



PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY
GEOG 2200 – Section 2287X
Fall 2005



Instructor: Amy Daniels

Office Hours:

Office: Turlington Hall

Phone:

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Class Meeting: M,W,F - Period 2 (8:30 – 9:20 am) in TUR L005

Contacting Instructor: You may email me or call me with quick questions. If your question requires a more detailed explanation, I will ask you to come see me during office hours. **DO NOT** email me to ask what material was covered if you missed a class. Also, please use “GEO2200” as the first part of your email subject line or I may not read it (for example, “GEO2200 – textbook question”).



Required Text: Christopherson, R. W. 2005. Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography. (6th edition) Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ

Optional Materials: World Atlas, Colored pencils or pens for drawing diagrams during lecture

Course Website: www.TBA.ufl.edu

Please check here for updated syllabus, test review notes and other information.

Course Objective: Physical Geography is the study of the physical landscape, its elements and the processes that link those elements. In this course, we will develop a basic understanding of the natural world around us. The course is comprised of four units of lecture material that describe connections between energy and the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, the geosphere and the biosphere. Each unit is followed by an exam.

Attendance and Exams: You are strongly advised to attend class lecture. Attendance on exam dates is mandatory (bring a photo ID) or you will receive a zero for the exam. Please note that absolutely **NO MAKEUP EXAMS** will be given. In the case of an extreme and documented emergency, I may allow your final grade to be the average of your other three exam scores. ALL material covered during class, including examples, videos and slides may be included on exams. Please be considerate to your classmates and instructor during class meetings. You are expected to arrive on time (we will begin at 8:30 so arrive early enough to get seated and prepared to take notes), turn off your cell phone and otherwise not cause distractions.

Grading System: Four equally weighted and non-comprehensive exams will be given. Exams will be multiple choice and will be given during the scheduled lecture time. A list of the important topics for each exam will be provided as a study guide before each test. Some of the questions present in the book web site may be used for the exam. There will be no curve applied to grades in this class. The final percentage of points you have earned correspond to the following letter grades: $\geq 90\%$ =**A**, 80-89.9%=**B**, 70-79.9%=**C**, 60-69.9%=**D**, and $\leq 59\%$ =**E**.

Academic Honesty: You are all bound by the student academic honor code. Each student answers the same exam but with a different order of questions and a different order of the possible answers. Thus, each exam is unique but equal in content. When grading the answers, the computer scans for similarities in answers and notifies me of any remarkable coincidences. If a student is caught cheating, they will be reported and suffer the consequences according to the honor code (including having the offense listed on your permanent academic record).

Personal Code: It is illegal to post grades using SSNs or UFIDs. Thus, you will be issued a 5-digit code at the end of your first exam which you should write down and memorize. Your grades will be reported on the course website several days after each exam using this code.

Course outline: This course will closely follow the structure of the text. However, the suggested list of topics presented on this syllabus is flexible, and it may change through the semester to accommodate a comfortable and productive pace.

Week	Dates	Topics	Chapter	Unit
1	8/24 – 8/26	Introduction. Essentials of Geography. The energy-atmosphere system: Solar Energy	1,2	The Energy-Atmosphere System
2	8/29 – 9/2	The Energy-Atmosphere System: Seasons. Composition of the atmosphere (temperature, structure, constant gases)	2,3	
3* (2 lectures)	9/7 – 9/9	Earth's Atmosphere. Composition (variable gases). Surface energy balance. Temperature Scales and Temperature Controls	3,4,5	
4	9/12 – 9/16	Global temperature. Atmospheric and oceanic circulation patterns – FIRST EXAM	5,6	
5	9/19 – 9/23	Water in the Atmosphere. Clouds and Fog. Air masses, Atmospheric Lifting. weather basics	7,8	The Water, Weather and Climate Systems. The hydrosphere
6	9/26 – 9/30	Weather. Hydrologic Cycle. The Soil-water-budget concept. Water supply	8,9	
7* (2 lectures)	10/3 – 10/5	Global Climates	10	
8	10/10 – 10/14	SECOND EXAM. The Earth's Structure. Geologic Time. Rock Cycle.	11	The Earth-Atmosphere Interface: The Geosphere
10	10/24 – 10/28	Plate tectonics. Crust formation. Earth's surface processes (I): Crust Deformation, Mountain building, volcanoes (movie).	11,12	
11	10/31 – 11/4	Earth's surface processes (II): Volcanoes, Earthquakes. Erosion and denudation. Landmass and weathering Karst Topography. Mass movement. Fluvial processes..	12,13,14	
12* (2 lectures)	11/7 – 11/9	Earth's surface processes (III): Fluvial landscapes (evolution). Floods. Wind. Arid landscapes. Oceanic landforms: Coastal processes (Intro).	14,15,16	
13	11/14 – 11/18	THIRD EXAM. Glacial environments (Movie)	--	
14* (2 lectures)	11/21 – 11/23	Waves, Coastal landscape, Coral Reefs. Mangroves and Swamps. Glaciers. Periglacial environments. Permafrost.	16, 17	Soils, ecosystems, and biomes: the biosphere
15	11/28 – 12/2	Soils: Characteristics, properties. Factors of Soil Formation. Soil Classification Ecosystem Essentials: Ecosystem components and cycles. Trophic chains and food webs. Succession	18, 19	
16	12/5 – 12/7	Finishing Up and FOURTH EXAM	--	

Exam Dates: 1st = 09/16 (F) 2nd = 10/10 (M) 3rd = 11/014 (M) 4th = 12/07 (W)