

THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Geography 141 Spring 2016

Instructor: Jane Benjamin

OFFICE HOURS Mon/Wed 2:20 p-3:20 p in our classroom or by appointment

email: benjaminj@lanecc.edu

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 “survey” course includes study of systems of the atmosphere, lithosphere, biosphere, and hydrosphere. The course addresses how the earth’s systems are impacted by human technologies and a growing population. The importance of the scientific method, use of maps, graphs, models, techniques of GIS will be introduced to understand our environment.

Textbook: ELEMENTAL GEO-SYSTEMS 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.

Attendance is important. If you miss a class, get class notes from a fellow student. Lecture Quizzes will be given over key material from the most recent lecture or two that you will have in your class notes. Lecture quizzes are a preview of future exam questions. Keep returned quizzes for study.

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 hour doesn’t work, make an appointment.* This class is supported by the **Social Science Department**-not the Science Resource Center.

Extra Credit: None. You must do the work assigned. Bonus points are *opportunities for everyone* in the course.

Make-ups: There are no make-up lecture quizzes. One make-up Exam or Map Quiz may be granted with a documented illness or extenuating circumstances. Talk with me to let me know what’s up with your absences. If a makeup is granted it must be **completed within 3 workdays of the original exam**. No bonus points are available on make-ups.

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! Ask questions during class. Be considerate. The most common complaint is ongoing “cross-talk” disturbing neighbors in front, beside and behind you. If you are bothered by “conversations” let me know and I will address the problem privately. Turn off phones. Keep them either on the desktop face-down or in your pack.

Laptops and Electronic Dictionaries. If you use a laptops for note-taking sit in the two front rows. Electronic dictionaries must be pre-approved and used in the first row of the classroom during testing.

Testing: There are 3 exams, 3 map quizzes plus common lecture quizzes over the term. Always bring a #2 pencil, and a pen. No hats/caps/cell phones/ are allowed during testing. **I regularly ask students to move during testing** if workspace is crowded. Your scantron/test must be kept private.

Tips for Success: Successful students study 2-3 hours for every hour in class. The geographic perspective of location, movement and science drive this course. If you are struggling it is important for me to know how to best accommodate students “before” falling behind”. Ask question and/or come to office hour. For some students the map locations are difficult; use colored pencils, blank maps and rulers as study tools, learn key country names,

Grade Assessment

3 Exams 1.)66pts 2) 66pts 3) 90pts	Total = 222pts
3 Map quizzes 3 @ 20 each=	Total 60
Lecture quizzes Random 2-8 points	Total= 20
Assignments 5-15 points each	Total= 30

GRAND TOTAL 332 points

Course Grading Scale

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% Lacking comprehensive subject understanding

D 55% Average college student knowledge of subject materials

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.

Assignment Schedule

This schedule is subject to change during the term. Please check moodle weekly for changes. *KLC abbreviation refers to Key Learning Concepts Questions.*

Wk1 MARCH 3/28

Read Chapter 1. Essentials of Geography pp. 133. Chapter 1. is posted on moodle for those who have not yet bought textbook. It's a big file so be patient for it to load. Friday Lecture Quiz

Wk 2 APRIL 4/04

Part I. Chapter 2. Solar Energy Seasons/Atmosphere pp. 37-69. Waters' Unique Properties pp. 140-143; KLC Review questions 7,8,10,11,12,17,18,19,20 **Map quiz 1** Friday

Wk 3 APRIL 4/11

Read Chapter 3. Atmospheric Energy and Global Temps pp. 70-103. Mapping exercise outside (weather permitting TBA) KLC Review Questions 1,3,4,5,6,8,10,12,13,15,16,17,21 Possible lecture quiz

Wk 4 APRIL 4/18

Read Chapter 4. Atmospheric and Oceanic Circulation Pp. 104-135. KLC 1,2,7,8,10,11,12,13,15,16,17,18,19 Exam 1 covers Ch1,map quiz 1, Unique properties pp.140-143 Ch 5 KLC Review Questions 1,2,3,4 and class notes
Exam 1 (Friday)

Wk 5 APRIL /25

Read Part II. Chapter 5. Atmospheric Water and Weather pp.144-146; 152-178. KLC Review Questions 1,2,3,4,5,6,8,14,15,16,19,21,22,23,24,29
Map Quiz 2 (Friday)

Wk 6 MAY 02

Read Chapter 7 Earths Climatic Regions. KLC 1,2,3,4,5,8,9,10,11,12,14,17. *Biomes of the World* video Wed. **Chapter 8,** Read and study photos and diagrams for pp. 245-248 up to “Methods” col. 2 and read /study pp.256-259 and *Focus Box* pp. 260-261 and read *Key Learning Concepts Review*. The college is closed May 6th for Spring Conference.
Key Learning Concepts Review Write Answers for KLC Q1,2,4,10,12,1 5

Wk 7 MAY 09

Monday Chapter 6. Water Resources: Distribution of Water/Hydraulic Cycle pp. 182-191 and Groundwater 200-206. May 9 Video Cadillac Desert. KLC 3,4,5,6,7,17,18,19,20. Friday Exam 2
KLC Review Questions **DUE WEDNESDAY Exam 2 FRIDAY**

Wk 8 MAY 16

Read Part III Chapters 9 and 10. Earth Atmosphere Interface 252-253 Dynamic Planet pp. 252-281. Tectonics, Earthquakes and Volcanoes pp.282p.331KLC(Ch9)6,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,18,19,(Ch10)1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,14,17,20, 21,22.

Wk 9 MAY 23

Read Chapter 11. Weathering, Mass movement (skip Karst Landscapes) pp. 319-329. KLC 2,4,13,14,16,19,20,27,30,

Wk 10 MAY 30

Read Chapter 12 River Systems and Landforms pp. 343-373 KLC 1,4,7,10,13,14,17,20
Memorial Day- no class Monday.
Video. **Read Chapter 14 Glaciers** Pp. 461-476 & 482-493 KLC 1,2,3,4,7,8,12,21,

Week 11 JUNE

Final's week.

Final Exam time will be according to college-wide Exam schedule. SEE MAIN PAGE under “Calendars” Tab. No regular classes held. If you have more than 2 finals on a single day you may request to move one to a different date.