

THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Geography 141—Fall 2015

Instructor: Jane Benjamin

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OFFICE HOURS

Mon/Wed 11:20-noon and 2:30-3:00p immediately after class

or by appointment. Due to construction I may hold MW hours in/near classroom; TBA

Course Description: The Natural Environment course focuses on a “*systems approach*” to understand global processes and patterns causing the earth to display diverse environments from North Pole to the South and ocean to land. It is designed to introduce and analyze natural processes and how science works “in places”. This course includes study of systems of the atmosphere, lithosphere, biosphere, and hydrosphere and how our earth system interacts with the impact of human population and technologies. The scientific method, use of maps, graphs, models and computer mapping techniques (GIS) will be introduced to understand our environment.

Required Text: *ELEMENTAL GEOSYSTEMS 8TH E* Author Robert W. Christopherson

Required Reading Assignments: Readings are to be completed *before* class. Use “KEY LEARNING CONCEPTS” at the beginning of each chapter, KEY LEARNING CONCEPTS REVIEW at the end of chapters with vocabulary and questions. Be sure to use the GLOSSARY near the end of the text. TAKE NOTES IN CLASS. According to scientific studies, for the *best* retention, review/edit/translate your class notes within 8 hours.

Required Attendance: Roll is taken each day. If you miss a class, get class notes from a fellow student.

Lecture Quizzes will be given over the lecture material from the most recent lecture or two. It also serves as roll for the day it is given and the day it is returned. It covers the basic material of the lectures and reading.

Tutoring: I am the tutor for this class and will be available during office hours to help with materials presented in class or in the text. If my office hours don’t work, **make an appointment**. I can be available for more formal group study sessions just ask. This class is supported by the Social Science Department-not the Science Resource Center.

There is no extra credit for this class. Bonus points are throughout the coursework.

Make-ups: There are *no* make-up lecture quizzes. ONE make-up exam/map quiz *may* be granted with documented illness or extenuating circumstances. See me during office hours. If a makeup is granted it must be completed within 3 days of the exam date. <https://www.lanecc.edu/learningcommons/its> No bonus points on make-up.

Classroom Environment: Create a positive learning environment **for everyone** through common courtesy and keeping questions related to the subject material. There is a lot of science covered from a “geographic perspective” which may be a new to you. Location! Location! Isn’t only about real estate. Ask questions during class. The most common complaint is on-going “cross-talk” that disturbs neighbors in-front, beside and behind you who are trying to focus. Be considerate and don’t make them have to filter you out. Turn off cell phones and them keep out of sight. I’ll try to do the same.

Testing: We have 3 exams, 3 map quizzes plus weekly lecture quizzes over the term. Always bring a #2 pencil, and a pen. No hats/caps/cell phones/ are allowed during testing. Electronic dictionaries must be pre-approved and used in the first row of the classroom. I regularly ask students to move during testing if workspace is crowded. Cheating or conduct contrary to Lane policies won’t be tolerated. During testing a barrier must separate workspace.

FYI: Students will be required to study 2 hours for every hour spent in class for a good grade. The geographic perspective of space and place drive this course. If you are struggling it is important for me to know how to best accommodate students “before” falling behind”. Ask question in class and/or come to office hour.

Accessibility and Accommodations:

To request assistance or accommodations related to disability, contact the Center for Accessible Resources at (541) 463-5150 (voice), 711 (TTY), AccessibleResources@lanecc.edu (link sends e-mail) (email), or stop by Building 1, Room 218.

Please be aware that any accessible tables and chairs in this room should remain available for authorized students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable.

Reading assignments and tentative schedule of Quiz and Test dates. Dates may change.

[illegible]

Table 2. Course Content in Points YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING YOUR SCORES

Type	Points each	Point Type	Record SCORES here	
3 Tests	Exam 1 66 +bonus Exam 2 66 +bonus Exam3 comprehensive 86	218	Exam 1 Exam 2 Exam 3	
Attendance	26 3per week- holidays	27	Absent dates? -1 ea.	
Assign/quiz	Random	20		
Map quizzes	Approx. 20pts.	60	1. 2. 3.	
Grand Total		325 (100%)		

Table 3.COURSE GRADING SCALE (4 credits) plus or minus given within each range

	A	89%	Superior comprehensive knowledge of college-level subject material and concepts of Science
	B	77%	Very good comprehensive understanding college level materials and concepts of Science.
	C	62%	Average college student knowledge of subject materials.
	D	55%	Lacking comprehensive subject understanding.

