Basic Course Objective

This course is a study of the development and distribution of landforms, climates, minerals, soils and water resources. Interrelationships among the physical environment and regional patterns formed by these elements are analyzed against the man's utilization of them. Although you may be also enrolled in the GEO 2200 Physical Geography course, do not worry if you haven’t taken that course yet. THIS LABORATORY SATISFIES THE PHYSICAL SCIENCE LABORATORY REQUIREMENT.

Lab Assignments and Article Assignments

Lab exercises will be conducted through web resources and the application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing Software. Also, occasionally we may have to
make use of analog maps (old-fashioned, paper-based maps) to complete tasks, if necessary. You will be responsible for turning in 12 labs in total, one at the end of each session. Therefore, ATTENDANCE FOR THIS COURSE IS REQUIRED! Feel free to discuss the ideas presented in the labs with each other, but do not turn in labs with the same answers. THIS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND YOU WILL BE SUBSEQUENTLY PENALIZED!

Separate from the lab assignments each student will also submit two article reviews for the lab session. The student will select a peer reviewed article (Not National Geographic, NY Times etc.!!!!!) and will write a report (not copy and paste) that will focus on the researcher’s problem statement, hypothesis, methods, results, conclusions and the topics relation with the field of Physical Geography. The minimum length for the review will be two pages double space. Make sure to contact me if you have issues finding an article of interest, the article should be related to at least one of the topics covered in the lab sessions.

Grades and Associated Policies

The points for each lab are varied, and each lab must be turned in at the end of the session. Unless you have a documented excuse as to why you missed the lab and require late submission, you will receive a ZERO for that particular day’s assignment.

Article reviews are due in class on the due date. Late submission of article reviews will lose 5 points one each day beyond the due date. Each article is worth 50 points, for a total of 100 points.

The labs are worth 75% of your grade while the article reviews are 12.5% each, if you did all the labs but did not submit the article reviews you will receive a C as your final grade.

Grading scale is as follows:

A 93.00-100%  A- 90.0-92.9%  B+ 87.00-89.9%  B 83.0 -86.9%  B- 80.0-82.9%  C+ 77.00-79.9%  
C 73.0-76.9%  C- 70.0-72.9%  D+ 67.0-69.9%  D 63.0-66.9%  D- 60.0-62.9%  E Less than 60%

Tentative Lab Schedule*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Labs</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lab1</td>
<td>Earth-Sun Relationships</td>
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<td>Lab2</td>
<td>Temperature Patterns</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Lab4</td>
<td>Soils, Biomes &amp; Ecosystem</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Month     Day     Labs     Topics
October    1       Lab5    Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes & Volcanoes
            8       Lab6    Oceans, Tsunami & Coral Reefs (Article Review 1 Due)
            15      Lab7    Tropical Cyclones
            22      Lab8    Topographic Maps
            29      Lab9    GPS
November   5       Lab10   Google Earth
            12      Lab11   GIS
            19      Lab12   Remote Sensing (Article Review 2 Due)

*I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus during the course of the semester.

Classroom Expectations

Cell phones should be turned off upon entering the classroom. This also includes texting, emails, etc. Also, media devices (i.e. IPODS) must be turned off and earphones removed from your ears. For those of you who choose to use laptops to take notes, please do not use them for anything else other than the task on hand (no web surfing, no emails, etc.). Finally, be prepared when you come to class with that day’s lab printed out or with the manual. “I forgot it!” is not an excuse!

Academic Honesty

As you all know, upon registering, you as a student entered into a commitment with the university to remain honest in your academic career. You signed a statement including the Student Honor Code to not cheat or plagiarize. I will hold you to this commitment. If you are unfamiliar of your responsibilities as a student, please visit: www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/honestybrochure.php.

Further notes on article reviews

Please note that the list is by no means exhaustive and that you are at liberty to use any relevant article with a title/topic related to geography.

Recommended Journals:

The Professional Geographer
Annals of the Association of American Geographers
GeoForum
Science
Nature
Physical Geography
Applied Geography
Landscape Ecology
Earth Island Journal
Journal of Hydrology
International Journal of Remote Sensing
World Development
International Journal of Climatology
Progress in Physical Geography
Journal of Climate