Physical Geography
Geography 105
Winter 2010 Syllabus
Walla Walla Community College

Instructor
• Frank Skorina
• Office 040, frank.skorina@wwcc.edu
• 527-4578 (w), 301-3839 (c), 527-4480 (fax)

Location
• Room 107, except Wednesdays (room 225)

Course Description
Physical geography is the study of the natural processes that shape the surface of the Earth and life on it. Physical geography is key to understanding how Earth functions. This course will cover the Earth-Sun relationship, atmosphere, weather, climates, plant geography, soils, the internal Earth, tectonic processes, weathering, groundwater, and glaciation. Location of data is important in physical geography so maps will be used extensively. This course serves as an introduction to physical processes that shape our environment.

Class Schedule
• Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 9:30 am – 10:20 am
• Wednesdays, 9:30 am – 11:20 am (LABS)
• No class on Monday, January 18 (MLK's Day)
• No class on Monday, February 15 (Presidents' Day)
• No class on Wednesday, March 3 (Advising Day)
• Last class is on Tuesday, March 16
• Final exam is on Wednesday, March 17, 9:30 am – 11:20 am

Materials
• Discovering Physical Geography, First Edition by Alan F. Arbogast

Accommodations
If you have a disability and need accommodations, please see the instructor after class or contact Claudia Angus, the Disabilities Coordinator at claudia.angus@wwcc.edu or 509-527-4543.
Grading
- Homework, 0%
- Daily Reports, 5%
- Labs, 15%
- Quizzes, 15%
- Exams, 15% each
- Final Exam, 20%
- Grade Table where $x$ is the percent of points earned:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>$x$ range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>$\infty \geq x \geq 93$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>$93 &gt; x \geq 90$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>$87 &gt; x \geq 83$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>$83 &gt; x \geq 80$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>$77 &gt; x \geq 73$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>$73 &gt; x \geq 70$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>$67 &gt; x \geq 60$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>$70 &gt; x \geq 67$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>$60 &gt; x \geq -\infty$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Homework
- Homework is not part of your grade.
- Don’t get your hopes up because near-daily work out of class will be required to get the most out of this class. This includes reading the chapters covered in class, studying for quizzes and tests, and completing the labs.

Daily Reports
- Your opportunity to give feedback and to ask questions pertaining to the class.
- Full credit for completed report with on-time attendance.
- Half credit for completed report with late attendance.

Labs
- Most Wednesdays
- Required participation
- Grade will be based on participation and/or a lab report.

Quizzes
- Some number of announced and unannounced quizzes
- Top 80% of the quizzes will count towards the grade.

Exams
- Three exams during the quarter
- One comprehensive final exam

Expectations
- Be engaged by attending and participating.
- Keep up with the material by reading and rereading the chapters and asking questions.
Weekly Schedule
Week #1, January 4 – January 8
   Chapter 1 – Introduction to Physical Geography
   Chapter 2 – The Geographers’ Tools

Week #2, January 11 – January 15
   Chapter 3 – Earth-Sun Geometry and the Seasons

Week #3, January 19 – January 22
   No class Monday, January 18
   Chapter 4 – The Global Energy System
   Exam #1 on Friday, January 22 (Chapters 1-4)

Week #4, January 25 – January 29
   Chapter 5 – Global Temperature Patterns
   Chapter 6 – Atmospheric Pressure, Wind, and Global Circulation

Week #5, February 1 – February 5
   Chapter 7 – Atmospheric Moisture and Precipitation

Week #6, February 8 – February 12
   Chapter 8 – Air Masses and Cyclonic Weather Systems
   Exam #2 on Friday, February 12 (Chapters 5-8)

Week #7, February 16 – February 19
   No class Monday, February 15
   Chapter 12 – Earth’s Internal Structure, Rock Cycle, and Geologic Time
   Chapter 13 – Tectonic Processes and Landforms

Week #8, February 22 – February 26
   Chapter 13 – Tectonic Processes and Landforms

Week #9, March 1 – March 5
   Chapter 14 – Weathering and Mass Movement
   No class Wednesday, March 3
   Exam #3 on Friday, March 5 (Chapters 12-14)

Week #10, March 8 – March 12
   Chapter 17 – Glacial Geomorphology: Processes and Landforms

Week #11, March 15 – March 19
   Review/Make-up
   Final Exam on Wednesday, March 17 (Chapters 1-8, 12-14,17)

Disclaimer
Instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time.