CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
Regional study is one of the foundational approaches in the discipline of geography. This course allows for the advanced study of the physical, demographic, cultural, economic, and political geography of a selected region. This course is also intended to serve as a capstone course for geography students, integrating both concepts introduced in foundational human and physical geography courses. Individual regions are denoted with a letter following 433 (e.g. 433I: South Asia). Students cannot repeat the same version of 433 (e.g. two 433I offerings) for credit. Field trips outside of class time may be required.

PREREQUISITES: 60 credits, including four credits of 300/400 level geography

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 60

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:
Length of course: ___
Hours per day: ___

OTHER:
Maximum enrolment: 28
Expected frequency of course offerings: Every fall and winter
(every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only)  
[ ] Yes  [ ] No

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)  
[ ] Yes  [ ] No

TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:  
[ ] Yes  [ ] No
LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the major physical features, cities, and sub-regions of the region under study, along with their significance;
2. Describe the transformation of the physical environment in the evolution of agricultural and resource systems, cultural and economic landscapes, and urban development;
3. Utilize regional geographic methods to present a geographic analysis of the major demographic, physical, cultural, and economic problems and issues affecting the region, and to place these in a larger national and/or international context;
4. Evaluate and integrate different sources of information (on-line, journal, book, newspaper, etc.) as part of a research project in regional study;
5. Effectively convey one’s findings and understandings of the research and course material through seminar discussion, presentation, and critical written review;
6. Successfully demonstrate an understanding of the future geographic challenges that the region faces.

METHODS:  (Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)

Most likely instructional methods include lecture and seminar discussion, along with field trips when possible. Some regional studies will make field study unlikely. Instructional methods will vary somewhat according to instructor and region under study.

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):

☒ Examination(s) ☐ Portfolio assessment ☐ Interview(s)
☐ Other (specify):

☐ PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s):

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:  [Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example for this course might be:]

Textbooks will depend on the region under study. The following books are used for Geog. 433H: North America—Focus: the American West


The following materials are used for Geog. 433I: South Asia

- GEOG 433 Course Reading Pack available at the bookstore.
- Selected readings available through the UFV Library Journal Index and course webpage.
- Internet newspapers, as described in the Current Events assignment.

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

There will be a fee for field trip transportation and accomodation costs, if applicable.

STUDENT EVALUATION:  [An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

The following evaluation scheme is for 433H: North America

Reading responses/ critiques (2)  40% (20% x2)
Film review 10%
Research project 25%
Field trip report or response 15%
Seminar participation and feedback 10%

The following evaluation scheme is for 433I: South Asia

Participation 10%
Midterm exam 20%
Current events review 15%
Research paper 30%
Proposal (5%)/Paper (25%)
Final exam 25%
**COURSE CONTENT:** Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:

Course content will vary according to the region under study. The following schedule is for **Geog. 433H: North America—Focus: The American West**

**Week 1:** Introduction: Course introduction, themes; ‘Locating’ the American West: The West in the continental (and global) context  
- Subregions of the West: Physical and economic geographic characteristics of Western spaces—the Midwest

**Week 2:** Subregions of the West: Physical and economic geographic characteristics of Western spaces—the Plains and Rockies/Plateaus

**Week 3:**  
- Subregions of the West: Defining physical and economic geographic characteristics of Western spaces—West Coast, Hawaii, and Alaska  
- Exploration and Empire: the Louisiana Purchase, Lewis and Clark, and the intellectual and commercial opening of the American West

**Week 4:** Mythology, place, and landscape  
- The Marlboro Man Mystique: Discussion of the values associated with mythologies of the West  
- Homesteading’s Legacy: Discussion of Raban’s, *Bad Land*

**Week 5:** Homesteading’s Legacy

**Week 6:** Park creation and the growth of the tourism industry  
- America’s Playground: Discussion of the role of western spaces in the American tourist imagination  
- Yellowstone’s Legacy: The creation of a national park system  
- Tourism in the American West today

**Week 7:** The Great Western Thirst, I: Historical approaches to the West’s most contested resource  
- Film: *Cadillac Desert (one part of series)*  
- Discussion of *Cadillac Desert*

**Week 8:** The Great Western Thirst, II and III  
- The Colorado River and the rise of the modern environmental movement  
- The Great Western Thirst, III: Managing the West’s most contested resource today

**Week 9:** Western Resource Management  
- Smokey’s Blowing Smoke: Fire Management in the West  
- The Federal West: Government, Private Lands, and the Paradox of Growth  
- Discussion of ranching and federal lands

**Week 10:** The Legacy of a Resource Past: Case study of Libby, Montana; *Film: Libby, Montana*

**Week 11:** The Urban West  
- World War II, migration, and the shaping of the Far Western urban landscape  
- Metropolitan and non-metropolitan growth trends

**Week 12:** The (Multi)cultural Landscapes of the American West  
- Faith and Landscape Intertwined: Discussion of Mormonism in the American West  
- On the Border: Discussion of a Mexican-American Hearth

**Week 13:** Where the Future Lies: Native Americans in the West; Native lands, Native futures; Buffalo Commons

**Week 14:** “New” West vs. “Old” West—the future of Western economies and social geographies
The following schedule is for Geog. 433I: South Asia

Week 1: Introduction to regional geography

Week 2: Globalization; Physical Geography of South Asia; Indus Valley to European Civilization; Independence

Week 3: Indus Valley to European Civilization; Independence

Week 4: Partition; Overview: India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh

Week 5: Overview: Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka; Regional Geopolitics

Week 6: Major Religion; Midterm

Week 7: Field Trip; Caste and Class

Week 8: Gender and Culture; Agricultural Change

Week 9: Rural Livelihoods and Informal Economy; Forests, conservation, and degradation

Week 10: Development, Environment and People; Poverty and Development Schemes

Week 11: Democracy and Caste Politics

Week 12: Communal Conflict in India; Conflict in Sri Lanka, Nepal and Pakistan

Week 13: High tech revolution; Current Issues and the future

Week 14: Final exam review

Series: Course Number and Lettering

The letter lettering schematic will be used to indicate region of study

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