

# Physical Geography

## GEO 2200 / Class Section PG22 (13975)

Spring 2022

Instructor: Amobichukwu C. Amanambu

### LECTURES:

*Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9:35—10:35 AM.*  
Classroom location: Griffin-Floyd Hall (Bldg #: 0010)

### OFFICE HOURS:

*Monday and Thursday: 11 AM—12 PM. Wednesday: 11:00-12:00 PM*  
If you cannot make either of these times, email me and we can arrange another time to meet.  
Office location: 1215, Turlington Hall  
Office phone: (352)-792-7388

### EMAIL:

[a.amanambu@ufl.edu](mailto:a.amanambu@ufl.edu)

Put GEO 2200 in the subject line when sending email. Please you are encouraged to send email from Canvas page to enable easy identification. Allow 24 hrs for response. If you do not receive a response by the next school day, please follow up with me because I may not have received the e-mail for various reasons.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course exposes students to the patterns and processes in the natural environment system 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 and vice versa. This class meets the General Education requirements of a Physical Science.

### Course Structure and Content:

These are the current content and structures, but they may be updated during the semester.

#### *Structure*

- Power Point lectures
- Videos/Readings (supplemental or substitutions for class lectures)
- Assignments/quizzes
- Guest Lecture
- Field Trip
- Exams

#### *Content*

The following will be covered. However, the order may significantly change and the topics are equally tentative. More information will be given as the semester progresses.

Module 1: **Atmosphere**

The Atmosphere | An Earth in motion | Solar Energy and Electromagnetic Spectrum  
| Incoming Solar Radiation | Earth's Energy Balance | Global Circulation | Planetary and Local  
Winds | Air Temperature

Module 2: **Hydrosphere**

Oceanic Thermal Properties | Ocean Currents | The Hydrologic Cycle | Water in the Atmosphere  
| Water on the Continents | Drainage Basins | Rivers and Floods | Human Effects on Water

Module 3: **Biosphere**

Ecological Concepts | Biodiversity and Causes of Diversity | Factors Determining Species  
Distributions | Terrestrial Biomes

Module 4: **Lithosphere**

Earth's Anatomy | Plate Tectonics | Volcanoes, Earthquakes, and Tsunamis | Earth Materials and  
Weathering | Mass Movement | Karst Landscapes | Erosion | Soils

**Possible Guest lecture GIS & Remote Sensing Applications**

**TESTBOOKS:**

Textbook: Exploring Physical Geography (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Stephen Reynolds, Robert V. Rohli, Julia Johnson, Peter Waylen, Mark Andrew Francek. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill. Any of these textbook is fine.

**ATTENDENCE:**

Attendance will not be recorded at all times. However, you may not be informed when one will be taken. Always inform me if you can't make it to class. When you enter the lecture room you are doing so of your own volition, not because you are being forced to. When you make that choice you are also agreeing to show respect to your fellow students by allowing them to hear the lecture material without having to compete with cell phones and background chitchat. Please remember to **shut off your cell phone and do not text during class!!**

**COURSE WEBSITE:**

We will be using UF's E-Learning system. The course website can be accessed from <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>. Click on the "Log in to e-learning" button and login with your GatorLink username and password. A copy of the syllabus can be found here as well as grades, announcements, and resources. It is your responsibility to know your current grade.

**EXAMINATIONS AND GRADES:**

All examinations will be held in the lecture room during lecture hours on the stated dates. The four examinations will evaluate your knowledge of each section of the course **separately**. Each exam

will count for 10% of your grade, making all the exams a total of 40%. You must arrive to take a test or exam before the first person has finished unless you have a documented excuse. You will need to present your Gator1 card when you turn your exam in.

Syllabus Quiz	4 %
4 Assignments worth 5% each	20 %
1 <sup>st</sup> Exam (Module 1)	10 %
2 <sup>nd</sup> Exam (Module 2)	10 %
3 <sup>rd</sup> Exam (Module 3)	10 %
4 <sup>th</sup> Exam (Module 4)	10 %
Class activities	15 %
4 Media activities @ 1.5 % each	6%
Field work	5%
Discussion	10 %
Total	100%

Exam Date: - Module 1: Friday Feb/4, Module 2: Tuesday March/4, Module 3: Friday April/1, Module 4: Wed Apr/27. These dates are tentative and may change.

These are tentative exam dates and may change with consultation with student

There are 30-40 multiple choice questions for each exam

### **GRADING SCHEME:**

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
100-95	94-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-75	74-70	69-67	66-63	62-60	59-57	<57

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

### **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

I appreciate that unexpected events occur in all of our lives. If such events (illness, personal problems, etc.) befall you, you may take a make-up exam upon production of **OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION of your case ON TIME (immediately after exam date)**. That is, the first class period after the date of the incident listed on the official documentation.

## **Late Policy**

Semesters move quickly, and it is very easy to fall behind with video lectures. For assignments (homeworks/missions), I will accept them one day late with a 25% penalty. **Anything more than 24 hours late will not be accepted and a grade of “0” will be assigned.** No exams will be accepted late. If you cannot complete an assignment or an exam because of an excused reason (illness, family emergency, etc.), please contact me as soon as possible. In order for the assignment to be excused, **official documentation** must be provided to the instructor. Instructions on how to send me the documents will be handled at the time I am informed of the incident. Note that most of the assessments are open for multiple days. The valid reason must cover all of these days. If you know of an event in advance that will conflict with an assignment or test date, it is your responsibility to contact me before hand and let me know. I prefer to know sooner than later. Not all conflicts will be excused (e.g. you want to miss an exam to attend a rock concert). It is the instructor discretion to determine what is excused and what is not

## **STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS:**

If you require special classroom accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to first register with the Disability Resource Center and then bring me the necessary documentation. This must be done at least one week prior to the first exam. Students requesting disability-related academic accommodations must first register with the Disability Resource Center. <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

## **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.”

Each student answers the same examination; 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. When grading the answers, the computer scans for similarities in answers and notifies me of any remarkable coincidences! The first time a student is caught cheating they will get zero on the test. On the second offense the student will be reported to the appropriate student body.

## **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.
5. 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/>.

*\*The Instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus.*

***Contributing Authors and Editors:***

Amobichukwu C. Amanambu and Andrea Wolf