

GEOG B1 - Physical Elements of Geography

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Spring 2019 BC Delano Campus – Delano Science and Technology Center – Room 118

MONDAY 6:00-9:10pm Office Hours: 5:00-6:00 / Room 118

This course is the study of the earth as a physical system and its processes. Topics of inquiry are derived from the earth's four main spheres, the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere. They include weather and climate, earth-sun relationships, geology, and landforms. Geographic techniques such as mapping, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing are also discussed.

The textbook is **Geosystems**, 9th or 10th edition, by Chrisopherson and Birkeland, and you will be required to read and answer questions from it. You are also required to have a world atlas of your choice (either Goode's or Hammond's is recommended). Some short assignments will be given which will require you to do research at either the library or the internet. For Quizzes (7), Unit Tests (2), and Exams (2) you will need the narrow green scantron **882E** (it has space for 100 answers) – get them now at the book store!!

Attendance is required. If you miss three class sessions, you may either be dropped or fail this course.

Please refrain from using your cell phone at all during class time. If this becomes a problem, you may be asked to leave, which will count towards your attendance.

Disabilities: Students with disabilities needing accommodation, including those who had an IEP or 504 Plan in high school, should make requests to Disabled Students Programs and Services in CSS 10 (661- 395-4334), or Delano room 1001 (661-720-2000). All requests for accommodations require appropriate advance notice to avoid a delay in services. Please discuss approved accommodations with me so we can work together to ensure your access and success at BC.

If you would like extra help with this course, do not delay because BC has, not just one but, four ways that you can get the support you need to be successful in any class on campus:

- The Writing Center (CSS-133) provides one-on-one assistance with a degreed professional so that you can improve your skills in reading and writing in all classes for all purposes.
- The Math Hub (MS-113) offers drop-in, one-on-one tutoring with math consultants to help you crunch those numbers.
- The Tutoring Center (CSS-203) trains students who have been successful in various subjects to be your tutor, sitting down with you one-on-one to encourage and guide you in a specific course.
- SI (Supplemental Instruction) (CSS-193) represents small group learning in which you participate in weekly study groups for a certain course led by competent students (known as SI Leaders).

Don't be afraid to ask for help! Make the choice early on in this class to try one or more of the above free services.

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Explain how hydrological, tectonic, erosional, and atmospheric processes, as well as Earth-Sun relationships, are interconnected and together shape the physical environment.
2. Summarize the conditions that cause natural hazards such as floods, storms, earthquakes, landslides, volcanoes, and coastal erosion AND explain the impacts of those hazards on humans.

- Analyze how humans impact the natural environment and research such local environmental issues as drought, flash floods, air pollution, ground water pollution and over-drawing, earthquakes, and environmental planning.
- Analyze and draw conclusions from the analysis of graphs, geographic diagrams, statistics, and maps.
- Create diagrams that explain and demonstrate various Earth Science processes like the rock cycle, tectonic cycle, and the hydrologic cycle.

Student Learning Outcomes

These are similar to the learning objectives and will be assessed through student participation in lectures and discussions, participation in activities, and the completion of assigned homework and tests.

- Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the earth as an open physical system where all elements interact with one another.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how the earth's atmosphere, geology and biological processes shape the earth's surface.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the earth's size, orientation and revolution in space.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the global distribution of Earth's weather, climate, and landform features.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the scientific method as it applies to real world geographic problems.

Course Schedule (The following is approximate and may be subject to change)

<u>Week/Date</u>	<u>Reading Assignments</u>	<u>Assessments</u>	<u>Homework</u>
Week 1 / Jan 14	Chap 1: Essentials of Geography Chap 2: Solar Energy & Earth Seasons		
Jan 21	No School		
Week 2 / Jan 28	Chap 3: Earth's Atmosphere Chap 4: Atmosphere/Surface Energy	Quiz #1 Chap 1-3	
Week 3 / Feb 4	Chap 5: Global Temperatures Chap 6: Atmospheric/Oceanic Circulations	Quiz #2 Chap 4-6	Sun Angle Problems
Week 4 / Feb 11	Chap 7: Water/Atmospheric Moisture Chap 8: Weather	Unit 1 Test (Chap 1-6)	
Feb 18	No School		
Week 5 / Feb 25	Chap 9: Water Resources Chap 10: Global Climate Systems		
Week 6 / Mar 4	Chap 11: Climate Change Chap 12: Dynamic Planet	Quiz #3 Chap 7-11	Video Report
Week 7 / Mar 11	<i>Mid-Term Exam (Units 1 & 2: Chap 1-11)</i>	Mid-Term Exam	
Week 8 / Mar 18	Chap 13: Tectonics, Earthquakes, Volcanism Chap 14: Weathering/Landscapes/Mass Movements		
Week 9 / Mar 25	Chap 15: River Systems Chap 16: Oceans, Coastal Systems, and Wind Processes	Quiz #4 Chap 12-14	Volcano Research
Week 10 / Apr 1	Chap 17: Glacial & Periglacial Landscapes Chap 18: Geography of Soils		
Week 11 / Apr 8	Chap 19: Ecosystem Essentials	Quiz #5 Chap 15-17	
April 15	No School – Spring Break		
Week 12 / Apr 22	Unit 3 Test	Unit 3 Test (Chap 12-17)	Research Report

Week 13 / Apr 29	Chap 20: Terrestrial Biomes Course Review	Quiz #6 Chap 18-20	
Week 14 / May 6	<i>Final Exam (Units 3 & 4: Chap 12-20)</i>	Final Exam	Biome Project

Grades

Grades will be based on a percentage scale: 90% or higher = A, 80%-89% = B, 70%-79% = C, 60%-69% = D, and 59% and below = F.

2 Unit Exams	50 pts. each
Mid-term/Final Exam	100 pts. each
6 Quizzes	15 – 30 pts each
Research Report	25 pts.
Video Report	25 pts.
3 Internet Assignments (Sun Angle/Biome/Volcano)	15 pts. each

Withdrawal Deadlines:

Last day to drop without a W on your record:	Jan. 27
Last day to drop with a W on your record:	Mar. 29
Census Date:	Jan. 28