Laboratory for GEOG 1306 (GEOG-1106-0 CRN:36140)   Syllabus   Edit Mode is: • **OFF**

Syllabus

Attached Files
 GEOG1306Spring21.pdf   (431.771 KB)

   Alignments

GEOG 1106

Physical Geography Laboratory

Summer 2021 Syllabus

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Mt Cristo Rey, TX, NM, MX, photo by V. Harder

Course Description

Why study physical geography? For many, there is a natural curiosity about how Earth processes work and how different landscapes formed. This is what physical geographers do: investigate natural patterns and processes.

Geography lab is to support the concepts covered in the lecture portion, Geography 1301 and will give you hands-on activities to reinforce the concepts in physical geography and how it affects your everyday life. This course will deal with maps and data systems involving processes and spatial patterns in the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere. Our focus will be quantitative and

analytical, producing and interpreting graphs and statistical relationships.

Catalog Description. Introduction to Physical Geography Laboratory (1-0) An introduction to features and processes of the atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and lithosphere, with emphasis on spatial (distribution) patterns, and interactions between the four Earth realms and human activities.

Course Objectives

- The student will learn concepts and vocabulary related to science by completing the various activities. Students will explore several important concepts that of of concern to us as citizens, educators, and scientists. They will do this by completing class activities which may include collecting visual data as photographs.
- The student will properly apply the scientific method to research a problem and formulate conclusions. All sciences share a common methodology of attaining knowledge that sees to eliminate bias and prejudice in research. You will learn the difference between a hypothesis and a scientific theory.
- The student will synthesize information from external sources and personal observations and incorporate them into class activities. Learn how scientists think. Scientists observe, question, and analyze, and you will be expected to do the same.
- The student will investigate real world examples by completing a variety of activities. Students will be investigating soil, biota, and associated issues from the El Paso area.
- The student will communicate and defend their methodology and results using writing, graphical, and electronic forms in the class.
- The student will demonstrate their ability to download and use electronic resources and digital software such as Excel, various browser plugins and animations to support learning.

Course Expectations

This course is 100% on-line component that incorporates active learning. Active learning may require a more intensive effort on the part of the student because you will have to gather information on your own as directed by the instructor instead of listening to a lecture. Coursework is laid out in Learning Modules and should be accessed via the Learning Module link. The Learning Module page includes not only links to each individual module and graded work but also to the assignment and discussion introduction.

You correspond with the instructor and with other students via the Email link when not in class. Your e-mail message will only go to those people you designate. In contrast, postings using the Discussion link are posted so that everyone in the class can read the posting and respond. The Discussion tool will be used in each Learning Module. Feel free to initiate discussions if you have questions or see something of interest to the class as a whole. I may edit and organize discussion postings as

needed. If you have questions, there are several means in which to get an answer: send the instructor a message, or, if you are having technical difficulties, contact the Help Desk.

We will be taking advantage of internet resources and software in this course, so expect to download and install needed software and to use programs such as Excel, your computer imaging processing program (such as Paint or Preview), take digital photographs, and install web browser plugins as needed. If you aren't comfortable with your computer please expect the activities to take extra time while you are learning. Don't hesitate to contact the Help Desk for technical assistance. They are trained in answering those types of questions. The computer labs in the library and UGLC have the latest software and browser plugins.

Assessment

Grades will be based on the following criteria and will be assigned using the scale:

- A = 90- 100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = < 60%

Procedures

- Class work will be posted and should be accessed under the **Learning Modules** tab. Each Learning Module will include: an introduction to the topic and lab work. Due dates are given on the schedule.
- You should access each Learning Module as soon as you can and note what needs to be done and plan your work accordingly. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.
- I will typically visit the electronic classroom daily and will try to acknowledge all e-mails within 2-4 hours during the workweek until 5pm. Questions and messages posted after 5 pm or over the weekend may not be acknowledged until the following day.
- Extra credit, if/when offered, is offered to the entire class, not to individuals.
- For technical difficulties please contact the Help Desk. I may also be able to help you trouble-shoot.
- I make every attempt to present this class free of errors, but they

do happen. If you see an error (due date, quiz question, etc.) please email me and let me know so I can fix it ASAP.

○ Be sure to send email via Blackboard, it tells me which class you are in. Please don't use the Messages, I don't get notification of them so I may not reply in a timely manner. Send the email from within the class.

Course Outline

Topic Description	Lab Topics	Due Dates
Learning Module 1 **Introduction to Class**	Lab 1: Introduction to Blackboard, Graph Reading and Interpretation Discussion	May 21 Initial discussion post due May 18, responses by May 20
Learning Module 2 **Reading & Interpreting Data**	Lab 2: Temperature Change Lab 3: Isarithmic Maps: Analysis and Profiles	May 24 May 28
Learning Module 3 **Global Weather Controls**	Lab 4: Seasons Lab 5: Solar Energy Lab 6: Temperature & Pressure	Jun 4 Jun 6 Jun 11
Learning Module 4 **Weather**	Lab 7: Clouds Lab 8: Reading Weather Maps	Jun 13 Jun 18

Learning Module 5	Lab 9: Water Balance	Jun 20
Water in our Environment	Lab 10: Streams	Jun 25
Learning Module 6	Lab 11: Biomes	Jun 27
Climate Factors	Lab 12: Climate	Jun 30

Assessment & Grading Criteria

12 labs will be offered during the course of the term. Each lab is worth 20 points. Your letter grade for the course will be based on your aggregate score from your 12 labs (maximum of 12 x 20 =240 points)

- A = 90- 100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = < 60%

Each Lab will have an accompanying activity. These activities are intended to provide examples of the concepts covered in the lecture and how scientists work.

- The labs will be linked to from within each Learning Module.
- The assignments are to be submitted via the same link.
- You will be provided with an Answer Sheet. Download it to your computer, fill in the answers, do a "Save As...." and upload it for grading. I especially appreciate it if your answers are in a different color than the text. It helps me when grading.
- The labs are to be submitted via the Lab link for each Learning Module.
- A comment box is available in the Lab dropbox where you may post any comments you want me to read concerning your work. If you have questions about the lab, ask via the Bb messaging so I can read them before grading. I, too, will use the comment box to post any comments I may have on your work as I was grading it. Please return to read the comments, especially if you do not receive a grade for a lab within a few days of the due date.
- If you upload your work early (by 5 pm of the due date) I will look it over and notify you if you have any errors/mistakes. I will post a 0 for your grade and leave you a comment. You will have until the due date/time to revise and resubmit your work. Please put the revisions in a color that is

different from your first submission so I can readily find the corrections.
- ○ I prefer your work to be answered using your own words, not copied verbatim from the text, the internet, or a fellow student. Copying answers, especially if not referenced, is plagiarism.
- ○ Labs will be graded on a 20 point scale. The grade will be based both on content and on completeness of the response.

Your labs will be graded as follows:

18-20:	The lab is complete and correct. It shows insight and careful reflection on the topic. It is well written with complete sentences that respond to the questions.
16-18:	The lab is essentially complete. The learner shows understanding of the topic although there are minor errors they are not conceptual in nature.
14-16:	The lab is missing one or two answers or there are complete or there are errors in the work that reflect a misconception or lack of understanding.
12-14:	The lab is lacking more than one answer. Work is poorly done or displayed and does not demonstrate understanding of topics.
< 12:	Does not effectively address the lab, major portions are missing.

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UTEP Policies for Students

Informed Consent: Some individuals may choose to disclose personal information during class. Therefore, it is important that all classmates agree not to discuss or write about what others have discussed in class.

Disability Statement: Services for students with disabilities are provided through the Academic Support Center's Disability Services Office. Some examples of the assistance provided are: audio materials for the blind or dyslexic, note takers, readers, campus guides, audio recorders, a quiet testing area, and undergraduate academic tutors. In order to qualify for these services, documentation must be provided by qualified professionals on an annual basis. Disability Services forms are available in the Academic Support Center.

Military Statement: If you are a military student with the potential of being called into military service and/or training during the course of the semester you are encouraged to contact the instructor regarding these matters.

Professionalism : Students are learning professional skills and are expected to engage in classroom discussions, complete reading assignments and turn in assignments in a timely fashion as befitting professional behavior.

Scholarly Writing: Use clear college level writing with correct spelling and grammar for all assignments. If you need help in writing, check with the UTEP Writing Center.

Integrated Use of Technology: Because this is an online course, I am making the assumption that you are comfortable utilizing a computer, and navigating various software programs like Microsoft Word, Powerpoint. If you have any questions about computer requirements see the *Student Resources* in Blackboard.

Need Help?

1. Post a question to the Discussion Board. There is no such thing as a dumb question.
2. Post a question as a Blackboard email to your instructor.
3. Click on the Help button in Blackboard.
4. If the Blackboard system goes down or you have other technical questions, contact the UTEP Help Desk

Academic Integrity Policy and Procedures: Each student shall observe standards of honesty and integrity in academic work completed at UTEP. Students may be penalized for violations of the Academic Integrity policy. Please refer to the Academic Integrity section in the current UTEP Catalog. (Clearly specify what you consider to be violations of academic honesty.)

Caveats: The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Code of Civility: In order to promote a positive, professional atmosphere among students, faculty and staff, the following Code of Civility has been developed:

- **Respect:** Treat all students, faculty, staff and property with respect and in a courteous and professional manner. This includes all communications, whether verbal or written. Let your actions reflect pride in yourself, your university, and your profession.
- **Kindness:** A kind word and gentle voice go a long way. Refrain from using profanity, insulting slang remarks, or making disparaging comments. Consider another person's feelings. Be nice.
- **Truth:** Exhibit honesty and integrity in your dealings with fellow students, faculty and staff members. Don't lie, don't cheat, and don't steal.
- **Responsibility:** Take responsibility for your actions. This includes gracefully accepting the consequences of your behavior.
- **Cooperation:** Exhibit a cooperative manner when dealing with students, faculty and staff so we may all work towards our common goals and mission.
- **Acceptance:** Accept differences in others, as they accept differences in you. This includes diversity in opinions, beliefs and ideas and everything else that makes us unique individuals.
- **Professionalism:** Always conduct yourself in a manner that will bring pride to your profession, to the University of Texas at El Paso, and, most importantly, to yourself.