

# GEOG A102: REGIONAL FIELD STUDIES IN EUROPE

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	12/08/2021
Top Code	220600 - Geography
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	81 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 40.5; Lab Hours 40.5)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S)

## Course Description

Field studies of the geography of Europe. Physical and cultural processes, characteristics and landscapes will be observed and analyzed. Specific content will vary by geographic region. Student will be responsible for all travel costs. Transfer Credit: CSU.

## Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Student will identify, analyze and interpret spatial information for Europe.
2. Student will understand the spatial distributions, processes and controls of Europe' regional features from the global to local scale.

## Course Objectives

- 1. Read topographic, thematic, and reference maps of the Europe region
- 2. Use GPS units for data collection and use GIS to map field data
- 3. Collect and document physical and cultural field data - Humidity, temperature, soil, vegetation, geology - Ethnicity, land use, settlement patterns
- 4. Relate observations to cultural and /or physical processes
- 5. Identify cultural and physical geographic landscapes

## Lecture Content

- Orientation
  - Transportation
  - Lodging
  - General introduction to the region
- Map Reading and Interpretation
  - Identify locations using the geographic grid
  - Identify physical and cultural features using map symbols
  - Identify landforms using contour lines on a topographic quadrangle
  - Plot locations using GPS data and GIS applications
- Data Collection
  - Physical Data
    - Collecting temperature using Fahrenheit or Celsius
    - Identifying flora and fauna
    - Identifying physical landforms
    - Identifying climate weather processes
  - Cultural Data
    - Research historical human settlement patterns
    - Identify regional architecture and its influences
    - Identify ethnic influences in the landscape – architecture, language, religion, food, and clothing
    - Identify primary,

- secondary, and tertiary land uses and economic activities
- Field Observations and Documentation
  - Bibliographic information
  - Notation
  - Photographs
  - Mapping
  - Journals
- The Physical Environment
  - Regional Weather and Climate
    - Latitude and Seasons
    - Coastal vs. Continental location
    - Altitude – windward vs. leeward
    - Prevailing winds and frontal systems
    - Precipitation processes
    - Climate types and controls
  - Regional Vegetation and Soils
    - Adaptation of vegetation to regional climate/s and soil types
    - Influence of parent material and weathering in soil
  - Regional Geomorphology
    - Classification of landform types
    - Processes of landform development including tectonics, diastrophism, weathering, fluvial, aeolian, and glacial
  - Current Environmental Issues in the Region
- The Cultural Environment
  - Historical Settlement in the Region
    - Migration
    - Indigenous groups
    - Rural and urban settlement patterns and growth in the Region
    - Origin of migrants
    - Push and pull factors
    - Cultural characteristics including language, religion, food, architecture and other customs
    - Political boundaries, the European Union and separatist movements
    - Land Use and Economic Activity in the Region
      - Role of physical environment in agriculture and extraction
      - Relative location and economic development
  - Current Cultural Issues in the Region
  - Evaluation and Analysis
    - Integration of environmental and cultural characteristics
    - Analysis of data collected

## Lab Content

Vist explore key physical, cultural and historical regional sites. Walking tours Museums Field observations collecting data Documenting, mapping and analyzing field observations

## Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- Lab (04)
- Field Experience (90)

## Instructional Techniques

- Reading college level textbook, books and journal articles relevant to the geographic region
- Class discussions
- Student research presentations
- Field observations and collection of data
- Field analysis

## Reading Assignments

Students will spend a total of 27 hours on: Critical analysis and comprehension of assigned readings. Research and observations on local current issues. Oral presentations on a local current issue.

## Writing Assignments

Students will spend a total of 27 hours on: Research reports Field Journal

## Out-of-class Assignments

Students will spend a total of 27 hours on: Landscape analysis and observations. Visiting important field sites and guest lectures.

## Demonstration of Critical Thinking

Written and oral reports

## **Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration**

Final report on a topic or event. Field Journal

## **Eligible Disciplines**

Geography: Masters degree in geography OR bachelors degree in geography AND masters degree in geology, history, meteorology, or oceanography OR the equivalent OR see interdisciplinary studies. Masters degree required.

## **Textbooks Resources**

1. Required Blouet, B.W.. The EU and Neighbors: A Geography of Europe in the Modern World, 3rd ed. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley, 2018