Physical Geography
Geography 105
Winter 2011 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 Tuesdays (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, Wednesday, Thursdays, and Fridays, 9:30 am – 10:20 am
- Tuesdays, 9:30 am – 11:20 am (LABS)
- No class on Monday, January 17 (MLK's Day)
- No class on Monday, February 21 (Presidents' Day)
- No class on Wednesday, March 2 (Advising Day)
- Last class is on Tuesday, March 15
- Final exam is on Wednesday, March 16, 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, 0/6th
- Labs, 1/6th
- Quizzes, 1/6th
- Exams, 1/6th each
- Final Exam, 1/6th
- Grade Table where x is the percent of points earned:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Condition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>$\infty \geq x \geq 93$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>$90 &gt; x \geq 87$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>$80 &gt; x \geq 77$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>$70 &gt; x \geq 67$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>$87 &gt; x \geq 83$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>$77 &gt; x \geq 73$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>$67 &gt; x \geq 60$</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>$93 &gt; x \geq 90$</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>$83 &gt; x \geq 80$</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>$73 &gt; x \geq 70$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>$60 &gt; x \geq -\infty$</td>
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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.

Labs
- Most Tuesdays
- 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 3 – January 7
  Chapter 1 – Introduction to Physical Geography
  Chapter 2 – The Geographers’ Tools

Week #2, January 10 – January 14
  Chapter 3 – Earth-Sun Geometry and the Seasons

Week #3, January 18 – January 21
  No class Monday, January 17
  Chapter 4 – The Global Energy System

Week #4, January 24 – January 28
  Exam #1 on Monday, January 24 (Chapters 1-4)
  Chapter 5 – Global Temperature Patterns

Week #5, January 31 – February 4
  Chapter 6 – Atmospheric Pressure, Wind, and Global Circulation

Week #6, February 7 – February 11
  Chapter 7 – Atmospheric Moisture and Precipitation

Week #7, February 14 – February 18
  Chapter 8 – Air Masses and Cyclonic Weather Systems
  Exam #2 on Friday, February 18 (Chapters 5-8)

Week #8, February 22 – February 25
  No class Monday, February 21
  Chapter 12 – Earth’s Internal Structure, Rock Cycle, and Geologic Time

Week #9, February 28 – March 4
  Chapter 14 – Weathering and Mass Movement
  No class Wednesday, March 2
  Exam #3 on Friday, March 4 (Chapters 12-14)

Week #10, March 7 – March 11
  Chapter 17 – Glacial Geomorphology: Processes and Landforms

Week #11, March 14 – March 18
  Review/Make-up
  Final Exam on Wednesday, March 16 (Chapters 1-8, 12, 14, 17)

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