REEDLEY COLLEGE – SCCCD

**Division of Science and Geography**

**Spring Semester, 2017 / Instructor: Sean Boyd**

# Course: Geography 5 – Environmental Conditions – ON LINE

**Schedule Number: 59993**

**Units: 3**

**Meets: ON LINE – THIS CLASS IS ENTIRELY DELIVERED ON LINE THROUGH BLACKBOARD!**

**Final: ON LINE BETWEEN MONDAY, DECEMBER 12 AND THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15**

**Dates of Spring 2017 Semester:** Monday, January 9 - Friday, May 19, 2017

**E-Mail:** [sean.boyd@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:sean.boyd@reedleycollege.edu)

**Office Hours: email contact only; I have no physical office at RC, and will not be on campus this semester**

**Drop Deadline: Friday, March 10 (last day to drop and get a ‘W’ on your transcript)**

### 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.

### Course Description and Advisories from Reedley College 2015-2016 Catalog

ADVISORIES: Eligibility for English 125, 126, and Mathematics 201.

Description and interpretation of the physical features of the earth. A systematic approach to the study of earth-sun relations, weather, climate, natural vegetation, and global warming. (A, CSU-GE, UC, I)

**Required Textbook and Materials:**

**REQUIRED TEXT: The Atmosphere, Lutgens/Tarbuck, 13th edition (newest)**

**ISBN: 978-0-321-98462-3. NOTE: The “MyMeteorologyLab” booklet is NOT required!**

* A set of colored pencils, and a VERY cheap pocket calculator (like four bucks at a discount store)
* Internet and E-mail access **REQUIRED** – will be using the Canvas course management system **EXCLUSIVELY!!**

**Students are expected to log in to this class on Canvas every day.**

**Students are required to check their SCCCD email every day.**

**Students must obtain textbook and required materials immediately.**

### 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.” The phone number for Reedley College DSP & S office is 559-638-0332.

**Critical Dates –From Official RC Schedule – Not All Critical Dates are Listed Here!**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Event** | **Date/Time** |
| Spring term begins | Mon 1/9/2017 |
| [Last day to drop with refund](http://www.fresnocitycollege.edu/index.aspx?recordid=12430&page=3406&ex=0) | Fri 1/20/2017 |
| [Last day to add a full-term class](http://www.fresnocitycollege.edu/index.aspx?recordid=12432&page=3406&ex=0) | Fri 1/27/2017 |
| [Last day to drop a full-term class in person to avoid "W"](http://www.fresnocitycollege.edu/index.aspx?recordid=12436&page=3406&ex=0) | Fri 1/27/2017 |
| [Last day to drop a full-term class on WebAdvisor to avoid a "W"](http://www.fresnocitycollege.edu/index.aspx?recordid=12435&page=3406&ex=0) | Sun 1/29/2017 |
| Dr. MLK Jr. Holiday – Campus Closed | Mon 1/16/2017 |
| Lincoln Day – Campus Closed | Fri 2/17/2017 |
| Washington Day – Campus Closed | Mon 2/20/2017 |
| [Last day to drop a full-term class (in person)](http://www.fresnocitycollege.edu/index.aspx?recordid=12440&page=3406&ex=0) | Fri 3/10/2017 |
| Spring Break | Mon 4/10 - Fri 4/14/2017 |
| Spring Final Exams | Mon 5/15 – Fri 5/19/2017 |
| Spring 2017 Semester ends - Commencement | Fri 5/19/2017 |

**Keep in mind that since this is an on-line class, holidays and breaks don’t really apply!**

### Attendance Policy

* Attendance is obviously impossible to take, since this class is delivered entirely on line. HOWEVER, IF YOU WISH TO EARN AT LEAST A SATISFACTORY GRADE IN THIS CLASS, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU WORK ON COURSE MATERIAL EVERY DAY, AND LOG IN TO THIS CLASS ON CANVAS EVERY DAY!!

**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.
* Since this is an on line class, there will be a window of time in which to take exams, and to turn in assignments. **PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR THIS COURSE FOR DEADLINES!**

**Excused Absence Criteria (all points may not apply, since this is an on line class):**

* **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 memoriam 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 topractices/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 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**
* On line; Format is Multiple Choice / T-F; Final Exam is not comprehensive
* **Worst grade of the first four exams will be dropped for final grade calculation**
* Each exam is worth 100 points; a study guide will be issued for every exam
* Even if you have an “A” going into the final, you still must take the final exam!
* **Five (5) Quizzes will be given - TOTAL POINTS = 100**
* On line; quiz questions will come from upcoming exam to help you study
* Worth 20 points each; all 5 quizzes will count
* **Four (4) “Activities” will be issued – TOTAL POINTS =100**
* Hands-on, related assignments
* Worth 25 points each

**GRAND TOTAL POSSIBLE = 600 POINTS**

**EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES MAY BE OFFERED AT MY DISCRETION.**

**Parameters:**

* Exams are taken in roughly 3-week intervals – check tentative schedule for the class
* 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**

**356 < = 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
* Since this is an on line class, you are on your honor to do your own work.
* Exams and quizzes will have time limits, so copying someone else’s work, or allowing others to do your work, does not necessarily guarantee you will do a satisfactory job**! DO YOUR OWN WORK !!**

**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.**

**Guidance on Paraphrasing:**

The following information can be found on page 117 of Diane Hacker’s guide book, *A Pocket Style Manual, Fourth Edition*. The excerpt below is from section “29c Putting summaries and paraphrases in your own words” in the chapter that covers MLA Papers and avoiding plagiarism:

“A summary condenses information from a source; a paraphrase conveys this information in about the same number of words. When you summarize or paraphrase, it is not enough to name the source; you must restate the source’s meaning using your own language. You are guilty of plagiarism if you half-copy the author’s sentences-either by mixing the author’s phrases with your own without using quotation marks or by plugging your synonyms into the author’s sentence structure.”Plagiarism will occur if the paraphrase or summary contains too much of the original source’swording (Hacker, 117).

**DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR POLICY**

**Zero Tolerance Policy. Disruptive behavior renders immediate dismissal**

**of disrupting students from class (even on line) for the day without waiver or question.**

**Disruptive Behavior will not be tolerated**

**Disruptive Behavior includes (again, not all may apply, since this is an on line class):**

* 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/ bullying others in discussion groups on line
* 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 library hours, or check the RC web site.

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