages of 94-100 earn an A; 90-93 = A-; 87-89 = B+; 84-86 = B; 80-83 = B-; 77-79 = C+; 74-76 = C; 70-73 = C; 67-69 = D+; 64-66 = D; 60-63 = D-. Final grades will be available at <https://sinfo.rowan.edu>. As per University regulations, if you wish a **pass / no credit** grade in this course you must request it in writing no later than the end of Drop / Add. Geography majors may not avail of this option. Your P/NC request is non-revocable. It is your responsibility to check with your academic advisor with regards to exercising this option. A "P" must be based on a minimum average of 60.*

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## Grading

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### Final Grade Breakdown

Grading Criteria/Assignment	Points/Percentage
Weekly Discussions	25%
Assignments	25%
Major Assignments	25%
Exams	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Grading Scale

<b>A</b>	93 and Up	<b>C</b>	74 – 76
<b>A-</b>	90 – 92	<b>C-</b>	70 – 73
<b>B+</b>	87 – 89	<b>D+</b>	67 – 69

<b>B</b>	84 – 86	<b>D</b>	64 – 66
<b>B-</b>	80 – 83	<b>D-</b>	60 – 63
<b>C+</b>	77 - 79	<b>F</b>	59 and Below

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## Rowan Online Standard Policies (addendum)

The current version of Rowan Online Standard Policies, which are an addendum to this syllabus, are found in the [Rowan Online Standard Policies Document](#).

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