

Geography 1111: Introduction to Physical Geography

Spring 2023

Class and Instructor Information

Lecture: Tuesday, Thursday, 11:10-12:25 p.m

Classroom: Zell Miller Learning Center (Building #81), Room 0102

CRN #: 64660, 3 credits, no prerequisites

Course Homepage: Access via eLearning Commons web page (<http://elc.uga.edu/>)

Instructor: David F. Porinchu, Professor

Email: porinchu@uga.edu

Office: 212A Geography/Geology Building (GG)

Office Hours: Thursday, 1-2 p.m. and by appointment

Mailbox: Geography Department Main Office (204 GG)

COURSE CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES

Welcome to Geography 1111, a course that systematically examines the Earth's physical landscape and its significance to humanity. This course will provide you with an understanding of the Earth's atmosphere (weather and climate), hydrology (water cycle), internal structure, geomorphology, and natural hazards. We will focus on the physical processes at work, and we will discuss how these processes sculpt the Earth's surface to produce the natural patterns evident in our world. Through your study you will: 1) learn concepts and terminology that are fundamental to understanding the physical geography of the Earth; 2) identify and understand the physical processes that serve to modify the Earth's surface; and 3) document the patterns, structures and physical features present on the Earth's surface. Physical Geography offers an excellent foundation for future studies in fields as diverse as biology, geology, economics, history, political science, engineering and archaeology.

COURSE MATERIALS

- Christopherson, R.W and Birkeland, G. *Elemental Geosystems*, 2018, 9th edition. Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. [ISBN13: 978-0134817446]
- An email account and access to the eLearning Commons web page

COURSE POLICIES

Lectures: An outline of the lecture slides will be posted to the course homepage prior to the lecture. Assigned readings will be discussed in lecture (see lecture schedule). It is expected that you will come prepared to lecture having read the assigned readings prior to class. Attending class is important. The schedule of lectures and any other course-related announcements will be posted on the GEOG 1111 ELC web page and will be updated as needed. Note that the lecture schedule may change as the semester progresses and you will be alerted to these changes via the course webpage.

Grading: Your course grade will be based on three tests and a final exam. Tests 1, 2, and 3 will be oriented toward the portion of the course most recently covered. Physical Geography is a subject that builds upon concepts and therefore each test will likely contain some previously covered material. The final exam will be comprehensive but will be weighted towards the material covered after Test 3. Material from the assigned readings and material discussed in lecture is fair game for the exams.

The midterm tests and final exam will be administered through ELC. You will be required to complete the tests on the specified date (see below; details to follow). Accommodations will be made for students eligible for special accommodations through the Disability Resource Center.

I do not give make-up exams and in fairness to all students I do not offer any forms of extra credit. If you miss a regularly scheduled test, that test will count as the one that is dropped (see below).

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Final Exam – 40%

Midterm Test's 1, 2 and 3 – 30% each (best two out of three)

I will drop the lowest test score from your first three tests. Thus, the two remaining midterm tests will each be worth 30% of your total grade and the final exam will be worth 40% of your final grade. Your test scores will be posted on the Geography 1111 ELC web page.

Grade Scale:

A	> 93	C+	77-80
A-	90-93	C	73-77
B+	87-90	C-	70-73
B	83-87	D	50-69
B-	80-83	F	< 50

TEST and EXAM DATES

Test 1	2 February 2023
Test 2	2 March 2023
Test 3	13 April 2023
Final Exam	4 May 2023

Student Code of Conduct

You are expected to adhere to the University of Georgia's policy on academic honesty. A *Culture of Honesty* (http://honesty.uga.edu/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm) details the policies and procedures regarding academic honesty at UGA. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated. Any scholastic dishonesty such as copying another person's work or using notes during an exam will be reported to Academic Affairs. University rules provide severe penalties for academic misconduct, ranging from course failure to dismissal from the university.

An Invitation to Students with Disabilities: The University of Georgia Geography Department follows the regulations outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act and is committed to providing access for all people with disabilities. The University and this Department will provide accommodations if notified. Please call the University of Georgia Disability Resource Center - (706) 542-8719 (voice), (706) 542-7719 (fax), or (706) 542-8778 (tty) - for information about architectural access and to arrange for sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, large print, audio, or Braille. This office is located at 114 Clark Howell Hall on the University of Georgia's campus. **If you will need special accommodations, you must notify me (by email) by the end of the first day of class.**

Tentative Schedule of Lectures (subject to change)

Date	Assigned Reading	Topic
Week of January 9		Introduction
	Chapter 1: Essentials of Geography - Part I	The science of geography, systems theory
Week of January 16	Chapter 1: Essentials of Geography - Part II	Location and time, maps and projections
	Chapter 2: Solar Energy, Seasons and the Atmosphere - Part I	Earth-sun relationships, electromagnetic spectrum and seasons
Week of January 23	Chapter 2: Solar Energy, Seasons and the Atmosphere - Part II	Atmospheric composition, structure and function, pollution
	Chapter 3: Atmospheric Energy and Global Temperatures - Part I	Energy basics, troposphere-energy balance, surface energy balance
Week of January 30	Chapter 3: Atmospheric Energy and Global Temperatures - Part II	Principal controls on temperature, temperature patterns
	Test #1 - February 2 via ELC	Chapters 1-3
Week of February 6	Chapter 4: Atmospheric and Ocean Circulations - Part I	Wind basics, patterns of atmospheric motion,
	Chapter 4: Atmospheric and Ocean Circulations - Part II	Ocean currents, climate oscillations, ENSO
Week of February 13	Chapter 5: Atmospheric Water and Weather - Part I	Properties of water, humidity, atmospheric stability
	Chapter 5: Atmospheric Water and Weather - Part II	Clouds, fog, precipitation, air masses, lifting mechanisms
Week of February 20	Chapter 5: Atmospheric Water and Weather - Part III	Mid-latitude cyclones, violent weather
	Chapter 6: Water Resources	Hydrologic cycle, water budgets and resources, water supply
Week of February 27	Chapter 7: Earth's Climatic Regions	Classifying Earth's climates
	Test #2 - March 2 via ELC	Chapters 4-7
Week of March 6	SPRING BREAK	ENJOY THE BREAK
Week of March 13	Chapter 9: The Dynamic Planet - Part I	Earth's internal structure and energy, rock cycle
	Chapter 9: The Dynamic Planet - Part II	Plate tectonics
Week of March 20	Chapter 10: Tectonics, Earthquakes and Volcanism - Part I	Surface relief, crustal material
	Chapter 10: Tectonics, Earthquakes and Volcanism - Part II	Orogenesis, earthquakes, volcanoes
Week of March 27	Chapter 11: Weathering, Karst, and Mass Movement - Part I	Weathering processes
	Chapter 11: Weathering, Karst, and Mass Movement - Part II	Karst topography, mass movement
Week of April 3	Chapter 12: River Systems	Drainage characteristics, fluvial processes and landscapes, management
	Chapter 13: Oceans, Coastal Systems and Eolian Processes - Part I	Structure and composition of the oceans and coastal environments
Week of April 10	Chapter 13: Oceans, Coastal Systems and Eolian Processes - Part II	Arid environments
	Test #3 - April 13 via ELC	Chapters 9-13
Week of April 17	Chapter 14: Glacial and Periglacial Landscapes	Glacial processes and landforms
	Chapter 8: Climate Change - Part I	Climate feedbacks, contemporaneous climate change
Week of April 24	Chapter 8: Climate Change - Part II	Deciphering past climates, mechanisms responsible for climate change
5/4/22	FINAL EXAM via ELC	Cumulative exam weighted towards untested material