

GEO 102: LANDSCAPE PATTERNS AND PROCESSES
LSCB 119, MTWRF, 10:20-12:15
SUMMER 2009

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Office hours: Mon., Tues. & Wed. 2:00-4:00 PM

If possible, please email to set up an appointment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In GEO 102 students examine the characteristic landforms associated with natural landscape regions and develop an understanding of the physical processes responsible for the observed distributions. In labs, students develop geographic skills including map reading, formulation of geographic questions, and analysis of spatial data. This class provides students with an understanding of the natural environment in which they live and applies that knowledge to problems they are likely to encounter in their lives.

COURSE CONTENT: (See attached schedule for details)

Representations of the earth (imagery, topographic maps)

Plate tectonics

Volcanic and plutonic processes and landforms

Diastraphic processes (folding and faulting)

Fluvial processes and landforms

Karst processes and landforms

Desert processes and landforms

Glacial processes and landforms

Coastal processes and landforms

TEXT

Physical Geography: A Landscape Appreciation, Ninth Edition by T. L. McKnight and D. Hess, published by Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. The same textbook is used for GEO 101. Older editions are acceptable.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASSROOM POLICY

Students are expected to attend and to be on time for ALL classes. Attendance is checked at each class. **It is your responsibility to sign the class role at the time it is passed around.** Attendance in a summer short term class is crucial. Note on the schedule that each day that you miss will cause you to lose 3.5 points from your total of 100 (0.5 for attendance and 3.0 for the quiz). No excuses are accepted in this short term class, and no makeups are allowed. It is very simple; if you miss class, you lose the points associated with that day.

No smoking or eating is allowed during class. You are encouraged to share your ideas and opinions, and you are expected to treat your classmates and professor with courtesy and respect.

MAKEUP EXAMS

I will not give makeup exams for this short term class. If you miss the mid-term exam, its entire value toward your grade will go on the final exam

EXAMS AND GRADING POLICY

Quizzes and exams are multiple choice and use Scantron answer sheets. Each quiz will consist of 6 questions that will come from the review questions from the preceding class. The midterm and the final will consist of questions directly from quizzes that you have already taken as well as material from the review questions from the preceding class. Although most of the exam comes from the material covered in class, it often helps to read the corresponding chapters in the textbook that are indicated on the schedule. Exam 1 = 20% of final grade, Exam 2 (Final) = 22%. Although not totally comprehensive, Exam 2 will incorporate questions taken directly from Exam 1 as well as from quizzes that followed Exam 1, and from review questions from the preceding class.

Attendance/participation counts 10%. Final grade is based on the following scale: 100 to 90 = A; 89 to 80 = B; 79 to 70 = C; 69 to 60 = D; below 60 = F.

FINAL GRADE

You will receive a separate final grade in GEO 102 lecture and GEO 102 lab. Note that the lecture is a 3 credit hour course and the lab is a 1 credit hour course. Students enrolled in GEO 102 lecture must sign up for a GEO 102 lab

DISABILITIES

The University of South Alabama provides reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The Office of Special Student Services will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify me and provide certification from Disability Services (Office of Special Student Services). The Office of Special Student Services is directed by Ms. Andrea Agnew and is located in the Student Center, room 270. The phone number is (251) 460-7212.

CHANGES

The class schedule may be changed if necessary, but students will receive at least 48 hours notice if possible.