REGIONS AND CULTURES OF EUROPE

REE 345 #44695 **Fall 2012**

Meets with GRG 326 and EUS 346

Instructor: Dr. Bella Bychkova Jordan **e-mail:** belka@mail.utexas.edu

Office hours: Wednesday from 1:00 till 3:00 in Calhoun 3 and by appointment

Course description: This course is a systematic introduction to geography of all regions of Europe, from Iceland to Sicily and European Russia and Finland to Bretagne and Galicia. The course is based on a renowned textbook by Alexander B. Murphy, Terry G. Jordan-Bychkov and Bella Bychkova Jordan and focuses on all the major aspects of the European makeup: its physical, economic, political, and cultural geography, geolinguistics and environmental issues. A special attention is given to such issues as expansion of the European Union and NATO, problems associated with immigration and ethnic tensions, challenges of multiculturalism and integration. A significant portion of the class is dedicated to the analysis of demographic, urban and agricultural patterns. The historical perspective allows the analysis of the evolution of the European civilization during the last two millennia and resulting geographical patterns in modern Europe.

Course grading policy: students must take 3 exams, each worth 33.3% of the final grade. Make-up exams will be allowed only in cases of medical emergency with the written proof from the doctor's office. There will not be a final exam.

Required textbook: Alexander B. Murphy, Terry G. Jordan-Bychkov and Bella Bychkova Jordan. The European Culture Area: A Systematic Geography, 2009, 5th edition. Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, Boulder, CO. Available at The Co-Op and amazon.com

Course schedule

August 30 **Introduction to the course**

September 4 **Europe Defined**/ Ch.1: 1-24

September 6 **Habitat: Terrain**/ Ch.2: 25-35

September 11 **Habitat: Hydrogeography**/ Ch.2: 35-44

September 13 **Habitat: Climate types**/ Ch.2: 45-54/

Habitat: Vegetation and Soils/ Ch.2: 54-69

September 18 **Major Demographic Patterns**/Ch.3: 71-84

September 20 **Geolinguistics**/ Ch.4: 95-123

September 25	**Geography of Religion**/ Ch.5: 125-160
September 27	**Migration & Integration Challenges**/ Ch.3: 85-93
October 2	**EXAM 1**
October 4	**Evolution of the European State**/ Ch.6: 161-174
October 9	**European State System: Case Studies**/ Ch.6: 174-191
October 11	**European Agriculture**/ Ch.7: 201-233
October 16	**Modern Rural Patterns**/ Ch.7: 233-236
October 18	**Industrial Revolution**/Ch.8: 237-252
October 23	**Modern Industries**/Ch.8: 252-261
October 25	**Service & Information Economy**/Ch.9: 263-294
October 30	**EXAM 2**
November 1	**Rise of the European City**/Ch.10: 295-316
November 13	**Modern European Cities**/Ch.10: 316-339
November 15	**Green Europe/Handout materials**
November 20	**Social and Political Geography**/Ch.11: 341-373
November 22	**THANGSGIVING – NO CLASS**
November 27	**EU and NATO Enlargement**/Ch.6: 191-199
November 29	**Exam 3**
December 4	**Epilogue**

This syllabus is subject to change