



# CALVARY UNIVERSITY

## Syllabus

15800 Calvary Rd.  
Kansas City, MO 64147

Course: SS245D&DN World Geography  
Credit: 3 Semester Hours  
Semester: Spring 2026, Session 1  
Time: TR 1:00pm -2:20  
Instructor: Tressa Barnes email: tressa.barnes@calvary.edu

### I. DESCRIPTION

This course is a basic study of world geography. The regional geography of the United States is also discussed.

*This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the class in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

### II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Examine aspects of physical, human, and regional geography (PLO 1, Assignments A & E)
2. Identify some interrelationships between humans and their natural environment. (PLO 2, Assignments B & C)
3. Acquire skill in researching physical and human geography. (PLO 2 & 3, Assignments D & E)

*Our Mission: To prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview.*

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Gain an overview of the Earth's physical environment. (PLO 1 & 4, Assignments A, B, D, E)
2. Examine geographic information for the regions of the world. (PLO 1, Assignments A, B,C, D)
3. Evaluate the consequences of people altering natural conditions. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, Assignments B, C, D)
4. Consider how changes in natural conditions impact people. (PLO 1, 4, Assignments B, C, D, E)

### III. REQUIREMENTS

- A. Read every page of the textbook in accordance with the class schedule. Write your thoughts regarding the content of each chapter on a one-page single-spaced typewritten reflection/reaction/summary of the material presented in the chapter. Turn in a chapter r/r/s report every week. Late work will be penalized with a grade reduction.
- B. Type your answers to the "Questions for Review and Discussion" at the end of each chapter. Late work will cause your grade to be lowered.
- C. Type your answer to one of the "Thinking Geographically" questions for each chapter of the textbook. Late work will lower your grade.
- D. Each of you will be assigned to give two presentations in class. More details will follow.
- E. Map Labs. You will be expected to complete each lab every week on areas of the world.
- F. Attend all class sessions, and participate in all Canvas "discussions"

### IV. METHODS

Class time will be spent discussing topics related to each chapter in the textbook, talking about the "Questions for Review and Discussion, sharing some of your "geographical thoughts", and evaluating geography related internet resources.

### V. MATERIALS:

Textbooks:

Pulsipher, Lydia, Pulsipher, Alex , World Regional Geography Concepts. W. H. Freeman; Third edition. ISBN 978-1464110719. Cost new \$45

### VI. GRADING (late assignments will lower your final grade)

A. Reading	20 percent.
B. Discussion posts	20 percent.
C. Presentations	20 percent
D. Presentations	10 percent.
E. Geography Paper	14 percent.
F. Class Attendance	10 percent

## VII ACADEMIC STATEMENTS

PERSONAL DEVICES: The use of cell phones, laptops, tablets, and related devices is permissible for educational purposes only (i.e note-taking or researching information pertinent to discussion), with prior approval from the instructor. **Use of electronic devices outside of educational purposes is expressly prohibited.** When not being used according to the guidelines established, electronic devices should be stored in students' belongings and out of sight. If a student has an emergency and are awaiting for an urgent phone call, they should inform the instructor ahead of time.

Failure to adhere to these policies may result in the student being asked to leave class, and marked as absent for the first offense. A second offense may result in withdrawal from the course.

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

All class papers must follow the APA style according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7<sup>th</sup> edition*.

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in

these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.

The Clark Academic Center ([cac@calvary.edu](mailto:cac@calvary.edu)), located in the library building, is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams, and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.