Instructor: Alexander B. Murphy, 173 Condon Hall, abmurphy@uoregon.edu  
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:30 – 3:30 or by appointment

GTFs: TBA  
Monday discussion sections  
Office Hours:

TBA  
Thursday/Friday discussion sections  
Office Hours:

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 considering ‘why there’ and ‘so what.’ 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.


Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
- Identify and describe Europe’s main physical and human geographical characteristics
- Understand the principal forces shaping those characteristics
- Comprehend how differences in geographical context can influence cultural, socio-economic, and political developments
- Appreciate some basic differences in the ways the world looks from Europe as opposed to the United States
- Grasp the nature and importance of geographical ways of thinking and analysis about a world region

Course Requirements and Grading:
- Read the assigned pages in the textbook before coming to class
- Attend class meetings
- Attend and participate in discussion sections (5% of grade)
- Take periodic in-class pop quizzes (11 in all; 10% of grade, with the lowest dropped)
- Complete three exercises outside of class (each worth 15% of grade)
- Take two midterms (each worth 20% of grade)

Note: All three exercises must be completed in order to pass the course. Penalties will be
assessed for late exercises unless the circumstances are exceptional. To ensure a level playing field for everyone, there will be no options for extra-credit work. **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. That means 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 smart 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 nonetheless decide to use a laptop, you must sit in the first two rows of the classroom and use your computer only for note taking. Violation of this policy will result in the loss of points that count toward the final grade in the class.

**Course Outline and Reading Assignments:**

**Jan. 8**

Introduction to the course

What is Europe?

*Reading*: Text, chapter 1

**EXERCISE # 1 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – JAN. 8**

**Jan. 10 & 17**

Basic characteristics of the physical environment

Human alteration of the environment

*Reading*: Text, chapter 2

**NO CLASS ON JAN. 15 - MLK HOLIDAY**

**Jan. 22**

The peopling of Europe

Basic demographic characteristics of Europe

*Reading*: Text, chapter 3

**Jan. 29 & 31**

The cultural diversity of Europe I

The geography of European languages

*Reading*: Text, chapter 4

**EXERCISE # 1 DUE IN CLASS – JAN. 29**

**EXERCISE # 2 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – JAN. 31**
Feb. 5  The cultural diversity of Europe II
       The geography of European religions

       Reading:  Text, chapter 5

Feb. 7  The rise of the European state system
       The disconnect between cultural and political boundaries

       Reading:  Chapter 6

**FEB 12  FIRST MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)**

Feb. 14 & 19  Land use and settlement patterns in the rural sector
               European agriculture in transition
               Economic foundations of modern Europe

               Reading:  Text, chapter 7 and pp. 233-235 of chapter 8

**EXERCISE # 2 DUE IN CLASS – FEB. 19**

Feb. 21 & 26  The Industrial Revolution and its consequences
               The rise of the service sector
               Transportation developments and their impacts
               Deindustrialization and its consequences

               Reading:  Text, pp. 235-271 of chapter 8 & pp. 2275-289 of chapter 9

**EXERCISE # 3 HANDED OUT IN CLASS – FEB. 21**

Feb. 28 & Mar. 5  The nature and development of the European City
                  Land use and landscapes of the urban sector
                  The changing character of the European city

                  Reading:  Text, chapter 10

Mar. 7  Europe’s Changing Social and Ethnic Geography
        Approaches to social welfare
        The role of recent migrants in European society

        Reading:  Text, chapter 11

**EXERCISE # 3 DUE IN CLASS – MAR. 12**

Mar. 12 & 14  The European unification project
              Whither European integration
              Opportunities and Challenges in Contemporary Europe
MAR. 19, 10:15 am  SECOND MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING SCHEDULED
FINAL EXAM PERIOD FOR THE CLASS)

SUMMARY SCHEDULE FOR ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS

1/8   EXERCISE # 1 HANDED OUT IN CLASS
1/29  EXERCISE # 1 DUE IN CLASS
1/21  EXERCISE # 2 HANDED OUT IN CLASS
2/12  FIRST MIDTERM EXAMINATION (DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIOD)
2/19  EXERCISE # 2 DUE IN CLASS
2/21  EXERCISE # 3 HANDED OUT IN CLASS
3/12  EXERCISE # 3 DUE IN CLASS
3/19  SECOND MIDTERM EXAMINATION (10:15 am)