REGIONS AND CULTURES OF EUROPE

REE 345/ #45275 **Fall 2013**

Meets with GRG 326 and EUS 346

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

Office hours: Wednesday from 12:45 till 2:45 and by appointment in Burdine 470

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 29	**Introduction to the course**
September 3	**Europe Defined**/ Ch.1: 1-24
September 5	**Habitat: Terrain**/ Ch.2: 25-35
September 10	**Habitat: Hydrogeography**/ Ch.2: 35-44
September 12	**Habitat: Climate types**/ Ch.2: 45-54/
	Habitat: Vegetation and Soils/ Ch.2: 54-69
September 17	**Major Demographic Patterns**/Ch.3: 71-84
September 19	**Geolinguistics**/ Ch.4: 95-123

September 24	**Geography of Religion**/ Ch.5: 125-160
September 26	**Migration & Integration Challenges**/ Ch.3: 85-93
October 1	**EXAM 1**
October 3	**Evolution of the European State**/ Ch.6: 161-174
October 8	**European State System: Case Studies**/ Ch.6: 174-191
October 10	**European Agriculture**/ Ch.7: 201-233
October 15	**Modern Rural Patterns**/ Ch.7: 233-236
October 17	**Industrial Revolution**/Ch.8: 237-252
October 22	**Modern Industries**/Ch.8: 252-261
October 24	**Service & Information Economy**/Ch.9: 263-294
October 29	**EXAM 2**
October 31	**Rise of the European City**/Ch.10: 295-316
November 5	**Modern European Cities**/Ch.10: 316-339
November 7	**Regional Types of Cities**
November 12	**Social and Political Geography**/Ch.11: 341-373
November 14	**Green Europe/Handout materials**
November 19	**EU and NATO Enlargement**/Ch.6: 191-199
November 21	**Super Regions of Europe**
November 26	**Exam 3**
November 28	**THANGSGIVING – NO CLASS**
December 3	**Epilogue/ Exams 3 are back**