**Geog 204 Africa & Middle East - Course Syllabus**  **Instructor**: James Bell Spring 2015 **Class Meeting Time**: 10-1120 am **Location**: T-219

Course description: this course will introduce the student to the people and places of the

region. The rich cultural heritage of the regions inhabitants and their

interaction with each other and the environment is explored.

*Student skills needed: note-taking is important, consistent attendance and ability to*

*conduct independent research and writing*

*Recommended Prerequisites: Writing 121, Reading 120, or equivalent placement scores.*

***Tentative Schedule of Topics***

**Week Dates Topics**

1 3/31, 4/2 Africa: geology and climate

2 4/7, 4/9 Africa: past, present cultures

3 4/14, no class Africa: regions - eastern

4 4/21, 4/23 Africa: regions – south, west

5 4/28, 4/30 Africa: regions - north

6 5/5, 5/7 Middle East: past and present **midterm due**

7 5/12, 5/14 Middle East: Levant

8 5/19, 5/21 Middle East: Persia

9 5/26, 5/28 Middle East: Saudi Arabian peninsula **research due**

10 6/2. 6/4 Review session

11 6/9 = **final exam**

***TEXTBOOK Required = none***

**EVALUATION AND LEARNING ASSESSMENT**

Midterm 50points

Final 50points

Map Projects 40points

Research Paper 50points

Class participation 10points

**Instructor:** Office is IA-220, I can be reached by email at: [bellj@linnbenton.edu](mailto:bellj@linnbenton.edu)

**CLASS POLICIES**

- **THIS IS NOT A DISTANCE ED OR INTERNET COURSE, please attend all classes and arrive on time,**

- do not disrupt the class with talking, cell phones or other distractions

- respect all student and instructor comments and opinions

- complete assignments on time

- take notes and follow along in class

## Research Project

## Each research project has a minimum of 10 pages in length, it can be longer. Topics arranged with the instructor. Plan on two of your primary sources being books, then one or two magazines or journals, then selected Internet sites (only sites with “.edu” or “.gov” at end). Photographs, maps and other information can be included as additional materials but will not count as a page of text. We will talk through the quarter about the project.

### **Scoring for the Research Projects**

scale: 4= well developed, 3 =very adequate, 2= met the task, 1= lacks detail, 0= absent

a. minimum length of 10 pages, and on time 4 3 2 1 0

b. **description of topic is complete and accurate**  4 3 2 1 0

c. describes topics’ **importance**  4 3 2 1 0

d. **adequate** sources used (more than 5) 4 3 2 1 0

**e.** provides **insight** and **students’ thoughts** **on topic** 4 3 2 1 0

subtotal = \_\_\_\_ times 2 = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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\* Please put your cell phones on mute or quiet mode. Do not talk or use text message in the classroom – it is a disruption of the educational process.

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# ***If you have a learning disability, please notify me so accommodations can be made for you.***

# Office of Disability Services: Office location -1st floor of Red Cedar Hall.

The Office of Disability Services (ODS) provides academic accommodations for LBCC students who are eligible for services. ODS staff advocate for students with disabilities, supporting their independence, as well as providing information and assistance when appropriate. A variety of services (e.g. test accommodations, including placement tests, sign language interpreting, note taking, etc.) may be requested. Appropriate accommodations are determined individually based on disability documentation.

If you believe you have a documented disability, YOU NEED TO REGISTER with the Office of Disability Services and provide appropriate documentation of your disability. REQUESTS FOR SERVICES MUST BE MADE EACH TERM AT LEAST THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE.

Students who have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, or students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, should make an appointment with the faculty as early as possible, and no later than the first week of the term. If additional assistance is required, the student should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at ext.4789.

# **Plagiarism and “borrowed” materials**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. It means presenting someone else’s ideas or wording in writing as your own. We expect that **all work turned in** is exclusively yours, unless you state otherwise. Your creativity is limited only by the boundaries of the assignment.

Borrowing someone else’s words and submitting them as your own, limits your growth as a writer. In addition it stifles your ability to critically think and insults another author’s work. A paper that has been bought or “borrowed” may result in a zero for the assignment. That zero for the assignment may mean failure in the course. In addition it may result in further disciplinary action by the faculty

**LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination**

LBCC will not tolerate discrimination based on an individual’s race, color, sex (gender), sexual orientation, marital and/or parental status, religion, national origin, age, mental/physical/learning disability, veteran status, personal views regarding safety and health hazards, application for workers’ compensation benefits, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

(for further information [http://po.linnbenton.edu/BPsandARs/1015 - Nondiscrimination Policy.pdf](http://po.linnbenton.edu/BPsandARs/1015%20-%20Nondiscrimination%20Policy.pdf))