

GEO2200L Physical Geography Lab (1 Credits): Spring 2023

Course Description

Welcome to GEO2200 Lab. This course will provide hands-on experiences and data analysis related to our dynamic planet earth. This course will be different than a traditional class, as you will be engaging with the materials directly through activities and projects, mostly through this canvas shell. This course is a lab, which means we want you to play with data, experience and engage with real world systems, and better understand the scientific process of analysis to understand the world around us.

The structure of the labs are such that you must complete all items on the page before the lab will allow you to continue. As such, you can review the lab tabs at the bottom of each lab module for completion. Each lab is composed of many shorter pages to break down the content into steps and not overwhelm you upfront. Content in each lab does build across the module and as your comprehension grows you will be asked to complete more advanced tasks.

In addition, each lab page has different types of questions within it. The main two types are ‘Checking In’ questions, which you should review as you progress through the lab content. These are quick checks for you to read, answer out loud and then confirm you are correct by revealing the correct answers by clicking on them. These are simple check-ins with yourself to make sure you are following along. The second type of questions are the ‘Stop and Think’ questions, which are the questions you are answering for a grade and must be turned in. Please make sure that you have answered and turned in ALL the Stop and Think Questions at the end of the lab (they are numbered sequentially throughout each lab).

Contact Information

Instructor: Bewuket Tefera, Turlington Hall, 1215, 330 Newell Dr, Gainesville, FL 32611

Email bewukettefera@ufl.edu

Office Hours

Thursday 1:00-3:00 PM and by appointment. For questions about course content, your grade, or other personal issues, use the Canvas mail tool. Expect a response within 48 hours.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain the development and distribution of Climate, Hurricanes, Coral Reefs, Hydrology & Drought, and Ice Mass & Sea Level.
2. Describe the interrelationships among the physical environment and regional patterns formed by these elements.
3. Use software such as Google Earth to answer questions related to geography.

4. Demonstrate spatial understanding by using maps and other geographical representations to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.

Course Requirements

Required Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Minimum Technology Requirements

The University of Florida expects students entering an online program to acquire computer hardware and software appropriate to their degree program. Most computers are capable of meeting the following general requirements. A student's computer configuration should include:

- Webcam
- Microphone
- Broadband connection to the internet and related equipment (cable/DSL modem)
- Microsoft Office Suite installed (provided by the university)

Individual colleges may have additional requirements or recommendations, which students should review before starting their program.

Minimum Technical Skills

To complete your tasks in this course, you will need a basic understanding of operating a computer and using word processing software.

Materials/Supply Fees

There is no supply fee for this course.

Zoom

Zoom is an easy-to-use video conferencing service available to all UF students, faculty, and staff that allows for meetings of up to 100 participants.

You can find resources and help using Zoom at the [University of Florida's Zoom Links to an external site](#).website.

Course Policies

Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found on [UF's Attendance Policies Links to an external site](#). website.

As this is an online class, you are responsible for observing all posted due dates and are encouraged to be self-directed and take responsibility for your learning.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will be accepted at a cost of 10% per day late (up to a maximum of 50%). Students WILL GET A ZERO FOR MISSED LABS. If you have a problem, email me with sufficient time before the deadline (not 5 minutes before the deadline) and I may give an extension, provided you have documentation for the extenuating circumstance.

Make-up Policy

I understand that unexpected events occur. If such events (illness, personal problems, family, etc.) happen to you, please contact me ASAP. If you have a documented excuse for missing a lab, you will be permitted to turn in the lab later.

As this is an online class, you are responsible for observing all posted due dates and are encouraged to be self-directed and take responsibility for your learning.

Grading Policy

I will make every effort to have each assignment graded and posted within one week of the due date.

Course Grading Policy

Assignment	Points
Module 1: Climatology Basics	300
Module 2: Hurricanes – Meteorological Monsters	300
Module 3: Ice Mass and Sea Level Changes	300
Module 4: Corals	300
Module 5: Hydrology and Drought	300

Grading Scale

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93-100	A	4
90-92.9	A-	3.67
87-89.9	B+	3.33
83-86.9	B	3
80-82.9	B-	2.67
77-79.9	C+	2.33

73-76.9	C	2
70-72.9	C-	1.67
67-69.9	D+	1.33
63-66.9	D	1
60-62.9	D-	0.67
<60	E	0

See the [current UF grading policies Links to an external site.](#)for more information.

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the [Disability Resource Center Links to an external site.](#)(352-392-8565) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Conduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code Links to an external site.](#)specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Plagiarism

The [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code Links to an external site.](#)states that:

"A Student must not represent as the Student’s own work all or any portion of the work of another.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Stealing, misquoting, insufficiently paraphrasing, or patch-writing.
- Self-plagiarism, which is the reuse of the Student’s own submitted work, or the simultaneous submission of the Student’s own work, without the full and clear acknowledgment and permission of the Faculty to whom it is submitted.
- Submitting materials from any source without proper attribution.

- Submitting a document, assignment, or material that, in whole or in part, is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment the Student did not author."

Netiquette and Communication Courtesy

It is important to recognize that the online classroom is in fact a classroom, and certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with both your peers and your instructors. These guidelines for online behavior and interaction are known as netiquette.

Security
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Guidelines • Email • Discussion Boards • Zoom

Remember that your password is the only thing protecting you from pranks or more serious harm.

- Don't share your password with anyone.
- Change your password if you think someone else might know it.
- Always log out when you are finished using the system.

Getting Help

Technical Difficulties

For help with technical issues or difficulties with Canvas, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>[Links to an external site.](#)
- 352-392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups (assignments, exams, etc.) due to technical issues should be accompanied by the ticket number received from the UF Computing Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You should email your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care:** If you or someone you know is in distress, please email umatter@ufl.edu, call 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter We Care Links to an external site.](#) to refer or report a concern, and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- **Counseling and Wellness Center:** Visit the [UF Counseling & Wellness Center Links to an external site.](#) website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services and non-crisis services.
- **Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [UF Student Health Care Center Links to an external site.](#) website.

- **University Police Department:** Visit the [UF Police Department Links to an external site](#).website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care in Gainesville, call 352-733-0111, or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the [UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center Links to an external site](#).website.

Academic and Student Support

- **Career Connections Center:** For career assistance and counseling services, visit the [UF Career Connections Center Links to an external site](#).website or call 352-392-1601.
- **Library Support:** For various ways to receive assistance concerning using the libraries or finding resources, visit the [UF George A. Smathers Libraries Ask-A-Librarian Links to an external site](#).website.
- **Teaching Center:** For general study skills and tutoring, visit the [UF Teaching Center Links to an external site](#).website or call 352-392-2010.
- **Writing Studio:** For help with brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers, visit the [University Writing Program Writing Studio Links to an external site](#).website or call 352-846-1138.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available on the GatorEvals [Providing Constructive Feedback Links to an external site](#).FAQ page. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via the [GatorEvals Links to an external site](#).website. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at the [GatorEvals Public Results Links to an external site](#).page. More information about UF's course evaluation system can be found at the [GatorEvals Faculty Evaluations Links to an external site](#). website.

Tips for Success

Taking a course online can be a lot of fun! Here are some tips that will help you get the most of this course while taking full advantage of the online format:

- Schedule "class times" for yourself. It is important to do the coursework on time each week. You will receive a reduction in points for work that is turned in late!
- Read ALL of the material contained on this site. There is a lot of helpful information that can save you time and help you meet the objectives of the course.

- Print out the Course Summary located in the Course Syllabus and check things off as you go.
- Take full advantage of the online discussion boards. Ask for help or clarification of the material if you need it.
- Do not wait to ask questions! Waiting to ask a question might cause you to miss a due date.
- Do your work well before the due dates. Sometimes things happen. If your computer goes down when you are trying to submit an assignment, you'll need time to troubleshoot the problem.
- To be extra safe, back up your work to an external hard drive, thumb drive, or through a cloud service.

Privacy and Accessibility Policies

For information about the privacy policies of the tools used in this course, see the links below:

- Adobe
 - [Adobe Privacy Policy](#)Links to an external site.
 - [Adobe Accessibility](#)Links to an external site.
- Instructure (Canvas)
 - [Instructure Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Instructure Accessibility](#)
- Microsoft
 - [Microsoft Privacy Policy](#)Links to an external site.
 - [Microsoft Accessibility](#)Links to an external site.
- YouTube (Google)
 - [YouTube \(Google\) Privacy Policy](#)Links to an external site.
 - [YouTube \(Google\) Accessibility](#)Links to an external site.
- Zoom
 - [Zoom Privacy Policy](#)Links to an external site.
 - [Zoom Accessibility](#)

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