

2009 – Fall Term – GEO131: The World's Regions

Quantitative rankings

Rating Scale:

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

65 Students, 2 sections	Number of responses in each category					
	Question	1	2	3	4	5
1. Clear student learning objectives	0	0	1	7	48	4.84
2. Class well prepared & organized	0	1	4	7	45	4.68
3. Communicates material clearly	0	0	0	12	45	4.79
4. Displays interest in subject	0	0	0	4	52	4.93
5. Summarizes/emphasizes important points	0	0	0	8	49	4.86
6. Stimulates thinking about subject	0	0	4	16	37	4.58
7. Provides opportunities for outside contact	0	0	3	11	42	4.70
8. Expresses concern about student progress	0	1	3	17	36	4.54
9. Provides useful feedback	0	0	5	6	45	4.71
10. Clearly indicates how evaluated	0	1	3	8	45	4.70
Total of 10 questions	0	3	23	96	444	4.73
15. I have put a lot of effort into this course compared to other courses.	1	5	9	33	9	3.77

Student comments

Comment on aspects of the instructor's teaching style that helped the learning process	Comment on aspects of the instructor's teaching style that could be improved upon to help the learning process
1) Highlighting terms in red was very helpful. The overall structure was good.	1) Too much emphasis on writing
2) Very nice guy and good teacher. I hope to have him again.	2) A little slow at grading things.
3) he is very organized and has a lot of interest in the class.	3) More engaging. More games! Require no laptops!
4) Very open and available to help students. Organized. Explains exactly what we need to know and what information we are responsible for	4) Don't grade essays 60% content, 40% writing. Too much for a geography class.
5) He is really interactive and knows how to make the class interesting. Very well organized and his passion for the material makes me care more.	5) none!
6) Dr. Kirk is by far the most prepared for and organized professor I have ever had. He has very clear course expectations and nothing comes as a surprise. Totally refreshing.	6) N/A
7) <not answered>	7) <not answered>
8) Very well organized also stated everything clearly all directions and class lectures very clear.	8) <not answered>
9) Ample feedback on assignments. Great structure.	9) Require participation

10) Very organized and presents material in various and interesting ways.	10) <not answered>
11) Happy and friendly. Good student teacher relationship.	11) Less writing assignments
12) Good teacher, fun, interesting	12) Lighter grading on grammar and writing quality
13) <not answered>	13) <not answered>
14) Incorporating place name geography with global issues	14) The papers talked about important topics, but none especially trade blocs went into any reasonable depth. I would have preferred 4 papers of 1000 words so that the class could really spend time talking about trade blocs and how they affect international political economy, or failed states, and why they fail empirically.
15) Organized, direct, clear	15) More engaged in classroom setting
16) He was very clear and explained everything pretty well. He made class very enjoyable.	16) <not answered>
17) Very easily approachable.	17) <not answered>
18) Varies content, makes the class fun and feels like it goes fast. Very organized and helpful.	18) Don't allow computers, people get really distracted and there's no need for them since everything on powerpoint gets posted on Bb
19) I have learned a lot in this class compared to others. He is always organized	19) None
20) Best class ever. Learned a lot. Good stuff	20) <not answered>
21) Very prepared with clear objectives every class.	21) <not answered>
22) He emphasized important points. The region essays were good for learning about the different regions and I feel like overall this course was pretty helpful.	22) <not answered>
23) <not answered>	23) Indicating how work will be graded
24) <not answered>	24) <not answered>
25) <not answered>	25) <not answered>
26) Honestly the best class I have taken at this University, the most I have learned, and absolutely the best instructor.	26) N/A
27) Dr. Kirk is probably the most organized teacher I have ever met. He did a good job teaching!	27) <not answered>
28) Posting links to map games and handing out maps in class to have	28) Don't give a 2,000 word paper at end of year, every professor does this and it leaves no time for anything else.
29) Clean, organized and wanted you to succeed. Friendly, made you comfortable to ask questions and seek help	29) Demanding respect in class
30) Everything was very well laid out which made it easy to keep up	30) The essays were sort of difficult since I tried to change my style, but my grade barely changed.
31) <not answered>	31) While I appreciate your emphasis on improving our writing skills, I can't help thinking it was redundant and unnecessary. Most if not all of us in this class have taken College Writing and/or Global so we've already done enough writing-workshop-type activities. By the way, one of my friends in the class next door commented on how loud you are when you teach, so you might want to watch your volume!
32) The expectations were clear. I liked the color coded text on powerpoints.	32) Be more organized about putting up slides.

Ryan Kirk, Assistant Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, Elon University.
 GEO131: The World's Regions-- End-of-Semester student evaluations.
 All comments are reproduced verbatim; nothing is left out.

33) Very easy to follow and is always willing to help and answer questions.	33) <not answered>
34) The lecture slides denote important topics in red which is helpful. Also, the discussion groups work well.	34) Maybe a little more prepare as far as slides go with missing or extra information.
35) <not answered>	35) <not answered>
36) Loved your class and teaching style	36) Final paper seemed to be a huge jump from region essays – was difficult.
37) <not answered>	37) <not answered>
38) <not answered>	38) <not answered>
39) I really like the discussions and essays. They make me think and apply what I have learned to everyday life.	39) ORGANIZATION
40) <not answered>	40) <not answered>
41) Very knowledgeable about the subject. Loved the class!	41) <not answered>
42) Really enjoyed the class. You are one of the most reasonable and flexible professors I have had at Elon. Thanks!	42) <not answered>
43) Quizzes much more helpful than essays.	43) <not answered>
44) <not answered>	44) <not answered>
45) Feedback	45) Less essays, more class discussions
46) <not answered>	46) <not answered>
47) <not answered>	47) <not answered>
48) <not answered>	48) <not answered>
49) <not answered>	49) <not answered>
50) Powerpoints. Videos. Discussions. Thanks!	50) More discussions. Longer essays and shorter final
51) Great professor, clear goals. Easy to communicate with.	51) <not answered>
52) Love this class and teacher! Very well organized and interesting, don't change it!	52) <not answered>
53) Very clear. Highlights main points well. Very helpful.	53) Somewhat disorganized.
54) <not answered>	54) <not answered>
55) Very organized, outline of class objectives, schedule	55) <not answered>
56) Really clear expectations. Interesting essay prompts. Enjoyed music from regions we are studying. Very accessible, helpful, great communication	56) Sometimes slide shows too long. Also the wind pattern maps were boring
57) He showed interest in the subjects he taught	57) The class discussions took too long, didn't need to be so long however they were interesting.
58) The powerpoints are very helpful and color coded on what the info is important for.	58) Spend less time writing essays and more time on map quiz material.
59) Powerpoints, discussions, videos	59) <not answered>