

Geography 101: Physical Geography

Section 3, Class Number 11695

Winter 2010

Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 AM–9:50 AM

Room 5-106

Instructor: Cameran Ashraf

Office: 5-137

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Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 – 10:30 AM & by appointment

Course Website: <http://www.physical-geography.com>

Required Text: McKnight & Hess: *Physical Geography: A Landscape Appreciation* 9th Edition. 2007, Prentice Hall. ISBN 0132239019

Course Description: Geography 101 is an introductory course in physical geography. This course broadly deals with the earth's physical systems that impact human activities – specifically the atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere. This course meets category B1 GE requirement.

Course Objectives: Through lecture, discussions, assignments, and exams students will explore the earth's physical environment including the atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere. Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Understand the characteristics and complexity of the earth's natural features and phenomena.
- Know basic concepts, terms, and methodologies in physical science.
- Have a deeper appreciation of our natural environment and its relationship to human activities.

Course Outline:

Week	Lecture Topic	Readings & Assignments
Week 1: 1/5, 1/7	Intro to Class & Intro to Earth	<i>Read: Chapter 1 for 1/7</i>
Week 2: 1/12, 1/14	Portraying Earth & Intro. to Atmosphere	<i>Read: Ch. 2 for 1/12 & Ch. 3 for 1/14</i> Homework #1 assigned
Week 3: 1/19, 1/21	Temperature & Atmospheric Pressure	<i>Read: Ch. 4 for 1/19 & Ch. 5 for 1/21</i> Homework #1 due 1/21
Week 4: 1/26, 1/28	Atmospheric Moisture ***Midterm # 1 - 1/28***	<i>Read: Chapter 6 for 1/26</i> ***Midterm # 1 - 1/28***
Week 5: 2/2, 2/4	Weather & Climate	<i>Read: Ch. 7 for 2/2 & Ch. 8 for 2/4</i> Homework #2 assigned
Week 6: 2/9, 2/11	Hydrosphere & Biosphere	<i>Read: Ch.9 for 2/9 & Ch. 10 for 2/11</i> Homework #2 due 2/11
Week 7: 2/16, 2/18	Terrestrial Flora & Fauna ***Midterm # 2 - 2/18***	<i>Read: Chapter 11 for 2/16</i> ***Midterm # 2 - 2/18***

Week 8: 2/23, 2/25	Landforms & Internal Processes	<i>Read: Ch. 13 for 2/23 & Ch. 14 for 2/25</i> Homework #3 assigned
Week 9: 3/2, 3/4	Erosion & Fluvial Processes	<i>Read: Ch. 15 & Ch. 16 for Week 9</i> Homework #3 due 3/4 Homework #4 assigned
Week 10: 3/9, 3/11	Glacial Landforms & a movie!	<i>Read: Chapter 19 for 3/9</i> Homework #4 due 3/11
Week 11: Finals	Final Exam	Tuesday, Mar. 16 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM

****There is a quiz at the end of class each Thursday (except on days when there is an exam) covering the reading & lectures for that week!****

Midterm #1: Chapters 1 - 6

Midterm #2: Chapters 7 - 11

Final Exam: Chapters 13-16 & 19

Grading:

Midterm #1 – 60 pts. (15%)

Midterm #2 – 80 pts. (20%)

Final Exam – 120 pts. (30%)

Quizzes – 60 pts. (15%)

Assignments – 80pts. (20%)

Total: 400 pts.

Course grades are based on the following:

360 – 400 pts. = A to A-

320 – 359 pts. = B+ to B-

280 – 319 pts. = C+ to C-

240 – 279 pts. = D+ to D -

236 pts. and lower = F

Course and Classroom Policies:

- **Exams & Quizzes:** NO MAKE-UP EXAMS OR QUIZZES except with an approved excuse or prior consent of instructor. If you are unable to take an exam for any reason you must contact me as soon as possible (within 24 hours) of the exam.

There will be a quiz at the end of class every Thursday on the reading & lectures for that week except for weeks when there is an exam. This quiz is small and will only consist of 5 questions. Your two lowest quiz scores will be dropped.

You are responsible for all materials in the text as well anything covered in class and on exercises. Quizzes and exams consist of multiple choice, true-false, fill-in, figure, and map problems. Most quizzes will contain questions from lecture that are not found in the book.

The final exam is non-cumulative.

- **Assignments:** Assignments must be turned in on time (at the beginning of class on the due date)

unless you have an approved excuse or prior consent of the instructor. Late assignments are accepted but you will be docked 10% (one letter grade) for each late day. For example, if you turn in your assignment 3 days late the maximum you can earn on the assignment is a 70%.

- **Participation:** Attendance is expected. Students are encouraged to ask questions and contribute to the class. If something doesn't make sense please ask!
- **Classroom:** Ipods (or other MP3/music players), texting and cellphone calls are not allowed in class. Please be respectful to your classmates and keep non-class related discussions to a minimum.

Academic Dishonesty: All forms of academic dishonesty at Cal Poly Pomona are a violation of University policy and will be considered a serious offense. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to:

- a) **Plagiarism** — Plagiarism is intentionally or knowingly presenting words, ideas or work of others as one's own work. Plagiarism includes copying homework, copying lab reports, copying computer programs, using a work or portion of a work written or created by another but not crediting the source, using one's own work completed in a previous class for credit in another class without permission, paraphrasing another's work without giving credit, and borrowing or using ideas without giving credit.
- b) **Cheating During Exams** — Exam cheating includes unauthorized "crib sheets," copying from another, looking at another student's exam, opening books when not authorized, obtaining advance copies of exams, and having an exam regraded after making changes. Exam cheating includes exams or quizzes given during classes and final exams.
- c) **Use of Unauthorized Study Aids** — This includes utilization of other's computer programs or solutions, copying a copyrighted computer program without permission, using old lab reports, having others perform one's share of lab work, and using any material prohibited by the instructor.
- d) **Falsifying any University Document** — This includes falsifying signatures on university forms, such as Add / Drop and Withdrawal forms, forging another student's signature and falsifying prerequisite requirements

Please consult the current University Catalog (<http://www.csupomona.edu/~academic/catalog/>) for more information on academic dishonesty.

Accessibility: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact me directly or the Disability Resource Center at (909) 869-3333, located in 9-103 to coordinate accommodations.

Special Notes:

1. I reserve the right to change the content of this syllabus at any time.
2. All OFFICIAL course communication will be sent to your Cal Poly Pomona email address.