Physical Geography
GEO 2200 Section 1C17
Fall 2014

Instructor: Yu Wang
(wangyu8722@ufl.edu)

LECTURES:
CSE A101 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5th Period (11:45 am – 12:35 pm)

Office Hours:
Monday 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m

Office Location:
Department of Geography Turlington 3126B (3rd floor)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This is a study of some of the basic elements of the physical world in which climates, meteorology, and landforms are examined in terms of their natural occurrences, distribution and interrelationships.

The class meets the General Education requirements of a Physical Science.

COURSE WEBSITE:
We will be using UF’s E-Learning in Sakai system. The course website can be accessed from http://lss.at.ufl.edu. Click on the “e-Learning Login” button and login with your GatorLink username and password. A copy of the syllabus can be found there as well as grades, announcements, and resources.

TEXTBOOK:

Textbook: required An abridged version of “Exploring Physical Geography”, by Reynolds, Rohli, Johnson, Waylen and Francek, published by McGraw-Hill is used in the course. This can be purchased in the Book Store under the title of:

Introductory Physical Geography, GEO 2200, University of Florida: Selected Content from Exploring Physical Geography.”

Course Pack: strongly recommended A package of relevant course materials (tables, diagrams, maps) which you can purchase from TARGET COPY has been put together. You can survive without it, but you will have to copy down all the materials during the lecture periods. This
package also serves as your STUDY GUIDE. If I have taken the time to place the figures, diagrams and tables in this text then it is an indication that I want you to understand it.

You can purchase either a “hard copy” or “electronic copy” of the STUDY GUIDE.

TESTS:

a) Two (2) tests each worth 15% of final grade.
   #1 Friday, September 19th
   #2 Friday, November 7th

Tests will consist of multiple choice questions.

b) Two (2) examinations each worth 35% of final grade:
   #1 Monday, October 13th
   #2 Monday, December 8th

These examinations will each consist of regular multiple choice questions and multiple choice questions directed to maps and diagrams from the course materials.

The two examinations will evaluate your knowledge of each of the two halves of the course, separately. The second examination will therefore only evaluate material presented in the second half of the course. All tests will be held in the lecture room during the lecture hours on the dates listed above. You will have one class period (50 minutes) to complete each test.

All tests will be closed notes.

- There will be no makeup exams given. However, if an unavoidable event arises causing you to miss, or anticipate missing, an exam, please come and see me. Students missing a test for an approved absence must bring written documentation validating the absence (doctor’s note, obituary, etc.).
- Cheating (including plagiarism) will not be tolerated, according to the University rules. The first instance will result in a zero on the assignment; subsequent instances will be reported to the University.

GRADING SCHEME:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89-87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>76-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>69-67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>66-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>59-57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>56 or less</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Under University regulations a “C-“ will not be a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule or College Basic Distribution credit.

Your grades will be available through e-Learning.
Marks will be continuously updated and tabulated. This will also provide information concerning your performance in the remaining tests required to attain various grade levels. It is your responsibility to know how well you are doing in the class.

**Important:**

To be successful you will need a level of maturity and self-discipline. Some points:

- **DON’T** procrastinate, manage your time wisely and review the lecture materials regularly. If you have doubts or need information clarified, come to office hours.
- **DON’T** skip the “Before you leave this section” pages in either the **TEXT** or the **STUDY GUIDE**. Use these as a genuine self-evaluation tool. If you can’t answer these questions without reference to the notes or lectures, then you don’t understand that material.
- **DON’T** deceive yourself. There are about 200 points like this throughout the class. All examination questions are based on these points.

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:**

**Special Accommodations**

Students requesting disability-related academic accommodations must first register with the Disability Resource Center. [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). The Center will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Attendance will not be recorded in this course. When you enter the lecture room you are doing so of your own volition and are agreeing to show respect to your fellow students and to me. If you cannot learn quietly and peacefully, please do not come to class.

Also, **please turn off your cell phones during class**. If your phone rings, I will embarrass you! Texting and reading the newspaper during class are both distracting to other students and very disrespectful. If you cannot pay attention and feel you must do these things, please do not come to class.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

You are all bound by the student academic honor code.

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

The first time a student is caught cheating they will get zero on the test. (In a multiple choice test you would probably score 20% simply by guessing!). On the second offense the student will be reported to the appropriate student body.
QUESTIONS EXPLORED:
Numbers in parentheses indicate relevant sections in the TEXT. It is your responsibility to have read these sections BEFORE the appropriate lectures. I assume that you have read the sections and will not only review them briefly but also advance material beyond them. Reading the text alone is not a surrogate for attending lectures, but is a necessary prerequisite for the understanding of lecture materials and is intended as the basis for in class questions and discussion guided by the students.

Part 1:

How is energy transferred?
(02.00; 02.02A, C, D)

What controls the quantity and type of energy that the Earth receives?
(02.03B, C; 02.05; 02.06; 02.07)

Student responsibility:
What is temperature? (02.03B, C)
What is the electromagnetic radiation spectrum? (02.06 C)

What is the Zenith Angle and why should we care?
(02.08B)

Student responsibility:
What is the solar constant? (02.07)

Why are some places hot and others cold?
(02.08A)

Why are some times of the year warmer than others?
(02.09; 02.08C; 02.10)

What makes our atmosphere distinct from space?
(02.01A, C, 03.02 A, B, C)

What laws govern the way in which the gases in our atmosphere behave?
(03.01)
Where does the Sun’s energy go to in the Earth system?  
(02.11; 02.12; 02.13; 02.03; 02.02B; 02.04; 02.14A)

What is the Greenhouse Effect and how does it relate to potential global warming?  
(02.14B)

How does energy leave the Earth’s system?  
(02.15)

What is the geographic balance between energy gained and lost across the Earth?  
(02.16)

How are imbalances in energy budgets corrected by the Earth’s system?  
(03.03)

What are the global distributions of atmospheric pressures and surface winds?  
(03.05A; 03.06; 03.07A; 03.08B; 03.09; 03.10; 03.11; 03.12)

What are cyclones and anticyclones?  
(03.07C; 03.08A; 03.05)

Why do oceans and land heat up and cool down at different rates?  
(02.17)

What are the patterns of dominant global wind and ocean currents?  
(06.01; 06.02; 03.14)

What causes rain and snow?  
(04.01; 04.04)

Can we explain the global patterns of precipitation?  
(04.11)

Part 2:

What factors control the shape of the land?  
(09.00; 09.03; 09.08; 09.09, 10.16)

How is the Earth divided internally?  
(10.01)

How is energy transferred within the Earth?  
(10.09)
What causes crustal extension?
(10.05B; 10.06)

What landscapes develop in zones of extension?
(10.06, 10.15)

What happens when the Earth’s crust is forced together?
(10.05B; 10.07)

What are the typical landscapes that develop in these regions?
(10.05A; 10.07; 10.15)

What are transform faults?
(10.08, 10.13 bottom)

Where are all the world’s volcanoes?
(10.04B)

Where are earthquakes centered?
(10.04A)

What are “hot spots”?
(10.11; 10.12)

How does the Pacific Northwest illustrate how all these forces interact?
(10.08B)

How does the global hydrologic cycle operate to link energy from the Sun and from within the Earth?
(08.01; 08.02; 16.3)

What role does the land surface play in linking inputs and outputs to the continental portion of the hydrologic cycle?
(08.01; 08.03)

How do flows in rivers respond to rainfall?
(13.01 A, B, C; 13.12)

What is mass movement (mass wasting)?
(12.00; 12.01; 12.02; 12.04; 12.08; 12.10; 12.11)

Why do hillslopes move at some times and not at others?
(12.09)

How does running water shape our landscape?
What is Karst?
(08.08; 08.09; 12.02B; 12.06, 17.11; 7.10)

What are aquifers and why are they important?
(08.06; 08.08; 08.09; 12.07)

How does water move pieces of rock?
(13.03B; 13.09A)

How do rivers convey earth materials to the ocean?
(13.00; 13.02A, B)

What is a velocity profile and why is it important?
(13.02C)

What are the sources of energy on coasts?
(15.01, 15.07A, 15.11B)

What causes tides?
(15.02)

How do waves exert energy on beaches?
(15.3; 15.04C)

IMPORTANT DATES:
Tuesday, August 27th – Last day of drop/add
Monday, September 1st – No school (Labor Day)
Friday, September 19th – First test
Monday, October 13th – Second test
Friday, October 17th – No school (Homecoming)
Friday, November 7th – Third Test
Monday, December 8th – Final exam

**I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus during the course of the semester, including, but not limited to, course content, office hours, and test dates**