

GEOG 5: Environmental Conditions- Summer 2020, Reedley College

Course Information:

Course Title and Number:

Environmental Conditions (GEOG 5) – 51049

Term:

Summer 2021

Class Meeting:

21 June, 2021 – 30 July, 2021. Virtual setting with synchronous and asynchronous instruction.

Credit Hours:

3 (all lecture)

Faculty Information:

Instructor:

Lucas Reyes, M.A.G.

E-mail Address:

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Office Hours:

Tuesday at 11 AM and 4 PM or by appointment via Zoom for the first two (2) weeks.

Course Description:

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 climate change. Basic Skills Advisories: Eligibility for English 125, 126, and Mathematics 101.

Course Policies

Course Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- a) Identify the basic elements of and processes that produce the earth's weather, climates, and natural vegetation regions.
- b) Analyze and solve problems in physical geography, including those requiring computation.
- c) Describe the pattern of climate and vegetation regions on the earth.

Course Objectives:

In the process of completing this course, students will:

1. Use latitude and longitude to identify a location.
2. Analyze the structure of the GPS location system.
3. Determine the time of day in various time zones throughout the world.
4. Analyze the primary sources of air pollution in the United States.
5. Calculate the time of onset of radiation fog.
6. Calculate the cloud base and snowline of an orographic precipitation event.
7. Analyze the meaning of the symbols on a standard weather map.
8. Describe the orbital relationship between the earth and the sun.

9. Explain the existence of seasons on the earth.
10. Analyze the pattern of climate and vegetation regions on the earth.
11. Identify the major types of clouds.
12. Analyze the frequency of tornadoes in the United States.
13. Explain how precipitation occurs.
14. Describe the distribution of pressure and wind throughout the world.
15. Explain the source of energy within the sun.
16. Analyze the nature of solar radiation.
17. Describe the vertical structure of the atmosphere.
18. Analyze the relationship between climate and vegetation regions

Course Schedule:

Read each of the chapters listed during each corresponding week. See also [Camp Map]

Week 1: 6/21/21 – 6/25/21	Unit 1: Introductions: Ch 1, Ch 2; EXAM 1
Week 2: 6/28/21 – 7/2/21	Unit 2: Atmospheric Phenomena: Ch 3, Ch 4; EXAM 2
Week 3: 7/5/21 – 7/9/21	Unit 3: Movement of Atmospheric Energy: Ch 5, Ch 6; Laboratory Assignment; EXAM 3
Week 4: 7/12/21- 7/16/21	Unit 4: Weather and Climate: Ch 7, Ch 8; EXAM 4
Week 5: 7/19/21 – 7/23/21	Unit 5: Life on Earth I: Ch 9, Ch 10; EXAM 5
Week 6: 7/26/21 – 7/30/21	Unit 6: Life on Earth II : Ch 11, Ch 12; FINAL EXAM

Grading Procedures

Introductory discussion (20):

As a way to introduce yourself, by

Discussion 1a: (10)

Introduce yourself to your class in this “Introductions” discussion on Canvas. To complete this discussion requirements, you must, in complete sentences:

State your First and Last name, as well as what you like to be called.

State the year and institution you completed high school and its town of location.

Do you like the concept of this class being taught as a Physical Geography Summer Camp?

Have you ever had a Summer Camp experience? If so, where was camp and what was your favorite activity?

If you could travel anywhere in the world and see any physical feature, where would you go AND what will you see?

Upload Photo 1 with caption: You in nature

- a. State your First and Last name, as well as what you liked to be called.
- b. State the year and institution you completed high school.
- c. If you could travel anywhere in the world and see any physical feature, where would you go AND what will you see? You are not required to respond to any posting in this Discussion
- d. Upload **Photo 1 with caption** of you in nature.
- e. Complete by **Thursday of the first week of class, 24 June, 2021, at 5:00 PM**. Completion after will result in a loss of 1 point of your total score, per day submitted after deadline.

Discussion 1b: (10)

Introduce yourself to your groupmates on your Group’s **Introduction Discussion** on Canvas. To complete this discussion requirements, you must:

- a. State your First and Last name, as well as what you liked to be called (camp name).
- b. State why you are taking this course (are you a major, for GE, interested?)
- c. **Have you ever had assignments with a group? What worked, what didn’t?**
- d. Idea for a group name.
- e. Choice of chapter for final mission

- f. Your group must be named by the following Friday, 2 July, 2021, by 8 AM and this interaction should happen in the Group Introductions thread on Canvas.

Grading Rubric

Each introduction and its 3 components are worth 5 points. A final grade on the Introductory Discussion will not be given until your team has been named.

Exams

There will be five exams given during this course, and a final exam. Each exam is worth 75 points, and the final is worth 75 points. These will consist of a series of multiple-choice and true/false questions as well as 5 short answer or matching problems. Your lowest exam scores will be dropped from your final grade. See [Course Policies](#) for grading breakdown.

Laboratory Assignment:

To further explain and expose you to various global climates and associated climactic changes, the phenomena will be observed around the world through viewing five (5) episodes of the documentary series, Years of Living Dangerously (YLD). After you view each of episodes 2-6, you will complete a worksheet starting with a location and proceed to collect related data from charts in the text; ultimately, you will decide whether a causality exists between human actions and a changing climate.

Group Discussion

There is a second required Discussion you must have with your groupmates, after your introduction, occurs in Week 2 when we talk about atmospheric energy, clouds and water. This [Clouds Discussion](#) is also two (2) parts and it worth ten (10) points of your Discussion/Group Participation total.

Vocabulary Activities:

At the end of each chapter, before you proceed you will complete a final Vocabulary Activity, a 10-point assortment of vocabulary questions, varying from True/False, Multiple Choice and Matching. You must pass with an eighty (80) percent, missing two (2), in order to proceed. Developing a necessary vocabulary will aid your success at camp (in this course). Each final chapter Vocabulary Activity is worth five (5) points and you must define your vocabulary word or key terms as mentioned above before you can complete this activity.

Grade Determination

All grades during this course are determined using a point system. The final letter grade for the student shall be based on the following point distribution:

<u>Graded Participation</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Total</u>
Introductory Discussion	Two (2) parts, each worth ten (10)	20
Discussion/Group Participation	Ten (10)	10
Twelve (12) Vocabulary Activities	Five (5)	60
Laboratory Assignment (5 WS)	Ten (10)	50
Five (5) Exams	Seventy-five (75)	300 (- lowest exam score)
Final Exam	Seventy-five (75)	75

Total Points: 515

DIVIDE POINTS EARNED BY 5.15

GRADING SCALE: 90-100 = A, 80-89.9 = B, 70-79.9 = C, 60-69.9 = D, <60 = F

School holidays

Monday, 5 July, 2021: INDEPENDENCE DAY (OBSERVED)