DRAFT SYLLABUS
GEOG 202:  Geography of Europe / Winter 2012
MWF 10:00-10:50 am, 250 CLS + Discussion Sections

Instructor:  Alexander B. Murphy, 173 Condon Hall, abmurphy@uoregon.edu
Office Hours:  Tuesdays, 10:30-noon or by appointment

GTFs:  Anna Moore, 202 Condon Hall, amoore5@uoregon.edu
Discussion sections:  TBA
Office Hours:  TBA or by appointment

Emma Slager, 202 Condon Hall, eslager@uoregon.edu
Discussion sections:  TBA
Office Hours:  TBA or by appointment

Course description:  This course looks at Europe’s basic physical and human patterns/landscapes from a geographical perspective, focusing on how those patterns/landscapes came into being and how they have shaped Europe and the wider world over time. The course looks at regional variations in Europe through a problem-oriented approach—focusing not just on ‘where’ questions, but on ‘why there’ and ‘so what’ questions. Particular attention is devoted to the character of the physical and human-created landscape, cultural variations and their implications, settlement patterns, political divisions, and economic patterns and processes.


Course Requirements and Grading:  Three exercises (each worth 15% of the course grade), a place name quiz (worth 5% of the course grade), two midterms (worth 20% of the course grade), and participation in discussion sections (worth 10% of the course grade). All exercises must be turned in and all exams must be taken in order to pass the course. Regular class attendance and the completion of readings before the lecture to which they are assigned are expected. Please note that assignments must be turned in on time. Since you have ample warning of due dates, penalties will be assessed for late exercises unless the circumstances are exceptional. To ensure a level playing field for everyone, there will be no possibilities for extra-credit work. Instead, everyone’s grades will be based on the items enumerated above.

Learning Environment:  Everyone should respect the class as a place for learning. Showing respect for your peers is absolutely essential to a good group learning process. This includes tolerance of differing opinions, listening as well as talking, and refraining from personal attacks. Violations of academic integrity, such as plagiarism and cheating, are unacceptable (see http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/). Suspected violations will be reported to the Director of Student Judicial Affairs. If that office finds the student to be guilty of a violation, it may result in a failing grade for the course. Electronic devices such as cell phones and pagers must be turned off during class. Research shows that most students learn better by taking handwritten notes rather than typing on a laptop. If you decide to use a laptop, however, it should be used for nothing other than note taking in class. Violation of this policy will result in the loss of a letter grade.
Course Outline and Reading Assignments:

Apr. 2  
Introduction to the course
What is Europe?

Reading: Text, chapter 1

Apr. 4 & 6  
Basic characteristics of the physical environment

Reading: Text, chapter 2

EXERCISE # 1 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – APR. 6

Apr. 9 - PLACE NAME QUIZ

Apr. 11  
Human alteration of the environment

Reading: Review text, chapter 2

Apr. 13 & 16  
The peopling of Europe
Basic demographic characteristics of Europe

Reading: Text, chapter 3

Apr. 18 & 20  
The cultural diversity of Europe I
The geography of European languages

Reading: Text, chapter 4

Apr. 23 & 25  
The cultural diversity of Europe II
The geography of European religions

Reading: Text, chapter 5

EXERCISE # 1 DUE IN CLASS – APR. 23

Apr. 27  
Europe’s ethno-cultural diversity

Reading: Text, pp. 357 – 364 (top) of chapter 11

EXERCISE # 2 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – APR. 25

Apr. 30  
The rise of the European state system

Reading: Text, pp. 161 – 186 of chapter 6
May 2 & 4  Europe’s changing political geography over the past century
          The foundations of the European unification project

          Reading: Text, pp. 186 – 199 of chapter 6

MAY 7  FIRST MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)

May 9 & 11  Land use and settlement patters in the rural sector
             European agriculture in transition

          Reading: Text, chapter 7

May 14, 16, 18 & 21  Economic foundations of modern Europe
                      The Industrial Revolution and its consequences
                      The rise of the service sector
                      Deindustrialization and its political/social consequences

          Reading: Text, chapters 8 & 9

EXERCISE # 2 DUE IN CLASS – MAY 14

EXERCISE # 3 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – MAY 16

May 23, 25, 30 & June 1  The rise of the European City
(no class on Memorial
Day, May 28)  Land use and landscapes of the urban sector
             The changing character of the European city
             Contemporary social and ethnic issues

          Reading: Text, chapters 10 & 11 (you’ve already read pp. 357- top of 364)

EXERCISE # 3 DUE IN CLASS – JUNE 1

June 4 & 6  Whither European integration

          Reading: Text, chapter 12

June 8  SECOND MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)
SUMMARY SCHEDULE FOR ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS

4/6  EXERCISE # 1 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

4/9  PLACE NAME QUIZ

4/23 EXERCISE # 1 DUE IN CLASS

4/25 EXERCISE # 2 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

5/7  FIRST MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)

5/14 EXERCISE # 2 DUE IN CLASS

5/16 EXERCISE # 3 HANDED OUT IN CLASS

6/1  EXERCISE # 3 DUE IN CLASS

6/8  SECOND MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)