

Geography 122: Landforms and Soils

Fall 2010 M, W, F, 10:20 am -11:20 am., Halsey 107

Instructor: Dr. Colin Long; 302 Halsey; 424 2182; longco@uwosh.edu

Office Hours: Monday 2:00 to 4:00 and Tuesday 10:00 to 12:00

Recommended Text: *Elemental Geosystems* (5th or 6th edition) by Robert W. Christopherson:
Geography 122 Lab Manual Fall 2010 by C. Long

Course purpose: This course is intended to provide students with a basic understanding of the components and processes that create the physical and biotic landscapes found on the earth. Geomorphology and Biogeography are the major study areas that will be explored. Most of you will not follow up this course with extensive study of Geomorphology or Biogeography as your main focus in education, but an understanding of these areas of knowledge will allow you to make better sense of the world around you. This course is akin to another piece of the puzzle that is the world we inhabit. Each area that you study such as art, history, sociology, math, biology, etc. provides you with another part of the earth's human or physical landscape. The strength of the liberal arts approach is that it gives you the opportunity to see how all the pieces, although seemingly unrelated, fit together. I want to encourage you to think about the processes that shape the earth's surface and the organization of plants and animals in terms of their affect on the other subject areas that you are studying. I believe that it will soon be clear that there are significant links and that by looking for those relationships you will see the value of the liberal arts education that you are receiving; and that the world we inhabit really is a very connected place.

Assignments: All reading assignments should be done before the class meeting. Labs will be held every week except for the first week.

Assessment: The exams will consist of multiple-choice questions and will cover subjects discussed in lecture and the readings. The exams will be cumulative in scope. There will be 8 in-class quizzes given during the term. Only your 6 highest scores will be counted toward your final grade. Quizzes and exams will consist of multiple choice questions. The in-class quizzes will focus on recently covered material. The exams will be cumulative in score. There will be two lab exams which will cover the lab session information. Class points will be distributed in the following fashion: In-class quizzes 15 points (quizzes worth 2.5 points each, counting only your top 6 scores = 15 points possible); 1st exam = 15 points; 2nd exam = 20 points; Final exam = 25 points; 1st Lab exam = 12.5 points, 2nd Lab exam = 12.5 points
TOTAL = 100 points

Evaluation: There will be no curve. Students will strive for mastery rather than competing against each other. A = 100-93.0 points, A- = 92.9-90.0 points, B+ = 89.9-87.0 points, B = 86.9-83.0 points, B- = 82.9 – 80.0, C+ = 79.9 – 77.0 points, C = 76.9 – 72.0 points, C - = 71.9-69.0 points, D+ = 68.9-66.0 points, D = 65.9-63.0 points, D- = 62.9 – 60.0 points, F = less than 60 points. Without acceptable documentation of illness or other emergency, failure take an exam at the appointed time will result in a score of 0 for that exam. There will be no extra credit opportunities in this class.

Special Accommodations: Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with disabilities. Please contact Disability Services (424-3100 (voice) or 424-1319 (TTY)) or visit

their web site at <http://www.uwosh.edu/dean/disabilities.htm> for the University's accommodation request form and documentation requirements. Information related to an individual's accommodation request will be kept confidential.

Academic Integrity: The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is committed to a standard of academic integrity of all students. The system guidelines state: "Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Students are subject to disciplinary action of academic misconduct which is defined in the UWS 14.03 Wisconsin Administrative code. Students are encouraged to review the code, located on the "Dean of Students" web page (see Student Conduct) in order to understand your rights and responsibilities.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Date	Subject	Suggested reading (5 th edition)	Lab subject for weekly lab period
Sept. 8	Introduction to Physical geography	7-31	No lab this week
Sept. 10	Plate tectonics	263-287	
Sept. 13	Plate tectonics, Earthquakes	293-318	
Sept. 15	Earthquakes		Rocks and minerals
Sept. 17	Volcanism	318-329	
Sept. 20	Volcanism		
Sept. 22	Weathering processes	333-343	Plate tectonics/volcanoes
Sept. 24	Weathering processes, Karst topography	343-347	
Sept. 27	Mass movements	347-356	
Sept. 29	Mass movements		Topographic map interpretation
Oct. 1	Mass movements		
Oct. 4	EXAM 1		
Oct. 6	Glacial processes and landforms	451-483	Glaciers
Oct. 8	Glacial processes and landforms		
Oct. 11	Glacial processes and landforms		
Oct. 13	River processes and landforms	361-391	Rivers
Oct. 15	River processes and landforms		
Oct. 18	River processes and landforms	395-418	
Oct. 20	River processes and landforms		Lab exam 1
Oct. 22	Eolian processes and landforms		
Oct. 25	Eolian processes and landforms		
Oct. 27	Coastal processes and landforms	421-446	Coastal
Oct. 29	Oceans		.
Nov. 1	<i>No class</i>		
Nov. 3	Soil formation and characteristics	489-512	Soils

Nov. 5	Soil formation and characteristics		
Nov. 8	EXAM 2		
Nov. 10	Water resources	191-213	Water resources
Nov. 1	Water resources		
Nov. 16	Ecosystem essentials		Ecosystem processes
Nov. 18	Ecosystem essentials	515-530	
Nov. 20	Ecosystem essentials		
Nov. 22	Succession and disturbance	530-540	No Lab this week.
Nov. 24-26	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>		
Nov. 29	Terrestrial biomes	540-558	
Dec. 1	Terrestrial biomes		Wisconsin veg.
Dec. 3	Terrestrial biomes		
Dec. 6	Terrestrial biomes		
Dec.8	Humans and the future	563-574	Lab Exam 2
Dec.10	Humans and the future		
Dec.13	Humans and the future		
Dec.15	EXAM 3		
Dec. 17	final session		