Physical Geography  
GEO 2200 Section 1C17  
Fall 2013  

Instructor: Tim Fullman

LECTURES:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 4th Period (10:40 – 11:30 am)  
Pugh Hall 120

OFFICE LOCATION:  
Department of Geography  
Turlington Hall 3120 (3rd floor)  
Email: tfullman@ufl.edu

I am often working in Turlington 3304 so if I am not in my office, please look for me there.

*** Email is the best way to contact me. However, I receive many emails every day so please email me ONLY when necessary. It may take me 24 – 48 hours to respond. Do not email me asking for information already included on the syllabus such as “When is the exam?”, “What is my grade in the course?”, or “Is there extra credit for the class?” as I will not respond. ***

OFFICE HOURS:  
Wednesday & Friday 11:30 am – 12:45 pm

If you are not available during the scheduled office hours, email me and we will try to set up an appointment for another time.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  
This course explores the patterns and processes in the natural environment that set the basis for all life. We will learn how the Earth’s atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere operate and interact with one another and how these interactions influence people. This 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.
TEXTBOOKS:
Course pack: required. I have put together a course pack of relevant materials we will review during lectures such as tables, diagrams, and maps. This course pack is available at TARGET Copy under this course number (GEO 2200 Section 1C17 Physical Geography – FULLMAN). I will be progressing at a speed that assumes that you have the course pack. This pack will also serve as your study guide. Anything in the course pack that is covered in class is fair game for test questions.

Textbook: not required. There are several interesting textbooks with a great deal of information about Physical Geography. I will be drawing most heavily from Introducing Physical Geography 5th ed. by Alan Strahler (Published by Wiley & Sons). This text, including both older and newer editions, can be found from a variety of sources. Material in the lectures will draw from a number of sources so the combined use of lecture notes and a textbook will provide the greatest benefit in the course.

TESTS:
There will be three tests and one final. All tests will be held in the lecture room during the lecture hours on the dates listed below. You will have one class period (50 minutes) to complete each test and two periods for the final. Tests will be cumulative, though weighted toward more recent material. Tests will consist of multiple choice questions unless otherwise stated. All tests will be closed notes.

Test 1: Monday, September 23 (20%)
Test 2: Wednesday, October 16 (20%)
Test 3: Friday, November 15 (20%)
Final Exam: December 9, 5:30-7:30pm (40%)

- 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.

EXTRA CREDIT:
Students may visit a local area of interest to physical geographers (e.g. Devil’s Millhopper, Paynes Prairie, local springs or rivers, etc.). Write a three-quarters to one page summary of your visit and describe the physical geography of the area and how it relates to what we have learned in class. Include a picture of yourself at the location. Feel free to visit in groups but write-ups need to be completed individually. This is worth up to 5% extra credit toward your final grade. Assignments must be handed in by the end of the last lecture, December 4th. No late extra credit will be accepted.
GRADING SCHEME:

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Please note that a C or better is required to pass. C- is not a passing grade according to the University of Florida.

All grades will be posted on the UF E-learning in Sakai web site (http://lss.at.ufl.edu) It is your responsibility to know how well you are doing in this class. Do not email me asking for your grade.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:
If you require special classroom accommodations, please let me know. It is your responsibility to first register with the Dean of Students Office and then bring me the necessary documentation. This must be done at least one week prior to the first exam.

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.

ONLINE EVALUATIONS:
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction via online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last few weeks of the semester. I will remind you about this when they are open. All evaluations are anonymous and will not be available to me until after grades have been submitted. Please answer honestly as this helps me improve my teaching and the course. Students interested in summary results of these assessments can visit https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results after the semester is over.

COMMERCIAL NOTES:
This course may be chosen by a commercial note company because of the number of students enrolled. In the eventuality of a discussion over grading I will recognize my notes and any textbook as being an authoritative source. I will not recognize any commercially reproduced course notes, as these have in the past proved to occasionally be erroneous. It is your choice which, if any, notes you buy.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: “I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”
UF COUNSELING SERVICES:
Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals which interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:
1. University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, personal and career counseling;
2. Student Mental Health, 392-1171, personal counseling;
3. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), 392-1161, sexual counseling;
4. Career Resources Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE:
Atmosphere
An Earth in motion
Incoming Solar Radiation
The Atmosphere
Earth’s Energy Balance
Global Circulation
Planetary and Local Winds
Air Temperature

Hydrosphere
Oceanic Thermal Properties and Currents
The Hydrologic Cycle
Water in the Atmosphere and on the Continents
Rivers and Floods
Human Effects on Water

Lithosphere
Earth’s Anatomy
Plate Tectonics
Volcanoes, Earthquakes, and Tsunamis
Earth Materials and Weathering
Mass Movement
Karst Landscapes
Clastic Erosion

Biosphere
Ecological Concepts
Biodiversity and Causes of Diversity
Factors Determining Species Distributions
Global Biogeography of Species
What is it like to do fieldwork?
IMPORTANT DATES:
Tuesday, August 27th – Last day of drop/add
Monday, September 2nd – No school (Labor Day)
Monday, September 23rd – First test
Wednesday, October 16th – Second test
Friday, November 8th – No school (Homecoming)
Monday, November 11th – No school (Veteran’s Day)
Friday, November 15th – Third Test
Wednesday, December 4th – Last day of class
Monday, December 9th – Final exam, 5:30 – 7:30pm

**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**