

GEOG 101 – Physical Geography: Earth’s Surface Landscapes

AVC | Fall 2015 | 3 Units | CRN: 73163 | Room: HS 103 | Time: Thurs., 7:00-10:05pm

<http://avconline.avc.edu/mpesses/geog101.html>

Instructor:

Mike Pesses

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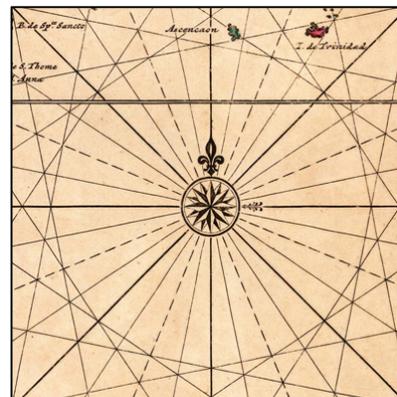
mpesses@avc.edu

HS 252

Office hours: T, 11:00am-1:00pm; W, 12:30-2:00pm; &

R, 11:00am-12:30pm

Advisory: Eligibility for MATH 102, college level reading, &
ENGL 101



Required Text & Materials:

- DeBlij, Muller, Burt, & Mason (2013) *Physical Geography*, 4th edition (New York, NY: Oxford University Press).
- Google Earth and a reliable Internet connection
- 5 Scantron 882-E forms and a #2 pencil for exams

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the processes at work shaping Earth’s surfaces. Students will explore the role of plate tectonics, volcanism and earthquakes in building our landscape. Students will also examine the forces that erode and modify Earth’s surfaces. The interactions between location, climates, soils and bioregions will also be explored.

Students will be able to:

1. Define science and explain how the scientific method is applied.
2. Discuss the history of Earth and geologic time.
3. Describe the size, shape, and movements of the Earth in space and their importance to environmental patterns and processes.
4. Describe the atmospheric, geological, geomorphological, and biotic processes that shape the Earth’s surface environments.
5. Compare and contrast the global distribution of the world’s major climates, ecosystems, and geologic features.
6. Apply the basic tools of geographic inquiry.
7. Analyze basic concepts of physical geography in the analysis of real-world variations in environmental patterns.

Honors Options

I offer several honors options for this class. Contact me during the first two weeks if you are interested and you are currently enrolled in the Honors Program. Also feel free to contact me if you are interested in applying to the Honors Program.

Grading Breakdown:

Homework: 100 pts

Exam 01: 100 pts

Exam 02: 100 pts

Exam 03: 100 pts

Exam 04: 100 pts

The lowest score from Exams 01-04 will be dropped

Exam 05: 100 pts.

(A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F = 0-59%)

Policies:

1. Appropriate college behavior is expected. If you disrupt those around you with personal conversations during lectures you will be asked to leave. Please respect others in the class.
2. Attendance is expected for every class session. Come to class on time prepared to participate. Class ends at 10:05pm.
3. Assigned readings must be completed prior to each class. Students should plan on spending at least one to three hours outside of class for every hour of lecture reading & reviewing assigned materials.
4. The prerequisites and advisories are important! I will expect college level reading, writing, and thinking throughout the class.
5. Make-up exams will not be given, but students will have their lowest exam score from Exams 01-04 dropped.
6. Students are expected to adhere to all standards of academic integrity. In particular, failure to submit independent work (i.e. plagiarism or cheating on tests) can be grounds for severe sanction including expulsion from the college. See the AVC College Catalog or Student Handbook for more information on the definition and consequences of plagiarism.
7. You must drop the class if you indeed intend to drop it. I may drop students for excessive absences, as defined in the college catalog, but do not rely on me to remove you from the class. You will receive an "F" if you simply stop showing up and fail to successfully complete any assignments or exams.
8. If you have a legally protected disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or California discrimination law, and you believe you need reasonable accommodation to participate fully in this class, please make an appointment to see me during my private office hours to discuss your need.

SLOs

The Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) defined for Geography courses can be found on the AVC website at:

<http://www.avc.edu/administration/organizations/slo/msslos.html#geography>