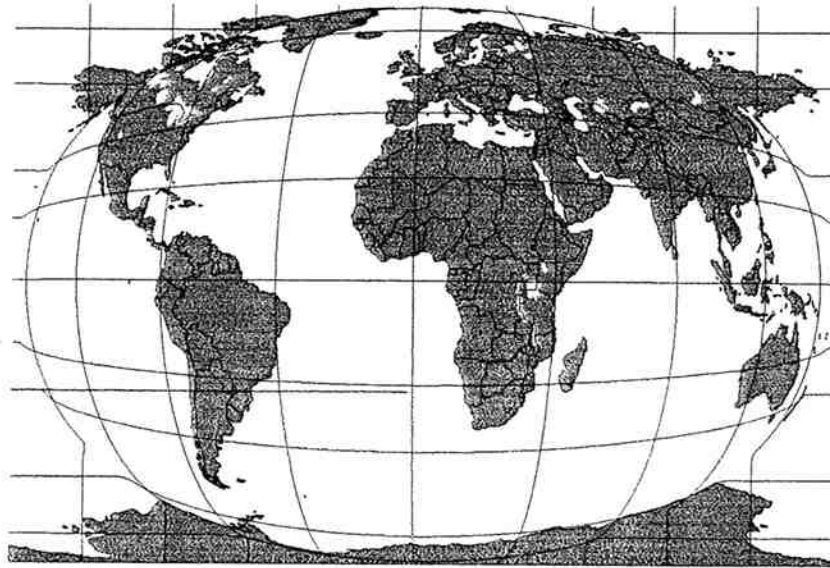


# Kings River Community College

Geography  
7



Fall  
1997

## Physical Geography: Landforms

Instructor: Michael J. Moster

**Office Hours:** Before and after class by appointment.

### Required Text:

**Course Description:** Physical geography answers the where, why, and how questions concerning the earth's physical systems and their interactions with living things. The methods geographers use to answer such questions are the spatial and the systems approach. The term "systems" refers to the physical processes that shape the earth's surface while "spatial" refers to the locations of these physical processes.

The focus of this class is the description of the earth's systems and the spatial distribution of the various physical processes. Together, they provide a complete picture of how features of the earth such as: mountains, rivers, valleys, and glaciers are formed and then ultimately worn away.

**Course Requirement:** It is expected that you attend classes, read assignments in a timely fashion, ask questions, and most importantly, THINK! The course grade will be based on four (4) exams and ten (10) handouts. Each exam is worth 100 points and each handout is worth ten (10) points for a total of 500 points for the semester. Course grades will be determined by the following scale:

<b>A</b>	=	450 - 500 points	(90% - 100%)
<b>B</b>	=	400 - 449 points	(80% - 89%)
<b>C</b>	=	350 - 399 points	(70% - 79%)
<b>D</b>	=	300 - 349 points	(60% - 69%)
<b>F</b>	=	299 or less	(59%)

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is not required, it is important. There is a direct relationship between attendance and course grade. Poor attendance and tardiness are often reflectors of irresponsibility and immaturity. Please note: if you stop coming to class but do not officially withdraw from the course, or make arrangements with the instructor before the end of the semester, you will receive an "F" for the course. Remember, it is your responsibility to withdraw from a course.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Because honesty is essential to academic life, the college's policy on cheating and plagiarism will be enforced. Students involved in cheating or plagiarism can be expelled, suspended, or placed on probation. Please see me if you have questions concerning this policy.

**About the Exams and Handouts:** All exams are objective and will consist of the following types of questions: Multiple Choice, True/False, and Matching. There will be 50 questions on each exam. Each question is worth 2 points for a total of 100 points per exam. The handouts are intended to assist you in understanding the material covered in lecture. Each handout is worth 10 points and will consist of a combination of questions to answer and definitions.

**Lecture Outline:**

1. Introduction to Geography and the Earth
2. Continental Drift, Plate Tectonics, and Sea-Floor Spreading
3. Volcanic and Tectonic Activity: Initial Landforms
4. Weathering and Mass Wasting
5. The Work of Running Water
6. Rock Structure and Fluvial Landforms
7. Landforms of Coastal Processes
8. Landforms Produced by Wind
9. Glaciers and Glacial Landforms
10. Maps