Physical Geography
Geography 105
Winter 2013 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 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, the internal Earth, tectonic processes, flowing surface water, and landforms. 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
- Wednesday, 10:30 am – 12:20 am (LABS)
- No class on Monday, January 21 (MLK’s Day)
- No class on Monday, February 18 (Presidents' Day)
- No class on Wednesday, February 27 (Advising Day)
- Last class is on Friday, March 15
- Final exam is on Tuesday, March 19, 10:30 am – 12:20 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:

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

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

Quizzes
- Three or four times a week.
- Usually covers the previous day’s material.
- Graded out of 5.
- Approximately 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 2 – January 4
  Chapter 1 – Introduction to Physical Geography
  Chapter 2 – The Geographers’ Tools

Week #2, January 7 – January 11
  Chapter 2 – The Geographers’ Tools
  Chapter 3 – Earth-Sun Geometry and the Seasons

Week #3, January 14 – January 18
  Chapter 3 – Earth-Sun Geometry and the Seasons
  Chapter 4 – The Global Energy System

Week #4, January 21 – January 25
  No class Monday, January 21
  **Exam #1** on Wednesday, January 23 (Chapters 1-4)
  Chapter 5 – Global Temperature Patterns

Week #5, January 28 – February 1
  Chapter 5 – Global Temperature Patterns
  Chapter 6 – Atmospheric Pressure, Wind, and Global Circulation

Week #6, February 4 – February 8
  Chapter 7 – Atmospheric Moisture and Precipitation

Week #7, February 11 – February 15
  Chapter 8 – Air Masses and Cyclonic Weather Systems (p188-193, 201-217)

Week #8, February 18 – February 22
  No class Monday, February 18
  **Exam #2** on Wednesday, February 20 (Chapters 5-8)
  Chapter 12 – Earth’s Internal Structure, Rock Cycle, and Geologic Time

Week #9, February 25 – March 1
  Chapter 12 – Earth’s Internal Structure, Rock Cycle, and Geologic Time
  No class Wednesday, February 29
  Chapter 13 – Tectonic Processes and Landforms

Week #10, March 4 – March 8
  Chapter 13 – Tectonic Processes and Landforms
  **Exam #3** on Friday, March 8 (Chapters 12-13)

Week #11, March 11 – March 15
  Chapter 14 – Weathering and Mass Movements

Week #12, March 18 – March 20
  **Final Exam** on Tuesday, March 19 (Chapters 1-8, 12-14)

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