

## 2010 – Fall Term – GEO131: The World's Regions

### Quantitative rankings

Rating Scale:

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

85 Students, 3 sections	Number of responses in each category					Avg
	1	2	3	4	5	
Question						
1. Clear student learning objectives				2	26	4.93
2. Class well prepared & organized				3	25	4.89
3. Communicates material clearly				5	23	4.82
4. Displays interest in subject				2	26	4.93
5. Summarizes/emphasizes important points				4	24	4.86
6. Stimulates thinking about subject			2	8	18	4.57
7. Provides opportunities for outside contact			1	9	18	4.61
8. Expresses concern about student progress			3	9	16	4.46
9. Provides useful feedback				8	20	4.71
10. Clearly indicates how evaluated				6	22	4.79
<b>Total of 10 questions</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>4.76</b>
15. I have put a lot of effort into this course compared to other courses.		1	5	15	7	4.00

### 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) Dr. Kirk gives very organized notes and clear objectives for both quizzes and essays. I have greatly enjoyed the inquiry questions Dr. Kirk asks in class discussions and assignments because they make me think out of the box. I think it is very obvious that Dr. Kirk puts a lot of time in to planning lessons and making class interesting and as a student I greatly appreciate it.	1) <no answer>
2) It was clear he had a lot of interest in what he was teaching and I really respect the amount of work and effort he put into the class to teach us and keep things interesting.	2) everything was great.
3) Color coding of slideshows, feedback on essays/peer evaluations, all the documents on blackboard.	3) <no answer>
4) Very organized. Provides good feedback.	4) Sometimes lecture got very technical which made it a little boring.

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5) All of it.	5) None.
6) <no answer>	6) <no answer>
7) Very engaged, upbeat, and friendly; lessons and lectures were engaging.	7) I think this class is perfect the way it is.
8) Like the map quizzes, seemed interested in the subject	8) Too much writing.
9) Great class. Great Professor.	9) <no answer>
10) <no answer>	10) <no answer>
11) <no answer>	11) <no answer>
12) <no answer>	12) <no answer>
13) bomb.com	13) <no answer>
14) Very passionate and organized. Has effective articles and videos and resources	14) Nothing
15) Made class fun! Learned a lot I hadn't known before!	15) <no answer>
16) <no answer>	16) <no answer>
17) Very nice, passionate about what he teaches & cares about his students. Works hard and gives excellent feedback on essays.	17) <no answer>
18) <no answer>	18) <no answer>
19) Great teacher! Very helpful and understanding, and I love the format of the class.	19) Nothing!
20) Really great! Information is clearly taught and understandable.	20) Like him a lot

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21) He is awesome, so helpful, always answers questions, very friendly, loves the topic, wants students to succeed, class is always interesting, good group discussions	21) More specific final paper
22) A ton of feedback on assignments. Relevant and current readings. Various instruction styles. Open to new perspectives. One of the best professors I've had at Elon, I LOVED this class!	22) Less broad final paper
23) I thought this class was extremely well taught. Professor Kirk had a very organized class that I think found an excellent balance between lectures, group discussions, workload and quizzes and tests. Would recommend to others.	23) Final paper was very ambitious, but a little broad. Could be better if we spent more time discussing.
24) I liked that the map quizzes were cumulative; it will make the final less stressful. Also, the use of color-coding the important texts in the powerpoints. Also, the 800-1200 word limit allowed me to really investigate the topic.	24) There is nothing that I thought needed improving.
25) Professor Kirk really understands the subject and stresses on the importance of it, which helps us learn. Class is interesting and we learn a lot. Easily one of my favorite classes and professors.	25) Just a little more feedback on writing assignments.
26) powerpoints online.	26) Time management of class – trying to cram too much into one day.
27) I think Dr. Kirk is very helpful and one of the more interesting teachers I have had. Thanks for not having a textbook.	27) Sometimes the grades in this class are a little much for a 100 level class, but I still liked it.
28) Genuine in wanting us to learn and get as much out of this class as we can. Very approachable.	28) <no answer>
29) Dr. Kirk was very well organized and it was nice to know exactly what would be happening at all times. He was passionate about the subject and it really encouraged me to participate in class.	29) Despite the fact that it is a broad topic some of his slides are daunting. He could have condensed a lot of info.
30) This has been one of my best classes in my 4 years at Elon. Dr. Kirk is one of the most organized and knowledgeable teachers I've had at Elon and he was always willing to help students and even extend due dates if need be. I have learned a tone from his class and it has encouraged me to take Int'l Relations my last semester at Elon.	30) <no answer>
31) Very structured and well organized.	31) <no answer>
32) He is very methodical which helped. I really liked that we talked very generally about topics such as political and economic geography, this aided individual thinking.	32) Very hard and general grader on essays.
33) <no answer>	33) <no answer>
34) <no answer>	34) <no answer>
35) Clear objectives	35) <no answer>
36) I really enjoyed this course	36) Final paper was too broad.
37) He is organized and enthusiastic. His attitude and enjoyment of the subject is what kept me coming to the class.	37) <no answer>
38) <no answer>	38) <no answer>

39) Good lessons. Very good use of the technology (powerpoints are excellent)	39) <no answer>
40) Very organized, gives clear instructions, my favorite class of the semester.	40) nothing
41) Incredible preparation	41) None
42) <no answer>	42) More shorter quizzes
43) <no answer>	43) <no answer>
44) Great class!!	44) <no answer>
45) <no answer>	45) <no answer>
46) <no answer>	46) Don't make it so easy to know exactly what students need to know for test otherwise they tune out for the other slides.
47) Relates place-name geography to real-life themes	47) Discussion group research were not always helpful
48) Dr. Kirk is engaging in class discussions	48) <no answer>
49) Powerpoint slides w/highlighted important points; map quiz; group work	49) More spread out 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of semester – was loaded with work
50) This class was well organized and the information was presented clearly. All course material was easily accessible.	50) <no answer>
51) Everything was great. Good ppts	51) <no answer>
52) <no answer>	52) <no answer>
53) <no answer>	53) <no answer>
54) The instructor goes over everything we learned throughout the entire semester so that we will remember.	54) Give more quizzes for a chance of a better final grade
55) Using maps for visualization and highlighting important points in red really helped me take appropriate notes.	55) I did not feel the group work helped my learning that much.
56) Dr. Kirk is a great instructor though Tuesday-Thursday class gets long which we fully appreciate.	56) <no answer>
57) Powerpoints with highlighted key facts was helpful as were the suggested study websites.	57) The final paper should either focus on narrative or research, very difficult to incorporate both
58) Doesn't just teach places but information about them and relations. Some group work	58) Less lecture and going through slides
59) Use of maps. Use of regional music. Topics for papers	59) Lessen focus on names of places, more on the places themselves
60) It was very good and interesting. Made learning countries fun. Nice to have breaks.	60) Change up what we do every day to keep interest.
61) Made clear what we would be tested on with powerpoint. Available for help when needed.	61) <no answer>
62) I really enjoyed the excitement about the topic and made a sometimes dull subject fun.	62) I think sometimes we had too much on our plate.
63) Upbeat tempo makes class fun	63) Nothing, good teacher
64) <no answer>	64) <no answer>
65) I like how we use articles instead of a textbook because everything is up to date. I like his learning style in this class.	65) <no answer>
66) Dr. Kirk is passionate, engaging, and knows what he's talking about. I like set up around doing essays, and the	66) I think more in class practice with the maps would help.

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option of the writing center.	
67) The teacher's daily powerpoints and complementing videos kept me interested in lectures.	67) It was frustrating doing the readings and preparing for in-class writings that were never collected for grades. I put a lot of time into reading and understanding class concepts but have nothing to show for it because we weren't tested on them and I did just average on the essay. Too much focus on my writing not enough on my class knowledge.
68) The powerpoints are good. Really like that we learn about other forms of geography, not just physical. Loved doing political and historical. Its good the essays are short.	68) Better background knowledge on some areas (i.e. Kosovo). Wish we did more historical background on places like Central Asia.
69) Geography may have been my favorite class this year. The teacher made the information very exciting and interesting. I was able to learn key points that I will likely remember for a long time.	69) <no answer>
70) The class is very organized and many of the class visuals and readings make it easy to group course material in a new way. Professor is easy to understand and very flexible.	70) More emphasis on the points that will be on the test.
71) <no answer>	71) <no answer>