

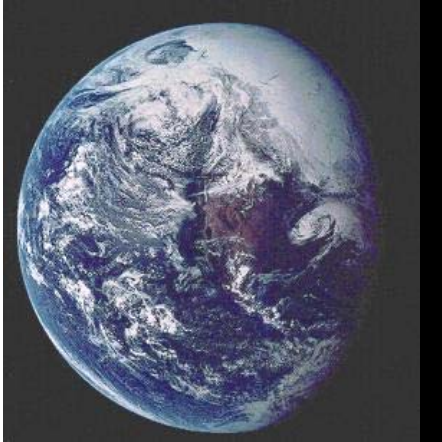
Physical Geography Hybrid

Instructor: K. Allison Lenkeit Meezan
email: meezankaren@fhda.edu

Course times/location: Tu/Th 10-11:50AM
in 3401 & Online

Office: 3020 **Phone** (650) 949-7166

Office Hours Fall 2010: Tuesday 1-2PM, 4:30-5:30PM Thursday 9-9:50AM and by appointment



Physical geography is the study of the earth's dynamic systems – its air, water, weather climate, landforms, rocks, soils, plants, ecosystems and biomes – and how humans interact with the earth's systems. Physical geography is the study of the world around you. It will help you to understand why San Francisco is always cold and foggy, why we have earthquakes, and what causes seasons. Everyone, every day, interacts with the earth's dynamic systems. I challenge you to join me on an exploration of the complex, and exciting world in which you live!

Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of this course you should be able to do the following

Student Learning Outcome #1: Use maps, graphs and/or Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to analyze and interpret data and draw valid conclusions

Learning Outcome #2: Explain the causes of seasons

Student Learning Outcome #3: Analyze the factors that contribute to global climate patterns.

Student Learning Outcome #4: Discuss the formation of major landforms.

Student Learning Outcome #5: Discuss the function, temperature profile and composition of the atmosphere.

Student Learning Outcome #6: Discuss the hydrologic cycle, and the distribution and allocation of water resources for humans.

Student Learning Outcome #7: Analyze patterns and consequences of human environment interaction.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course however it is *strongly recommended* that you have completed Math 200 (pre-Algebra) or the equivalent. You will need to have access to a Java enabled internet browser (such as Netscape 4.0, Internet Explorer 4.0 or the equivalent) to access web pages, and you will need an email account. You will also need a copy of Microsoft Excel to complete the labs. You will also need access to and the ability to use (or learn to use) Quicktime and Adobe Acrobat.

Texts(required)

Geosystems 7th edition (Christopherson) NOTE: 6th edition will work fine. A reading list for the 6th edition is listed on page 5 of the syllabus.

Goode's World Atlas 21th edition (Hudson) NOTE: 22nd edition will work fine too.

Course Outline

Unit 1 Introduction to the Physical Earth

- Definition of physical geography
- Describing, measuring and monitoring the earth with cartography, GIS, and remote sensing
- The solar system
- Why we have seasons
- The earth & the development of the modern atmosphere

Unit 2 The Atmosphere and Hydrosphere

- The earth's atmosphere: Composition, temperature, function
- Global temperatures, atmospheric and oceanic circulation
- Forms of water on earth; weather; water resources; climate

Unit 3 The Lithosphere

- Earth's structure
- The rock cycle
- Plate tectonics

Unit 4 Shaping the Lithosphere

- Orogenesis
- Earthquakes
- Volcanoes
- Mass Wasting: Weathering processes; mass movement; glacial processes; eolian processes
- River systems and landforms; floods and river management; coastal systems

Unit 5 The Biosphere

- Soils
- Ecosystems components and cycles
- The earth's ecosystems

Teaching Methods, Labs, Exams and Grading

This course will incorporate a variety of teaching methods including class lectures, supplemental readings, web-based labs, and two exams. You will be challenged to think critically and independently through a variety of methods including case study evaluation, data interpretation and analysis.

Course grades will be determined using the following point values:

	Total Points	Point breakdown
Discussion participation	100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class participation (see below): 30 • Discussion 1: 20 points, • Discussion 2: 25 points; • Discussion 3: 25 points
Weekly quizzes	100	11 quizzes total. 10 points each. Lowest score dropped.
Laboratory Assignments	500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab 1: 50 points • Lab 2-5: 100 points each. Lowest score dropped. • Climate & Weather lab project 150 points

Midterm Exam	200	
Final Exam	300	
Total Possible	1200	

In accordance with Foothill grading policy, there is no A+ or C- in this course. Grades lower than C are not issued pluses or minuses. The following lists the full grading breakdown.

1200-1116 points	A
1115-1080 points	A-
1079-1044 points	B+
1043-996 points	B
995-960 points	B-
959-924 points	C+
923-840 points	C
839-720 points	D
less than 720 points	F

How to Calculate Your Grade

ETUDES allows students to access their scores for each assignment. To calculate your grade (1) Add up the total number of points that you have earned so far. (2) Divide this by the total number of points that have been graded so far. (3) If all labs and quizzes have been graded, drop your lowest lab score from labs 2-5, and your lowest quiz score. (4) This gives you a percentage. Note that the grades are assigned based on a percentage, so 93-100% is an A etc.

Class Participation – In class

Throughout the quarter students will have the opportunity to earn points through individual and group in class pop quizzes. The first 30 points the student earns will count towards their grade. Any points over 30 earned are **extra credit**. Students can earn up to 60 points total (e.g. up to 30 points extra credit). These points can only be earned by coming to class. Participation quizzes may not be made up.

Exams – In class

The midterm exam is essay and short answer. The final exam is essay, short answer and multiple choice. Five or six essay topics will be posted in the Discussion forum in ETUDES the week before your exams. You are encouraged to draft the essay questions and ask about anything that you are unclear on. Make-up exams are given only in extenuating circumstances (eg. Illness, car accident etc). Make-up exams are only given in person.

Note: Accommodations will be made as necessary for students with disabilities. Please speak to me at the beginning of the course to make me aware of extenuating circumstances.

Discussion & Private Messages – Hybrid online

Class Discussions – found in Discussions & Private Messages

There are 4 required forum discussions for class participation credit. Topics for discussions 1, 2, & 3 will be posted in the *Discussion Forum*. Directions for the Climate & Weather project discussion can be found in the Climate & Weather project handout in the Tests, Tasks and Assignments section of the course. Discussion 1 is worth 20 points, Discussion 2 & 3 are worth 25 points. Due dates are listed on the class calendar and in the discussion forum.

To receive full credit a student must make an initial posting of one paragraph or more, then respond to postings of classmates and engage classmates in discussion (for a total of 3 postings). Scores for each discussion forum discussion will be posted no more than one week following the end of the discussion. **There is no late credit given for participation** because the purpose of the participation element is for you to interact with your classmates. Students should budget at least 1 hour per week to engage in participation discussions.

Email and class messages – found in Discussions & Private Messages

You are encouraged to email or send a message in the ETUDES class to Professor Lenkeit Meezan if you have any questions. Expect a 24 hour response time for messages sent Monday through Friday morning. Messages sent over the weekend will be responded to within 72 hours. You can send a private message through the ETUDES course by clicking on 'Private Messages' under Discussions and Private Messages.

Assignments, Tests & Surveys – Hybrid online

Weekly Quizzes – found in Assignments, Tests & Surveys

Each week a 10 point quiz on the week's reading must be completed in the ETUDES online classroom. The quiz is open book, and is open for one week starting at 6:30AM on Mondays. Quizzes may not be made up. The quizzes are intended to serve as a learning tool. The quiz is not timed. Students are encouraged to review the quiz questions in conjunction with their reading before taking the quiz. Students may take the quiz two times. If a second submission is made, its score will count towards the final grade.

Laboratory Assignments – found in Assignments, Tests & Surveys

- Lab 1 is worth 50 points. Lab 1 is **required**.
- Labs 2-5 are worth 100 points each. Your lowest score from labs 2-5 is dropped. (e.g. the 3 highest scores from these labs will count toward your final grade)
- The Weather & Climate lab is worth 150 points (125 points for the lab writeup, 25 points for the data discussion and posting). The Weather & Climate lab is **required**.

Students are encouraged to work together on their labs, but **each student must submit an original write-up**. Identical write-ups will be considered plagiarized. See the plagiarism policy below. Lab assignments change in subtle ways from quarter to quarter. Read and complete each lab carefully, do not rely on assignments acquired from friends who took the class in past quarters. If evidence of this plagiarism is present, the student will receive a zero for that assignment and the class plagiarism policy will be applied.

All assignments are due at **10AM** on the posted due date (see the list of due dates below). A late penalty of 10% per day will apply to homework submitted after the due date. Late work is accepted up to four days after the due date, with a day being defined as the 24 hour period from the time the assignment was due.

Please review the directions for turning in lab assignments posted in the Questions discussion forum. Please note that the ETUDES system will 'unformat' assignments turned in using the Safari browser on the Mac (it is not a supported browser). **Do not use the Safari browser** if you are using a Mac. If you are using Microsoft Word 2007, please pay special attention to the formatting instructions in Module 1. Assignments that are not formatted correctly will be awarded a grade of zero.

Attendance and withdrawal policy

Attendance is required. If you do not attend for two weeks without contacting the instructor you will be dropped. Attendance is defined as completing the weekly quizzes OR attending face to face lectures. If you do not turn in three assessment items in a row (quizzes, labs, exams, discussions) without contacting the instructor, you will be dropped from the course at the discretion of the instructor. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. If it is past the deadline for dropping with a 'W' the student's logon to the course will be disabled and he/she will receive an F in accordance to the Foothill College withdrawal policy.

NOTE: If you wish to drop you need to contact Admissions and Records at Foothill and do so. Do not rely on me to drop you! The withdrawal policy is in accordance to the official Foothill withdrawal policy
<http://www.foothill.edu/reg/todrop.html>

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism (see Foothill college definition of plagiarism at: <http://www.foothill.fhda.edu/news/honor.html>) on any assignment or exam in this course will result in an F on that assignment/exam for the first infraction, and an F for the course for subsequent infractions. All incidents of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Disclaimer

The above schedules and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Reading list for *Geosystems 6th edition*

Week 1: Chapter 1 pp. 1-15, Chapter 2; **Week 2:** Chapter 1 pp. 16-33; **Week 3:** Chapters 3 & 4;
Week 4: Chapters 5 & 6; **Week 5:** Chapters 7&9; **Week 6:** Chapters 8 & 10; **Week 7:** Chapter 11;
Week 8: Chapter 12; **Week 9:** Chapters 13 , 15, 17 pp. 531-549; **Week 10:** Chapters 14 & 16;
Week 11: Chapters 18 & 19; **Week 12:** Review for the final exam

Physical Geography Hybrid Fall 2010

	Reading	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	Chapter 1 pp. 1-16, Chapter 2	20-Sep	21-Sep	22-Sep	23-Sep	24-Sep
Week 2	Chapter 1 pp. 16-35	27-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep	1-Oct
		Quiz 1, 6:30AM	Lab 1, 10:00AM	Discussion 1, 11:30AM		
Week 3	Chapters 3 & 4	4-Oct	5-Oct	6-Oct	7-Oct	8-Oct
		Quiz 2, 6:30AM			Lab 2, 10:00AM	
Week 4	Chapters 5 & 6	11-Oct	12-Oct	13-Oct	14-Oct	15-Oct
		Quiz 3, 6:30AM				
Week 5	Chapters 7 & 9	18-Oct	19-Oct	20-Oct	21-Oct	22-Oct
		Quiz 4, 6:30AM		Discussion 2, 11:30AM	Lab 3, 10:00AM	
Week 6	Chapters 8 & 10	25-Oct	26-Oct	27-Oct	28-Oct	29-Oct
		Quiz 5, 6:30AM			Midterm Weeks 1-6	

	Reading	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 7	Chapter 11	1-Nov	2-Nov	3-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov
		Memorial Day Holiday Quiz 6 6:30AM			Lab 4, 10:00AM	Data posting for weather & climate project due 11:30AM
Week 8	Chapter 12	8-Nov	9-Nov	10-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov
		Quiz 7, 6:30AM		Weather & Climate project data discussion, due 11:30AM		
Week 9	Chapters 13, 15, 17 pp. 532-546	15-Nov	16-Nov	17-Nov	18-Nov	19-Nov
		Quiz 8, 6:30AM			Weather & Climate Project due, 10:00AM	
Week 10	Chapters 14 & 16	22-Nov	23-Nov	24-Nov	25-Nov	26-Nov
		Quiz 9, 6:30AM		Discussion 3, 11:30AM		
Week 11	Chapters 18 & 19	29-Nov	30-Nov	1-Dec	2-Dec	3-Dec
		Quiz 10, 6:30AM			Lab 5, 10:00AM	
Week 12	Review for final exam	6-Dec	7-Dec	8-Dec	9-Dec	10-Dec
		Quiz 11, 6:30AM	Final Exam 10AM-Noon			