Geography 2200: Introductory Physical Geography – Online Sections

Instructors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dawn Nekorchuk: <a href="mailto:nekodm@ufl.edu">nekodm@ufl.edu</a></th>
<th>Noah Mueller: <a href="mailto:nmueller@ufl.edu">nmueller@ufl.edu</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dawn’s Office Hours:</td>
<td>Noah’s Office Hours:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday: 2-3:30pm in TUR 3120</td>
<td>Monday: 11am-12:30pm in TUR 3120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday: 11am-12:30pm in TUR 3120</td>
<td>Thursday: 11am-12:30pm in TUR 3120</td>
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1 Course Overview
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.

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Make sure you have a WIRED Internet connection with approved browser by Sakai. See Recommended Browsers FAQs.
2. The midterm and final exams will be proctored through an online proctoring service, ProctorU. This requires a high speed internet connection, a webcam, and a microphone. Please review the ProctorU technical requirements. More information on the proctoring is also available on pages #5 of the syllabus.
3. Contact UF Computing Help Desk (352-392-4357) immediately when you encounter difficulties and keep the TICKET NUMBER for future reference and for reporting to the instructor.
4. Please read through the e-Learning FAQs and best test practices.
5. Self-discipline is very important to this course. Make sure you follow the suggested Topic Dates. Reviewing the lecture videos is the first resource for all course material. DO NOT let queries accumulate until the tests. Much of this material is cumulative; therefore, a lack of understanding of early material will hinder your ability to comprehend material that follows. For questions about the lectures, please ask fellow classmates first (via the discussion board) and if you need further assistance, feel free to attend office hours or email either of us (Dawn or Noah).
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2 Course Objectives
The course lectures and the e-version of the Lecture Supplement will assist you in successfully accomplishing each of the objectives below:

- To understand the nature of solar energy reaching the surface of the Earth, and its temporal and global variability.
- To understand how the interactions of oceans, continents and atmosphere transfer energy from places experiencing excess energy to those of deficit energy, and how these give rise to the typical climate of a location.
- To understand the nature and origin of energy arriving at the surface of the Earth from within the planet, the mechanisms of this energy transfer, and their global distribution.
- To understand the processes by which the competing forces of energy derived from the climate system and those from within the Earth interact to produce typical landscapes.
- To indicate the ways in which all of the above impinge upon human behavior and our interaction with our environment.

3 Instructors
Teaching Assistants:

Dawn Nekorchuk (nekodm@ufl.edu)
Dawn is a 2nd year doctoral student in Geography with a M.S. in Public Health and a graduate diploma in Geographic Information Systems. Her research focuses on medical geography – the interaction of geography with health issues, especially infectious diseases.

Noah Mueller (nmueller@ufl.edu)
Noah is a 3rd year doctoral student in Geography with a B.S. in Wildlife Management and a M.S. in Environment and Politics. His research focuses on coastal and marine tourism, climate change impacts to coastal environments, and political ecology. He has a special interest in the Caribbean and other small islands.

Lecturer (pre-recorded videos)
Dr. Peter R. Waylen (http://geog.ufl.edu/people/faculty/waylen/)
Dr. Waylen holds an undergraduate degree in Geography from The London School of Economics in England, a Ph.D., from McMaster University in Canada, and has taught Introductory Physical Geography for over 25 years at the University of Florida. His research interests lie in the large scale interactions of global oceans and atmosphere, such as El Niño, in controlling the variability and extremes in climates and hydrology (floods, droughts etc.). As a geographer, he is especially interested in the impact that these phenomena have upon humans and their livelihoods, and the impacts that human activities may have upon the natural world.
Geography 2200: Introductory Physical Geography – Online Sections

4 Office Hours
Dawn and Noah will both hold office hours, when they will be available to answer questions via email or in person at the scheduled rooms in Turlington. See the top of first page for times and locations.

5 Emailing
- We will try our best to answer e-mail questions promptly (by the next school day ~24 hours). If you do not receive a response by the next school day, please follow up with us because we may not have received the e-mail for various reasons. We typically will not check emails on weekends.
- Also: we cannot respond to large quantities of e-mail in the 24 hours preceding an assignment/examination deadline. Contact us early so that questions do not accumulate!

6 Evaluations and Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Number of Assignments</th>
<th>Points per Assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interactive Quizzes</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part I Exam</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part II Exam</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
<td>100</td>
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SYLLABUS QUIZ
At the start of the course you need to pass a syllabus quiz. This quiz may be taken multiple times until you score 100%, and there is no time limit within the quiz. It is open syllabus.

INTERACTIVE QUIZZES (4)
Each quiz will consist of videos, tutorials, etc. and a series of questions to evaluate knowledge. Students have three (3) days during which these quizzes will be available, and while the quiz is open, there is unlimited time to complete it. If at any time you feel uncertain of the answer, you may click on “Continue Later”, and you may leave the quiz to review your notes, lecture videos or outside sources before returning to answer that question towards completion of the quiz.
1) Seasons & Zenith Angle
2) Climate
3) Geology & Plate Tectonics
4) Hydrology & Erosion
EXAMS (2)

Examinations are CLOSED-NOTE and will each consist of individual multiple choice questions as well as multiple choice questions directed to maps and diagrams from the course materials.

- The exams will be proctored online using ProctorU (see next section).
- The exams are available on the “Assessments” tab in the left sidebar.
- Two (2) hours are allocated for each test. You will be “timed out” after this. Having logged in to take the test once, you will not be permitted to re-enter the test site for that particular test.
- The two examinations will evaluate your knowledge of each of the two halves of the course, part I and part II, separately. The second examination will therefore only evaluate material presented in part II.
- Be advised that, for all tests and examinations, you will only have until midnight on the due date to complete the questions. Please remember to sign-in with adequate time to complete each evaluation.

PLEASE NOTE:

- If you encounter any unexpected behavior (error messages, inability to login, etc.,) take a screen shot of the problem [In Windows, (Print Scrn) and on a Mac, (Cmd-Shift-4)] and paste into a program like Word or Paint. Save this file. This is important so that your instructor knows your problem is legitimate, and to assist the UF Computing Help Desk in helping you fix the problem.
- If you encounter problems that prevent you from taking the exam, immediately call the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357. Keep the ticket number for future reference.
- Best Practices for Taking Online Exams/Quizzes in E-Learning

Exam Proctoring Service (ProctorU)

For the two examinations, the GEO 2200 will be using ProctorU for online proctoring services. This will be used by all students taking this course online, regardless of whether you are an on-campus student or not. You can access ProctorU at www.proctoru.com.

- Students are REQUIRED to have a microphone and webcam in place during the test-taking period.
- Please bring a reflective surface such as a CD, DVD or mirror. This is so you can show the edges of your monitor to your proctor.
- Students will NOT be allowed to take an exam without a webcam.
- Students must register for a time slot for their course exams with ProctorU starting the second week of the semester, but no later than 3 business days prior to an exam.
- Exams can be administered any time of the day, seven days a week – exams will CLOSE at the posted time in the course – do NOT schedule an exam appointment with ProctorU that will take you past this time, even if they allow it, i.e. do NOT sign up for an appointment at 11:00PM on the last day of the exam because the exam will close at

Page 4 of 8
11:59PM and your exam time will only be 59 minutes versus the time allotted in the course for the exam.
- Remember that if you schedule your exam outside of UF helpdesk hours (http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/about/business-hours/), they will not be able to assist you with E-Learning issues if technical difficulties arise. You may schedule for any time within the window, but be aware late night exams will have reduce technical support.
- No one is allowed in the room with you while you take your exam, so be sure to make proper arrangements.
- The proctor will ask you for two forms of picture ID and may ask some public record questions to identify yourself.
- Please plan on 1-hour in addition to the test taking time for interfacing with ProctorU.

Proctoring fees are prepaid as part of your tuition. For exams scheduled less than 3 business days (72 hours) before an exam, however, they will charge you a $5 late fee.

**DISCUSSION (2)**

For each Unit (or group of Units), there will be students assigned to create Discussion Questions, and students assigned to write Answers to these questions. Students will be assigned after Add/Drop week. The number of assignments will be dependent on the final number of student enrolled, but it is expected that each student will be assigned at least one (1) question and one (1) answer during the semester. Well-written Questions and Answers will also be useful while you are studying for tests!

- A Discussion Question should be written as if it was a short-answer essay question on the selected material. This means that you should understand what the important ideas of the material are (hint: look at the objectives for that section, as a starting point).
- A Discussion Answer should be written as if you were answering a short-answer essay question (roughly 4 to 6 sentences). Make sure to address the key points using the terminology from the lectures.
- Note that you may need to watch lectures slightly ahead of the normal schedule during the unit(s) that you are assigned for Discussion.

### 7 Grading Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>93-100</th>
<th>90-92</th>
<th>87-89</th>
<th>83-86</th>
<th>80-82</th>
<th>77-79</th>
<th>73-76</th>
<th>70-72</th>
<th>67-69</th>
<th>63-66</th>
<th>60-62</th>
<th>&lt;60</th>
</tr>
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</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.
Geography 2200: Introductory Physical Geography – Online Sections

It is your responsibility to know how well you are doing in the class.

There will be a Gradebook option in e-Learning for following your progress. Please use it to keep track of your score, and contact us if there is a discrepancy. If you are not satisfied with the score you receive on an exam or quiz or feel an error has been made, you will be permitted **two weeks** from the time the score was posted for a review of the assessment. After this time the score will be entered as a permanent grade.

Please see the UF catalog grading policies for current guidelines not discussion here: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

8 Lecture Supplement
We have put together a package of relevant course materials (tables, diagrams, maps) which are available in e-version in two formats: Microsoft Powerpoint and PDF versions that are downloadable from the course website. We strongly recommend that you use this.

This Lecture Supplement also contains a listing of the major topics that you should have mastered at the end of each section so that you might evaluate your knowledge before progressing with additional new lecture materials.

WE WILL NOT BE RELEASING THE ORIGINAL LECTURE POWERPOINTS. Please use this lecture supplement as a framework for following the lectures and taking notes.

9 Supplementary Texts
There is no required text for this class. Exam and quiz questions are taken directly from the lecture videos. However, if you would like additional resources, here are a couple of textbooks.

(NOTE: The lecture videos are the primary sources for all exam questions, so in the unlikely event of any conflicting information, documentation of the discrepancy must be documented and provided to the TAs.)


10 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 Disability Resource Center will provide documentation to the student—each student
requesting special accommodations must provide this documentation to the Instructor. We do not automatically receive this information, so the student is responsible with providing the DSO request to the Instructor.

- We will honor all requests. Please contact an instructor by e-mail to make appointment so that we can go through these accommodations and sign the form.

### 11 Student Support Services

As a student in a distance learning course or program you have access to the same student support services that on campus students have. For course content questions contact your instructor(s).

- For any technical issues you encounter with your course please contact the UF computing Help Desk at 342-392-4357. For Help Desk hours visit: [http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/).

- For a list of additional student support services links and information please visit: [http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services)

- We understand that unexpected events occur in all of our lives. If such events (illness, personal problems, etc.) happen to you, please contact us ASAP. Upon production of official documentation of your case, an exam can be waived. If you choose to skip the exam, your grade will be based entirely upon your performance in the remaining course evaluations.

- In some special circumstances (when documentation is not available, for instance), I may ask you to contact the Dean of Students Office: **The Dean of Students Office**: 202 Peabody Hall, PO Box 114075, Phone: (352) 392-1261

- The Dean of Students is a resource, available to all students, for when special circumstances arise that disrupts students’ abilities to maintain their academic standing. We encourage students to use this resource if necessary.

- Useful Links:
  - [Student Counseling by College](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services)
  - [Student Right and Responsibilities](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services)

### 12 Academic Honesty

**Accountability to 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."
Each student answers the same examination questions; however, the computer shuffles the order of the questions and the order of the possible answers. In this way, each examination is unique, at least in its order, but not its content. If a student is suspected of cheating and there is sufficient evidence in support of the allegation, the student will be reported to the appropriate student body, according to the University’s Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution system.

13  **Excused Absences and Make-Up Work**
We understand that unexpected events occur in all of our lives. If such events (illness, personal problems, etc.) happen to you, please contact us ASAP. Upon production of official documentation of your case, an exam can be waived. If you choose to skip the assessment, your grade will be based entirely upon your performance in the remaining course evaluations.

14  **Complaints**
Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints to submit a complaint.

15  **Course Evaluations**
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results.