

**GEOGRAPHY 5 - ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS
REEDLEY COLLEGE - 6-WEEK SESSION, SUMMER 2016**

Summer 2016 Syllabus

Instructor: Sean Boyd

Office Hours: By appointment

Duration: 6 Weeks 06/20/16 –07/28/16

Course No. 71646

E-mail: sean.boyd@reedleycollege.edu – checked frequently

Class Schedule: MTWTh 7:30AM-9:35AM

Location: Reedley College, Rm. FEM-8

Important Dates

Mon June 20 Instruction Begins

Mon July 4 Holiday-no classes

Thu July 28 GEOG 5 Final Exam-Last Class Meeting

Refer to RC Schedule of Classes for Final ADD / DROP Dates

Course Objective

Welcome to *Environmental Conditions*! The goal of this course is examine the relationship between people and Earth's physical environment, and provide students with a better understanding of why the atmosphere behaves as it does. Many topics will be explored including the globe, map projections and various types of maps, Earth-Sun relationships, clouds and precipitation, severe storms, weather forecasting, climates, and El Nino. Because weather is a science, great care will be taken to insure the material is presented clearly and interactively. The course is designed to equip students with the skills to identify locations on the globe and recognize selected map projections, identify cloud types, weather patterns, and climates; interpret weather maps; recognize basic weather instruments; and make simple weather predictions.

Required Textbook and Materials:

- Lutgens, Frederick K. and Edward J. Tarbuck. **The Atmosphere: An Introduction to Meteorology, 13th Edition.**
 - ISBN: 978-0-321-98462-3
- A set of colored pencils, and a VERY cheap pocket calculator (like four bucks at a discount store)
- Internet and E-mail access strongly recommended – will be using Blackboard heavily !!

Students are expected to come to class prepared to work.

It is assumed by registering in this class, you will abide by all terms and conditions.

The required textbook, notebook paper, pens / pencils, must be brought to class each day.

Assistance to Disabled Students

Please note: "If you have a verified need for academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (ie: Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per Americans With Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact your instructor as soon as possible."

Attendance Policy

- Attendance will be taken each day as required by Board Policy 4118.1(b)
- If you are absent on the first day of class without contacting me via e-mail, I have the discretion to drop you on day one.
- Attendance will be taken at the end of class via sign-in sheet. It is your responsibility to sign the roll sheet each day.
- If you attend class but do not sign the roll sheet, you will be marked late.
- Class starts promptly at 7:30am.
- Arriving late and leaving early during a class session will count as an absence.
- Arriving late and leaving early will affect your understanding of the material presented.
- 3 unexcused absences are allowed.
- 4 unexcused absences (meaning, two days in summer session) means: You will be dropped from the course.
- If you are absent or late, it is YOUR responsibility to consult your fellow students **after class** to get the material you missed.

Students are advised to establish a buddy system to help cover such situations.

- If you decide to drop the class, you must complete the drop process yourself. I can't do it for you (except for no-shows).
- If you have to leave early, please let me know in advance via e-mail, or before class begins.

Communication is of utmost importance! I will be glad to work with you if you keep me informed.

Make-up Exam:

- An Exam may be made up pending confirmation of Excused Absence.
- Documentation is required to confirm an excused absence and must be submitted promptly upon your return to class.
- Make-up Exam will not be permitted if documentation is submitted more than one week after you have returned to class.
- Limit: 1 make-up Exam is permitted during the semester. Other assignments cannot be made up.

Excused Absence Criteria:

- **Injury or medical problem.** If your presence is required at home because only YOU or YOUR CHILD is ill or injured. This does **not** include care-giving for other relatives and friends. --Submit a note from the doctor's office the day you return to class.
- **Death of an immediate family member** - - Submit a copy of the memorial announcement or Rosary from the funeral service the day you return to class. Immediate family members include only the following:
 - * Father, Mother, Grandfather, Grandmother, Brother, Sister, Husband, Wife, Son, Daughter
- **Military Duty** - - Submit a copy of the military orders prior to your absence or the day you return to class.
- **Jury Duty** - - Submit a copy of the jury summons prior to your absence.
- **Court Subpoena** - - Submit a copy of the subpoena prior to your absence.
- **Reedley College Extracurricular Activities: Limited to events that are held during our GEOG 5 days and hours ONLY**
 - Events include: Games, matches, tournaments, competitions, performances, and conventions ONLY
 - Does **NOT** apply to practices/rehearsals
 - Submit copies of the team/group/cast roster and the game/match/tournament/competition/performance schedule
 - For conventions, submit a letter from your advisor that confirms your commitment.
 - Submit the documentation at least one week in advance of your upcoming event.

Absences for reasons other than those listed above, ESPECIALLY EXTENSIVE SUMMER VACATIONS, are considered unexcused absences, and make-up work will not be permitted.

How You Will Be Evaluated

- **Five (5) Exams will be given – TOTAL POINTS = 400**
 - Format is Multiple Choice / T-F; Final Exam is not comprehensive
 - Worst grade of the first four will be dropped for final grade calculation
 - Each exam is worth 100 points; we will review before every exam
- **Five (5) Quizzes will be given - TOTAL POINTS = 100**
 - Quizzes are delivered on line through Blackboard, and will be announced
 - Worth 20 points each
- **Four (4) “Activities” will be issued – TOTAL POINTS =100**
 - Hands-on, related assignments, which explore the quantitative aspects of course concepts
 - Worth 25 points each

GRAND TOTAL POSSIBLE = 600 POINTS

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES MAY BE OFFERED AT MY DISCRETION.

- **Scantron #882-E** is required for the Exams. Scantrons are available in the Reedley College Bookstore. **I DO NOT** provide Scantrons or correct answer sheets by hand. No Scantron = zero on the exam.

Parameters:

- Tests are written according to the pace of the class and the topics that are covered as each week unfolds.
- Exams usually consist of 50 questions, but may vary depending on circumstances or topics.
 - **ONE make-up exam will be permitted if documentation is submitted for an Excused Absence only.**

Grading System Is Straightforward – 600 Points Possible

537 > = A

477 – 536 = B

417 – 476 = C

357 – 416 = D

415 < = F

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating applies to all exams and extra credit assignments. Cheating on an exam will result in zero credit at best.

All students whose written extra credit work is identical will receive a significant loss of credit or zero credit (depending on the amount of copied material) regardless of who did the sharing and copying.

Cheating includes:

- Talking or whispering during an Exam
- Copying a classmate's answers during an Exam
- Copying a classmate's exam essay answer word for word or extra credit assignments that contain identical mistakes.

Plagiarism applies to all written assignments that require citing sources and interpreting source information in your own words. Plagiarized papers will receive zeros at best. Pending the extent and frequency, Cheating and Plagiarism incidences will be dealt with in accordance with Reedley College regulations.

Plagiarism results when:

- Sources are not properly cited.
- The order of the source's words/phrases is simply changed around
- Source information is copied word for word (or copied and pasted from a web source); or is copied word for word and not cited as a direct quote.
- Quoting and citing an entire page, passage, or body of work will **not** be accepted. *You* must write your own assignment.

Be advised, it is possible to fail a college course if you cheat or plagiarize.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR POLICY

Zero Tolerance Policy. Disruptive behavior renders immediate dismissal of disrupting students from class for the day without waiver or question.

Disruptive Behavior will not be tolerated

Disruptive Behavior includes:

- Talking/laughing/whispering during the Instructor's lecture
- Bothering/distracting fellow students during the Instructor's lecture
- Disrespectful remarks to the Instructor and fellow students
- Venting complaints/arguing during class
- Taking excessive mini-breaks (leaving and returning to the classroom more than once during the class session)
- Cell phones and pagers ringing, text messaging, using music players and headphones, operating other electronics during lecture
- Reading magazines and newspapers; reading/doing homework for other classes during GEOG 5 class time
- Excessive late arrivals
- Excessive early departures
- Sleeping during lecture
- Eating in the classroom—Food and drinks are NOT allowed in the classroom at any time (except a water bottle)

Note: Students who are dismissed from class for disruptive conduct may fall behind in the coursework and possibly miss tests, assignments, and extra credit opportunities that cannot be made up.

-- **Disruptive behavior renders immediate dismissal from class for the day.**

-- **Daily Disruptive Behavior will result in one or both of the following:**

- **Written up and suspension from class for up to 3 class sessions.**
- **Further disciplinary action as per the Reedley College Class Disruption Policy depending on the frequency and severity of the disruptive behavior.**

Special Concerns

- Please do not bring children to class.
- In accordance with Classroom Health and Safety Regulations, NO food or drinks are allowed in the classroom at any time (except a water bottle).
- In the interest of health and safety, shoes with soles should be worn at all times.

Managing Geography Course Material

...You Have To Work It To Learn It...

The following Study Approaches are strongly advised:

- Take thorough Lecture Notes.
- Write down ALL page numbers and ALL diagram numbers that are referred to during lecture.
- Read the sections in the chapters that correspond specifically with the Lecture material.
- Draw and label in color ALL diagrams that are covered in the lectures.
- Read the Chapter Summaries more than once.
- Study ALL Handouts that are issued.
- If you don't understand something, ask questions in class and/or e-mail me for clarification.
- Use the Study Guides, Quizzes, Worksheets, and other Assignments to help you prepare for Exams.

Your Most Important Resources

1. Your lecture notes from class.
2. Your Textbooks and additional textbooks on reserve in the Reedley College Library for GEOG 5 students.
3. Your instructor.
4. Tutor, Study partner or study group.

Make The Material Your Own So It Will Stick

1. Rewrite your notes (especially the messy parts) the same day you take them.
2. **DRAW** your own rendition of the diagrams in color to clarify concepts.
3. Write out your own glossary of terms. Highlight the terms in color to separate them from their definitions.
4. Organize the material so that it's easy to memorize (outlines, flash cards, etc.).
5. Develop creative ways of memorizing a series of related items (mnemonic devices, word association, etc.).
6. Shorter is better! Summarize and downsize the information for quicker memorization.
7. Create a train: Connect key words or elements to arrive at a final concept or process.
8. Remember, there is always more than one way to explain something!

How To Read The Chapters [Do the Steps In Order]

Step 1: Read the chapter summaries, and introductions if they are present.

Step 2: Observe the pictures, diagrams, maps, tables, and charts; and read the captions (small summaries) below or next to them.

Step 3: Now, read the chapter from beginning to end. Refer to items in Step 2 as needed.

Use Your Textbook

1. Use your textbook to cross reference your class notes and fill in the gaps.
2. Use the Glossary, Index, and Table of Contents to find things quickly.
3. Re-read the chapter summaries.
4. Do the chapter review questions if assigned, or for practice.
5. Pay attention to words in **boldface print**, and *italicized print*.
6. Pay attention to diagrams, maps, tables, and charts; and re-read the captions below or next to them.

If you are struggling with the material, consult the following sources for extra help:

- Your instructor
- Additional textbooks on reserve for Geog 5 students in the Reedley College Library
- Specific websites recommended by your Instructor
- Reedley College Tutorial Center
- Study partner or study group

Reedley College Tutorial Center

Location: Reedley College Library Phone: (559) 638-0358 Hours: Call to verify summer session hours.

Tutorial service is free. Individual and group tutoring is available by appointment only. Request forms for tutoring are available at the front desk.