Geography 1301 Section 1: Physical Geography
MWF 9:05-10:00am
Classroom: CAS 158

Fall 2024

Professor: Jeff Isom
Office: TBD
Office hours: MWF 8-9am or 10-11am
Or by appointment
E-mail: jisom@uttyler.edu

Communications: I encourage you to come see me during office hours directly before/after class. This is a good opportunity for you to look over your exams, ask questions, or seek clarification. If you can not attend my office hours you may set-up an alternative time to meet. I will try to respond promptly to your emails. **In your email, include your first and last name and that you are enrolled in Geography 1301 – Physical Geography**

Required texts:

Petersen, Sack, & Gabler. Physical Geography. 12th ed. 2022. Publisher: Cengage
ISBN**:** 9780357142448. Or eBook

Recommended Reading(s) and Multi-media:

Instructor handouts and URL links available on **Canvas**, other assignments TBD

Catalogue description: This course introduces students to the processes that drive Earth's physical systems. Students will explore the relationships among these physical systems, with emphasis on weather and climate, water, ecosystems, geologic processes and landform development, and human interactions with the physical environment.

Student Learning Outcomes: By the completion of Physical Geography, the students will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of scientific investigation as they apply to Earth's physical systems and processes.
- Describe and explain the processes of Earth's physical systems: weather and climate, water, ecosystems, geologic processes and landform development.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the interactions among the Earth's physical systems.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the modifications humans make to the environment through interactions with Earth's physical systems.

Course objective: The primary objective is for you to describe how the physical geography of a region can be unique yet also share many qualities with other regions. Although you will learn the locations of key places and landforms in order to become globally aware citizens, *this course's objective is not to promote or reward memorization but to instill a deeper understanding of our Environmental Systems*. The objective is to provide a geographical context for natural events, to make spatial connections, and to understand the importance of geographical contexts in our everyday lives. By the end of this course you should be able to read and synthesize maps as well as comprehend the natural hazards and changes of the Earth system that occur daily.

Course format:

1. Lecture – Much of the in-class information in this course will be delivered in the form of lecture. Because of this, it is strongly recommended that the students attend all classes and be attentive. Due to the amount of material that will be covered this semester it is suggested that the students take notes from the lecture. However, lecture shouldn't be a one-way street. Discussion is strongly encouraged!
2. Reading – The textbook (outlined in schedule), as well as outside readings to be announced in class, provides a supplement and framework for the lecture material. Students are responsible for reading the corresponding material prior to the lectures, so the students are prepared for class.
3. Class Discussion – Class discussion, ranging from informal talks to organized discussion days, will be an important

part of the class. It is vital that the students participate with class discussions in order to receive the maximum benefit from the course.

4. Instructional Aids – Varied instructional aids, including audio-visual, supplementary documents and readings, and Internet assignments will be used to furnish additional information for class.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

- Grading scale: A 90-100% B 80-89.99% C 70-79.99%
  D 60-69.99% F 0-59.99%

Incomplete grades will only be given under special conditions upon consultation with the instructor prior to final exams. If an incomplete grade is given, the remaining coursework must be completed within a specified period of time, usually six weeks from the end of the semester. If the work is not completed within the given time the student will receive a failing grade for the course.

Exams/Essays: 75% of Grade: Exams – 6 Exams during semester, 2 Essays, & 1 Final Exam. The information of the exams are drawn primarily from the lecture material, but can include any information from the textbook, supplemental readings, or instructional aids. At the end of the semester the lowest exam grade (not including the comprehensive Final Exam) will be dropped. Because of this, no make-up exams will be given.

Assignments: 25% of Grade: Attendance, Review Questions, Weather Maps, & Video assignments.

Student responsibility: Read each chapter, define Terms for Review (TR) at end of each chapter in textbook and answer Questions for Review (QR) in Canvas, as defined in schedule. Review appropriate chapters, completed Terms for Review, and Questions for Review to prepare for each exam. **Attendance** is expected and recorded.

Other Course Requirements: Each student is responsible for a **SCANTRON** (100E/882E) and **# 2 PENCIL** for exams. And may acquire and use **Color** map markers/pencils for class projects such as analyzing weather maps.

Student Responsibilities/Expectations: Attendance is expected and will constitute a **percentage** of student's overall course grade. Students are expected to attend all classes. Regular class attendance is necessary for maximum success in college. Please be on time and be prepared. You will be less prepared for quizzes and exams if you miss a lecture. Each student is responsible for obtaining class notes from those students who attended a lecture you missed.

Class Etiquette: I expect everyone in the classroom to be **respectful** of each other and treat everyone with dignity – we may have discussions about cultures from around the world effected by natural disasters that will be different from your own. I expect comments to be positive and objective and not judgmental and rude.

Cell Phones/Laptops: Turn off your ringer and do not use your cell phone during class – this includes text messaging. If you are expecting an important call, please put your phone on vibrate and sit close to the door. This action will help minimize any disturbance to the class. Laptops are allowed for notetaking, but I reserve the right to ask you to shut your computer down (or to change my class policy) if you are using your computer for uses other than note-taking and disrupting those around you. **Any video, photographic or audio recordings of the class must be approved by instructor.**

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

GEOG 1301 – Physical Geography MWF 9:05 -10:00am CAS 158 Fall 2024		Assignment
26 Aug	Orientation. Introduction to Physical Geography. Ch 1 Earth Systems	
28 Aug	Ch 1 Earth Systems	Read Ch; TR, QR
30 Aug	Ch 2 Mapping	Read Ch; TR, QR
2 Sep *****	**Labor Day Holiday (No Classes)**	
4 Sep	Ch 2 Mapping/Remote Sensing	Read Ch; TR, QR
5 Sep	***Ch 1-2 Review Questions DUE***	
6 Sep	**Exam 1: In-class**	
9 Sep	Ch 3 Solar Energy and Earth-Sun Relationship	Read Ch; TR, QR
11 Sep	Ch 4 Atmosphere and Temperature	Read Ch; TR, QR
13 Sep	Ch 5 Pressure and Winds	Read Ch; TR, QR
16 Sep	Ch 5 Winds and Circulation	Read Ch; TR, QR
18 Sep	Ch 6 Humidity and Condensation	Read Ch; TR, QR
20 Sep	Ch 6 Precipitation	Read Ch; TR, QR
23 Sep	Ch 7 Air Masses	Read Ch; TR, QR
25 Sep	Ch 7 Weather Systems	Read Ch; TR, QR
27 Sep	Ch 7 Weather Analysis/ Prognosis	Read Ch; TR, QR
30 Sep	Ch 7 Weather Analysis/ Prognosis	Read Ch; TR, QR
1 Oct	***Ch 3-7 Review Questions DUE***	
2 Oct	**Exam 2: In-class; Topic Paper 1 DUE**	
4 Oct	Ch 8 Climate Classification. Watch Videos on Canvas	Read Ch; TR, QR
7 Oct	Ch 9 Tropical, Arid, and Temperate Climates (Last Day for “W”)	Read Ch; TR, QR
9 Oct	Ch 10 Continental, Polar, and Highland Climates	Read Ch; TR, QR
11 Oct	Climate Change	
14 Oct	Ch 11 Biogeography	Read Ch; TR, QR
16 Oct	Ch 12 Pedology	Read Ch; TR, QR
17 Oct	***Ch 8-12 Review Questions DUE***	

18 Oct	**<u>Exam 3</u>: In-class; Topic Paper 2 DUE**	
********	**<u>Midterm Grades entered on 18 October based on assignments/Exams/Topic Papers</u>** **<u>Grade is Calculated as Student's Course Average to date, with NO drops</u>**	
21 Oct	Ch 13 Earth Materials	Read Ch; TR, QR
23 Oct	Ch 13 Plate Tectonics	Read Ch; TR, QR
25 Oct	Ch 14 Volcanic Processes and Landforms	Read Ch; TR, QR
28 Oct – 1 Nov*	**Geography - Fall Break - (No Class)**	
4 Nov	Ch 14 Tectonic Processes and Landforms LAST DAY TO "**WITHDRAW**" without Penalty	Read Ch; TR, QR
6 Nov	Ch 15 Weathering	Read Ch; TR, QR
8 Nov	Ch 15 Mass Wasting	Read Ch; TR, QR
10 Nov	***Ch 13-15 Review Questions DUE***	
11 Nov	**<u>Exam 4</u>: In-class; Topic Paper 3 DUE**	
13 Nov	Ch 16 Subsurface Water & Karst Landscapes	Read Ch; TR, QR
15 Nov	Ch 17 Fluvial Processes & Fluvial Landforms	Read Ch; TR, QR
18 Nov	Ch 18 Arid Regions & Eolian Landforms	Read Ch; TR, QR
20 Nov	Ch 18 Arid Regions & Eolian Landforms	
21 Nov	***Ch 16-18 Review Questions DUE***	
22 Nov	**Exam 5: In-class; Topic Paper 4 DUE**	
25 - 29 Nov **	**Thanksgiving Holiday Break (No Classes)**	
2 Dec	Ch 19 Glacial Systems & Landforms	Read Ch; TR, QR
4 Dec	Ch 20 Coastal Processes & Landforms	Read Ch; TR, QR
5 Dec	***Ch 19-20 Review Questions DUE***	
6 Dec	**<u>Exam 6</u>: In-class; Topic Paper 5 DUE;**	
13 Dec	**<u>FINAL EXAM</u> DUE**	

- TR = Terms for Review at end of each textbook chapter
- QR = Questions for Review on CANVAS
- Ch = Chapter of textbook