

GEOG 106 – California Geography

AVC | Spring 2013 | 3 Units | CRN: 35411 | Room: SSV 236 | Time: Mon. & Weds., 11:00-12:20pm

<http://avconline.avc.edu/mpesses/geog106.html>

Instructor:

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HS 252
Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8-9:00am & Tues. 12:30-1:30pm



Advisory: Completion of ENGL 101, and eligibility for college level reading; & completion of GEOG 101 or 105

Required Text & Materials:

Online reader to be discussed in class

Course Description:

This course will explore California's diverse physical, cultural and economic geography. We will be exploring the many relationships between the State's past, present and future physical, historical, cultural and economic landscapes as we examine California's modern landscapes. We will also explore issues faced by all Californians including but not limited to growing population, limited resources, water, urbanization, and agriculture. This course will be valuable for geography majors, future teachers, transfer students, and anyone with an interest in California.

Upon completion of the course, successful students will be able to:

1. Express their understanding of and appreciation for the tremendous physical, cultural and economic diversity found in California.
2. Describe California's diverse physical landscapes examining spatial relationships between climates, geology and biology.
3. Analyze relationships between California's physical environments and the State's prehistoric and historic development.
4. Analyze contributions to California's modern landscapes made by California's many immigrant groups.
5. Examine relationships between the development of California's diverse economic landscapes, cultures and the physical landscapes.
6. Analyze and evaluate potential solutions to the issues faced by all Californians including but not limited to growing population, limited resources such as water, urbanization, agriculture, diversity, and economic development.
7. Improve place name recognition.

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:

- Midterm 1 – 100 pts
- Midterm 2 – 100 pts
- Mapping Assignments – 50 pts
- Migration Project – 100 pts
- Debates – 50 pts
- Final Research Paper – 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 1:50pm.
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 are important! I will expect college level reading, writing, and thinking throughout the class.
5. Only under emergency situations will make-ups be given for missed exams, and only for one week after the exam date. You must contact the instructor as soon as possible. You will only be able to make up one missed exam during the semester.
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>