

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: GEOG 4

Title: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Full Title: Physical Geography

Last Reviewed: 3/8/2021

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

Catalog Description:
Introductory study of the earth's surface, including the earth's dimensions and motions; atmospheric processes; patterns of climate, vegetation, and soils; and features, processes, and interactions of land and water.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or concurrent enrollment in ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: Study of the earth's dimensions, motions & surface features. Atmospheric processes, climate & vegetation patterns, landforms & water processes. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or concurrent enrollment in ENGL 100 or ESL 100.
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	C	Natural Sciences	Fall 1981	
CSU GE:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	B1	Physical Science	Fall 1981	
IGETC:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	5A	Physical Sciences	Fall 1981	
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:

CID:

CID Descriptor: GEOG 110 Introduction to Physical Geography
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): GEOG4

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

The successful student will:

- Recognize relationships between physical geography and other disciplines.
- Perceive the body of geographic knowledge to be the result of an ongoing process of contributions by individual personalities.
- Appreciate the utility of models, hierarchies, mass and energy budgets, and classification schemes.
- Acquire and utilize fundamental concepts of mathematics to the analysis of geographic phenomena.
- Interpret graphs and charts of both theoretical and actual data, utilizing techniques of interpolation and extrapolation.
- Acquire and utilize a vocabulary of several hundred terms, the majority of which will have applications beyond this course. Examples: latitude and longitude, time zone, convection, seasonality, conifer.

Topics and Scope:

Earth geometry and motions: planetary and solar system data and comparisons, latitude and longitude, the Rectangular Survey, time zones, and principles of navigation. Atlas-related exercises.

Atmospheric processes: Energy budgets and modes of energy transfer, seasonality and continentality, pressure and wind, atmospheric moisture and precipitation processes. Text related exercises, often mathematical, utilizing graphs, charts, and observational data.

Global patterns of climate, vegetation, soils, and ground water: classification systems and criteria, models of distribution patterns,

annual cycles. Exercises in application of classification criteria. Landforms and related processes: plate tectonics, diastrophism and volcanism, weathering processes, agents of gradation. Classification schemes and identification of erosional zones. Exercises with maps, airphotos, and models.

Assignment:

Weekly reading assignments are given in a text of approximately 500 total pages, and specific pages of an atlas are also designated. Students are expected to review notes of lectures which parallel, but do not duplicate, the text.

Supplementary materials including charts, outlines, vocabulary lists, sample data, and articles from publications are distributed for study. These total over 50 pages.

Exercises for completion outside of class are distributed weekly. These are similar to the "problem sets" of other physical sciences.

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

None, This is a degree applicable course but assessment tools based on writing are not included because problem solving assessments are more appropriate for this course.

Writing
0 - 0%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework problems, Exams

Problem solving
25 - 50%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations
0 - 0%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice

Exams
50 - 75%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

None

Other Category
0 - 0%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

McKnight, Physical Geography

Strahler & Strahler, Elements of Physical Geography

Muller & Oberlander, Physical Geography Today

Atlas: An inexpensive atlas is adopted and required.

All texts listed above are common adoptions at two-year and four-year institutions throughout the United States.