World Regional Geography Final Exam Study Guide Revised

Exam Format and Logistics

- The final exam will be an online exam, similar to the midterm, held during the scheduled final exam slot on Monday, April 29 from 8-10.

- The exam will comprise 60 points worth of questions, anticipated to take 75 minutes.

- It is a closed book/notes exam utilizing Respondus Lockdown Browser for security.

**Content Overview**

- Exam questions will include multiple-choice questions on key concepts and maps, along with one or two short answer questions.

- Focus will be on material from Modules 7-13, with potential references to earlier content for contextualization.

- Material from activities will serve as illustrative examples but may not be directly tested.

Key Concepts and Regions

**Chapters 1-3: Foundations of Geography**

- Five pillars of Geography: Location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region.

- Identification of regions based on physical traits, formal, functional, and perceptual characteristics.

- Space: Refers to the physical dimensions in which events occur, encompassing the three-dimensional extent to which objects and events have relative position and direction.

- Place: Describes the unique characteristics and meaning attributed to a specific location, including physical attributes, cultural significance, and human interactions. Identification of regions based on physical traits, formal, functional, and perceptual characteristics.

- Understanding of globalization processes, colonial influences, and network connectivity.

- Differentiation between strong and weak globalization.

- Concepts of development, economic growth, and measures of well-being.

- Impacts of colonialism on globalization and world events.

**Chapters 4-5: Africa South of the Sahara and Southwest Asia/North Africa**

- Climate features and biomes of Africa.

- Effects of colonialism on African landscapes and societies.

- Significance of Jerusalem in Southwest Asia.

- Differentiation between weak and strong sustainability.

- Impacts of water tensions and environmental security in Southwest Asia.

- European colonial activity and its legacies in Africa and Southwest Asia.

Chapter 7: Southeast Asia

• Physical Geography

• Mainland: cordilleras, Mekong River, and rice production

• Islands: volcanic activities, subduction zones, and trench formation

• Mekong River

• Physically: longest river in Southeast Asia, supports agriculture and fishing

• Biologically: diverse aquatic life, including fish and dolphins

• Culturally: significant for trade, transportation, and livelihoods

• Rice Production

• Vietnam is the second-largest exporter of rice globally

• Mekong River Delta is a key rice-producing region

• Mekong River Commission

• Established in 1995 to promote sustainable development and cooperation among riparian countries

• Aims to balance economic growth with environmental and social concerns

• Volcanic Activities and Island Formation

• Subduction zones and trench formation led to the creation of islands

• Volcanic activities shaped the region's landscape and ecosystems

• Limestone and Karst Topography

• Formed through the dissolution of limestone by acidic water

• Characterized by unique landforms, such as caves and towers

• South China Sea Issues

• Economically important for fishing rights, oil and natural gas development, and shipping lanes

• China has built artificial islands, leading to territorial disputes and environmental concerns

• Climate

• Mainland: rainforest climate, wet equatorial climate, and monsoon climate

• Islands: tropical rainforest climate, with high temperatures and humidity

• Typhoons and Earthquakes

• Typhoons occur in the Pacific Ocean, with the Philippines and Vietnam being most affected

• Earthquakes occur due to the region's location on the Ring of Fire

• Ring of Fire

• A 40,000 km horseshoe-shaped zone of intense seismic and volcanic activity

• Stretches from New Zealand to the Andes, passing through Southeast Asia

• Tsunami

• Caused by the vertical movement of tectonic plates, releasing energy and generating waves

• The 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami affected several Southeast Asian countries, including Thailand and Indonesia

Chapter 13: The Pacific

• Island Types

• Continental islands: formed from continental crust, e.g., New Guinea

• High islands: formed from volcanic activity, e.g., Hawaii

• Low islands: formed from coral reefs, e.g., Tuvalu

• Island Formation

• Volcanic activity, coral growth, and tectonic processes shaped the Pacific islands

• Islands are vulnerable to natural disasters, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and cyclones

• Ring of Fire

• A 40,000 km horseshoe-shaped zone of intense seismic and volcanic activity

• Stretches from New Zealand to the Andes, passing through the Pacific islands

• Coral and Climate Change

• Coral grows through a process called coral bleaching

• Climate change affects coral reefs, leading to bleaching and reduced biodiversity

• Temperature and Precipitation

• Vary among island types, with high islands having more extreme weather patterns

• Climate change affects temperature and precipitation patterns, leading to more frequent natural disasters

• Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change

• Greenhouse gases, such as CO2, contribute to climate change

• Pacific islands are vulnerable to climate change, with rising sea levels, increased temperatures, and more frequent natural disasters

• Tuvalu and Climate Change

• Tuvalu is a low-lying island nation vulnerable to climate change

• The country has responded to the threat of climate change, but its future is uncertain

• Australia and New Zealand

• Both countries have unique climates, with Australia having a more variable climate

• Both countries are vulnerable to climate change, with impacts on ecosystems, agriculture, and human settlements

Chapter 8: East Asia

• Physical Geography

• Boundary: Great Wall of China, Himalayan Mountains, and Pacific Ocean

• Important rivers: Yangtze, Yellow, and Mekong

• Climate: varied, with tropical, subtropical, and temperate zones

• Religions, Languages, and Diseases

• Diffused along the Silk Road, a network of trade routes

• Buddhism, Daoism, and Shintoism are practiced in East Asia

• Diseases, such as the plague, spread along trade routes

• Colonial History

• China and Japan were colonized by European powers

• Japan colonized Korea and Taiwan

• Modern colonialism has had lasting effects on East Asia

• Gender Imbalance

• Caused by Confucianism, which emphasizesthe importance of male heirs

• Population policies in China, South Korea, and Japan have attempted to address gender imbalance

• Global Sourcing

• Deng Xiaoping's reforms in China have led to the development of major ports and global sourcing

• East Asian countries are connected through a network of ports, both large and small

Chapter 12: Latin America and the Caribbean

• Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)

• Influences climate in Latin America, with seasonality of rainfall in TRF and Amazonia

• Tropical Rainforest

• Characterized by high temperatures, humidity, and rainfall

• Supports diverse ecosystems and biodiversity

• Altitudinal Climate Zones

• Landscapes vary depending on precipitation and altitude

• Atacama Desert

• Formed by a combination of factors, including geography, climate, and ocean currents

• Columbian Exchange

• Europeans brought horses, guns, and diseases, while Africans brought slaves and crops

• Latin American crops, such as potatoes and corn, were transferred to other world regions

• Pre-Columbian Demography

• Relationship between population dynamics and agricultural change

• Malthus' and Boserup's theories about the relationship between food production and population

• Contemporary Agricultural Landscapes

• Latifundias and Minifundias

• Agricultural dualism

• Biodiversity

• Importance of biodiversity conservation

• Coexistence with nature

• Indigenous Population

• Changes before and after European contact

• Colonialism and Languages and Religions

• Syncretic religions

• Racial and Ethnic Composition of Brazil

• Wide diversity of origins for migrants over time in Brazil

Last Module of Class: UNESCO World Heritage

• Success of UNESCO World Heritage

• Using examples

• Criteria for UNESCO World Heritage

• Ten criteria that require to become UNESCO World Heritage

• In Danger World Heritage Sites

• Meaning and purpose