Earth's Environments (PS)

GEOG1000 Representative Syllabus

Course Description

A scientific and spatial understanding of natural processes that shape the surface of our planet and the systems that exist between the atmosphere, climate, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere within the context of the human environment.

Semester: All

A scientific and spatial understanding of natural processes that shape the surface of our planet and the systems that exist between the atmosphere, climate, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere within the context of the human environment.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate geographic thinking and spatial communication using maps and another other geographic representations.
- Apply geospatial methods including maps, remotely sensed imagery, and the scientific method to explore changes in landscapes over time.
- Analyze the physical processes and systems that shape the patterns of Earth’s surface including the lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere.
- Compare the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on Earth’s surface and processes driving these distributions.
- Explore how human actions modify the physical environment and how the physical environment affects human systems.
- Evaluate the changes that occur in the use, distribution, and importance of resources.

College Wide Student Learning Outcomes

- General Education Learning Outcomes: • Students communicate effectively. • Students develop quantitative literacies necessary for their chosen field of study. • Students think critically. • Students express themselves creatively. • Students

develop civic literacy and the capacity to be community-engaged learners who act in mutually beneficial ways with community partners. • Students develop the knowledge and skills to work with others in a professional and constructive manner. • Students develop information literacy. • Students develop computer literacy.

Course Prerequisites

None

Communication Plan

- I will respond to email within 2 business days. I will offer feedback on major assignments within one week of the due date.
- The best way to contact me is via the Canvas Inbox, as I will prioritize this email over other modes of communication.

Keys for Success (how to succeed in the course)

Attendance is the best key for success!

Make sure you use Modules and not just the calendar to find all the content required for each chapter, and not just the assignments.

Stay on top of reading, and spend some time with the optional videos and readings for more in-depth knowledge.

General Education Information

General Education at SLCC

PS - This course satisfies the requirements for general education Physical Science (PS).

What is General Education? General Education is the part of a college curriculum shared by all students seeking a degree. It provides broad exposure to multiple disciplines and forms the basis for developing important intellectual and civic capacities. These courses are designed to help you meet the General Education Learning Outcomes. Various degree and certificate programs have different requirements. This course fulfills the Physical Science (PS) requirement.

Physical Science courses help students learn to recognize the manifestations of physical phenomena of the everyday world. Students will learn how to assess the credibility of scientific information and will begin to use concepts of physical science to understand physical events and solve daily problems.

More information about General Education can be found on their website here: General Education

General Education Learning Outcomes:

- Students communicate effectively.
- Students develop quantitative literacies necessary for their chosen field of study.
- Students think critically.
- Students express themselves creatively.
- Students develop civic literacy and the capacity to be community-engaged learners who act in mutually beneficial ways with community partners.
- Students develop the knowledge and skills to work with others in a professional and constructive manner.
- Students develop information literacy.
- Students develop computer literacy.

Schedule of Topics

Week 1: Introduction to Geographic Science
Week 2: The Universe and Solar System
Week 3: Planet Earth
Week 4: Tectonic Forces
Week 5: Weathering and Erosion
Week 6: Freshwater
Week 7: Oceans
Week 8: The Atmosphere
Week 9: Weather and Storms
Week 10: Climate
Week 11: Biogeography

ePortfolio Signature Assignment

There will be one project required for this course, submitted via the ePortfolio. The goal of the project is to integrate your learning from across the course as well as other courses. To complete the project, there will be the geography component as well as a reflection. The project is broken up into a series of steps that help you progress through

the research, writing, and ePortfolio steps. The due dates for each step are spaced throughout the course. You have several options for different topics within physical geography to choose from, each with specific prompts that help you build connections between the geographic characteristics of a region, make comparisons, understand change, and demonstrate your mastery of the course's learning objectives. Details for the project criteria, and the options, can be found in the Signature Assignment Module.

Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

Each module contains a variety of activities to help you explore the material through hands-on homework assignments, discussions to engage with your peers, and quizzes to assess your learning. It is recommended that you read all materials first, then complete the homework activity, followed by the quiz for maximum success.

At the end of the semester your lowest homework and quiz will be dropped.

Quizzes are comprehensive and cumulative, so there will be no exams. A final project "Signature Assignment" will serve as a capstone for the course, demonstrating your mastery of the Course Learning Outcomes.

Assignment Categories

Please note these are approximate percentages for each category below. Point totals in individual categories may differ slightly to allow for flexibility and spontaneous learning. I will not 'weight' these categories. Final score will be [Points Earned/Points Possible] summed for all assignments.

- Module Quizzes - 25%
- Homework- 25%
- Project- 20%
- In-class activities and participation 10%
- Reflective Writing - 10%

- Discussions - 10%

Total 100%

Grading Scale

92-100 = A 90-91= A- 88-89 = B+ 82-87 = B 80-81 = B- 78-79 = C+
72-77 = C 70-71 = C- 68-69 = D+ 63-67 = D 60-62 = D- 0-59 = F

Additional Policies

Textbook

The textbook for this course is an open-source text, which means that all of the content has been written and compiled by the Geosciences Department and made available to you at no additional cost. You can access specific chapters through Canvas in the "Reading" page in each module. The textbook can be accessed Pressbooks: Physical Geography And Natural Disasters.

Here is a direct link for your convenience: Physical Geography OER Textbook

Cheating

Cheating and plagiarism are not tolerated in all forms and modalities as outlined in the college's Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Cheating will be dealt with as harshly as allowed by the college. The first violation will include a zero score on all or part of the activity in question and a second violation may cause the student to fail the course.

All written work including answers for homework and quizzes, reflections, discussions, projects and ePortfolio attachments should be the student's own words. AI-generated content is NOT appropriate to submit as your own work.

Late work

Due dates in the course are designed to pace the material appropriately and keep you on track. Students are expected to turn in all assignments on time. Late work will be penalized -5% per day. Please notify your instructor before a missed deadline for exceptions. No late work is accepted past the last day of the semester.

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

You can access the document by clicking on the following link: https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab: https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab: https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

SLCC Student Academic Calendar