

CATALOG INFORMATION

=====

Dept & Nbr: EAS 206 Title: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY
Full Title: Physical Geography

Units	Course Hours	Per Week	Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours	Total
Max: 4.0	Lecture	3.0	17	Lecture	51.0
Min: 4.0	Lab	3.0		Lab	51.0
	Contact DHR	0.0		Contact DHR	0.0
	Contact Total	6.0		Contact Total	102.0
	Non-contact DHR	0.0		Non-contact DHR	0.0

Title 5 Category: 01 AA Degree Applic
Grading: GC Credit course for grade or CR/NC
Repeatability: 00 No repeatability allowed or defined
Also listed as:

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Physical geography is a focused study of the surface of the Earth and its landforms. This course offers a concise study of the natural environment, including topics in weather, landform study, and the water cycle. Emphasis is on the interrelated aspects of natural systems within the atmosphere, lithosphere and hydrosphere, and on the characterization of the environment through map interpretation.

PREREQUISITES:

COREQUISITES:

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:

ENG 80 or qualification for ENG 200 through the assessment process.

LIMITS ON ENROLLMENT:

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES INFORMATION:

Recommended: ENG 80 or qualification for ENG 200 through the assessment process.

Processes in the air, water, and land are constantly at work to change the surface of the earth, and understanding these processes and the resulting effects is critical for human land-use planning, natural hazard awareness, and resource use. This course offers an introduction to aspects of physical geography and our characterization of the natural environment in which we live. Required field trips may be scheduled. (Grade or CR/NC)

Transfer Credit: CSU; UC.

ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

=====

ASSOCIATE DEGREE: Effective: FALL 2004 Inactive:
 Area: A NATURAL SCIENCES

CSU GE: Effective: FALL 2004 Inactive:
 Transfer area: B1 PHYSICAL UNIVERSE
 B3 LAB ACTIVITY

IGETC: Effective: SPRING 2005 Inactive:
 Transfer area: 5A PHYSICAL SCIENCES

CSU TRANSFER: TRANSFERABLE Effective: FALL 2004 Inactive:

UC TRANSFER: TRANSFERABLE Effective: FALL 2005 Inactive:

CAN:

CERTIFICATE APPLICABLE: N NOT CERTIFICATE/MAJOR APPLICABLE

APPROVAL AND DATES

=====

Version 01 Submitted by: STEVE CARDIMONA Date: 01/05/2004
 Department approved: Date:
 Curriculum approved: 02/20/2004 Version approved: 02/20/2004
 Prerequisites approved: 02/20/2004 Last reviewed: 02/20/2004
 Term effective: FALL 2004 Last taught: SPRING 2008 Inactive:

COURSE CONTENT

=====

OUTCOME AND OBJECTIVES:

1. Analyze geometric relationships between the Earth and sun.
2. Differentiate between different kinds of map projects, and evaluate their usefulness.
3. Describe the relationship between specific data and contours of the data on a map.
4. Distinguish between the different conditions that affect climate.
5. Evaluate large-scale parameters associated with weather variability.
6. Identify plate tectonic processes and interpret the key affects of plate interaction.
7. Compare and contrast physical and chemical weathering processes.
8. Identify various drainage systems and evaluate the relationship with associated geology and climate.
9. Develop a model for describing fluvial processes as they change upstream to downstream.
10. Differentiate between the erosional processes of wind, flowing water, and glacial ice.
11. Formulate reasonable ways to address natural geographic hazards.
12. Define geomorphic features of arid, coastal, and glaciated regions.
13. Determine various geographic processes at work to create specific geomorphic features.

TOPICS AND SCOPE:

1. Earth-sun relationship and Earth's energy budget.

2. Earth's geographic grid and map projection.
3. Map reading and contour analysis.
4. Climate zones; marine and altitude effects on local climate.
5. Fundamentals of weather and relationship to energy input from the sun.
6. The makeup of the solid Earth, lithospheric changes, and geologic time.
7. Weathering and erosion of the surface of the Earth.
8. Fluvial systems and associated landforms.
9. Arid climates and resulting landforms.
10. Glaciation and basics of climate studies.
11. Coastal processes and resulting landforms.
12. Natural geographic hazards.

ASSIGNMENTS:**READING ASSIGNMENTS:**

Appropriate reading assignments will be given from college level text(s). A variety of media may be used to supplement textbook readings, such as:

1. Current news articles from local or regional papers.
2. Reports, news articles or other documents from internet sources.
3. Documents by government agencies such as the United States Geological Survey.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

Appropriate writing assignments will be given which allow students to demonstrate their understanding of key concepts, present critical review of reading materials, and describe the application of course topics to the analysis of specific problems. Assignments will include:

1. Term paper on topic of interest to student but focused on the clarifying geographic processes in a specific geomorphic setting on Earth.
2. Short essays involving written critiques and comparisons of geographic concepts and terminology.
3. Summaries of laboratory exercises.

Additional writing exercises may be assigned such as:

1. Analytical semester project that requires the application of graphic and descriptive analysis to geographic problems.
2. Reviews of news and/or research reports from entities such as the National Geographic Society.
3. Essay examination.

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:

Out of class assignments are required. These assignments will allow students to take a more in-depth look at course topics and will include:

1. Reading and writing assignments as specified in the course syllabus.
2. Term paper on topic of interest to student but focused on clarifying geographic processes in a specific geomorphic setting on Earth.
3. Summaries of laboratory exercises and related research-oriented questions addressing lab topics.
4. Observations through instructor guided and self-guided field trips.

Additional assignments may be included in the course, such as:

1. Assigned/recommended attendance at guest speaker lectures.

2. Analytical semester projects that require the application of graphic and descriptive analysis to geographic problems.
3. Viewing of assigned/recommended media materials.
4. Library, electronic, and other research on a variety of geographic subjects.
5. Reviews of news reports or research reports from entities such as the National Geographic Society.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Methods of instruction will include:

1. Lecture and visual aids.
2. Quiz and examination review performed in class.
3. Homework and extended projects.
4. Collaborative projects and lab-oriented problem solving.
5. Field observation during field trips.

Additional instruction may include:

1. Discussion and problem solving performed in class.
2. Guest speakers.
3. Optional materials available for review in the Learning Center and/or library.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

A student's grade will be determined based on demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter and the ability to demonstrate that proficiency, at least in part, by means of essays and problem-solving exercises including: 1. In class objective examinations that test for knowledge and applications of specific geographic concepts. 2. Out of class writing assignments that test the knowledge and application of geographic principles to specific regional atmospheric, hydrospheric and lithospheric phenomenon. 3. Summaries of laboratory problem-solving exercises. 4. Summaries of field trips. Proficiency in the subject matter may be measured through supplementary assignments/activities such as: 1. Take home essay assignments and/or examinations. 2. Analytical semester projects. 3. Research papers. 4. Participation in group projects. 5. Class participation including oral presentations on a variety of geographic subjects.

BASIS FOR GRADING:

The assignment of a grade is based on the level of achievement of the outcomes and objectives of the course outline and is reflected in quantifiable terms in the course syllabus.

REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:

Course text: Geosystems: An introduction to Physical Geography, 5th edition, Robert W. Christopherson, Prentice Hall, 2003.
Laboratory manual: Applied Physical Geography: Geosystems in the Laboratory, 5th edition, Christopherson and Hobbs, Prentice Hall, 2003.

RATIONALE

=====

RESOURCES REQUIRED

=====

MISCELLANEOUS

=====

Advisory generate desc:	N	NO
Area department:	GEO	GEOGRAPHY
Audit flag:	N	NOT AUDITABLE
Basic skills:	X	NOT BASIC SKILLS
Classification:	A	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Cost level:	01	
Disciplines:		GEOGRAPHY
Division:	02	MERIDITH RANDALL
Faculty service areas:		GEOGRAPHY
Fee:	\$0.00	
In-service:	X	NOT IN-SERVICE
Level below transfer:	X	NOT APPLICABLE
Matric-requiring:	X	Exempt from assessment
Maximum class size:	0	
Maximum wait list:	0	
Method of instruction:	03	LECTURE/LABORATORY
Non-credit category:	X	NOT APPLICABLE, CREDIT COURSE
Open entry/exit:	N	Not open entry/exit
Pacs activity:	2201	SOCIAL SCIENCE GENERAL
Pacs program project:	0000	
Preq/coreq generate desc:	N	NO
Preq/coreq provisional:	N	NO
Preq/coreq reg check:	N	NO PREREQUISITE RULES EXIST
Repeat group id:		
Requires instructor sig:	N	INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE NOT REQUIRED
SAM classification:	E	Non-occupational
Selected/special topic:	N	NOT A SELECTED TOPIC COURSE
Special class:	X	NOT A SPECIAL COURSE
TOP code:	2206.00	GEOGRAPHY
Workload:	0.0000	