**PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY 1 - LANEY COLLEGE - SPRING 2016**

Instructor: Mark J. Rauzon; [mrauzon@peralta.edu](mailto:mrauzon@peralta.edu) <https://sites.google.com/site/laneygeog/rauzon-1>

Office Hours in A275 @ Mon./Wed. 12:30-1:00; Tues./Thur. 12:15-1:15,

& by appointment (ph. 510-464-3278)

Course Description:

This is a general course that introduces the basis elements of the earth’s physical systems and processes; earth-sun relationship, weather, climate, global climate change, earthquakes, plate tectonics, ecosystems and hydrological cycles, and human-environmental interactions on the Earth’s resources.

Course Goals: At the end of the class each student should have these learning outcomes:

•Recognize the role of physical geography in everyday life.

•Explain the basic earth-sun relationships and their relevance to time zones and seasonal changes.

•Utilize the geographic grid of latitude and longitude.

•Explain basic atmospheric processes and global circulation patterns of air pressure and winds.

•Understand the factors that influence global temperatures and climate change.

•Explain the impact of atmospheric pollutants and affects of air pollution.

•Explain the basic characteristics of volcanism, earthquakes, and their relation to the theory of plate tectonics.

• Demonstrate knowledge of the conditions that cause such natural hazards as floods, earthquakes, landslides, volcanoes, and erosion, and explain their impact on humans.

• Explain how hydrologic, tectonic, erosional, and atmospheric processes as well as earth-sun relationships are interconnected and together shape the physical environment.

• Analyze interrelationships between individuals, social forces and environmental factors of climate change.

• Analyze the impact of humans on the natural environments and research such local environmental issues as waste management, air pollution, water pollution, and environmental planning.

• Critically analyze individual experience in the context of historical, cultural, and environmental phenomena.

**Required** **Materials**:

Text: Geosystems by R. W. Christopherson, 7th or 8th Edition, Prentice Hall.

May be rented at bookstore in student union.

**Smartxt or Kurzweil Text to Speech Option:**

Our book is available in a spoken word format. Use the Universal Learning Lab on campus to access the book. NOTE- you will have to buy a hard copy –this is not a way out of obtaining a book. It is a way to have it read to you, along with a way to create a study guide and hear my learning aids. A demonstration of how it works will be made in class.

**Methods**:

Class meetings will consist of lectures, discussions, field trips and review. Visual aids, maps, slides, power-point, video, guest lecturers and out-of–class assignments will supplement classroom instruction. I encourage group study and collaboration.

**Preparation is Necessary!!** Show up!! Take notes! Ask questions. Keep up with the chapter readings. The end of the chapter has a review. Basic geographic concepts covered in previous weeks will be reviewed and questions answered.

**Grading**:  
Midterm Exam (100 points) = 100 points

Final Exam (100 points) = 100 points

Quizzes = 100 points

Term Project = 100 points

## Homework, attendance, participation = 100 points

TOTAL 500 Points

**Grades: subject to curve**

A= 90-100% or 460-500

B= 80-89% or 320-459

C- 70-79% or 280-319

D= 60-69% or 140-279

F= < 60% or 140 or less

##### CLASS RULES

-**NO CELL PHONES and IPODS will be turned off in class.**

**-NO CALLS or NO TEXT MESSAGING.**

-**NO CHEATING** or **plagiarism (copying)** will result in **ZERO** points.

-Make up exams by prior arrangement only.

-Non-attendance will result in an ‘F’ grade.

-Disruptive students will be asked to leave.

-Once tests are handed in, there are no changes allowed.

-No one may leave the class during the quiz.

-No food or drink in class.

-Class begins promptly on the hour.

**PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY** **01** SPRING 2016 SCHEDULE

(**Subject to Change!**) MRAUZON@PERALTA.EDU

## **Week of Topic Assignment**

1 JAN. 25 **Introduction** to Geography- Ch. 1. pp. 1-15

Discuss course and grading. Discuss climate change

as example of geographic principles, systems thinking.

2 FEB. 1 **Location**, Latitude & Longitude, Time Ch. 1. pp. 16-37

Geographic Grid, Time Zones, Map Scale

# Projection Distortion, GPS/GIS

# Kurzweil method of study

3 FEB. 8  **Atmosphere** - Earth-Sun Relations Ch. 2. pp. 41-57

Solar Angle, Radiation, Seasons

**Quiz #1**

FEB 15 President’s Day Holiday

4 FEB. 17 **Earth’s** Modern Atmosphere - Ch. 3. pp. 61-85

Air Pollution, Ozone Hole DVD- Origins

# 5 FEB. 22 **Energy Balance** Ch. 4. pp. 89-110

Greenhouse Effect

6 FEB. 29 **Global** Weather**,** Ch. 5. pp. 115-125:

Climate Change, Global Warming and 132-138

**Quiz # 2**

7 MAR. 7 **Oceanic Circulation** Ch. 6. pp. 141-153,

DVD- Planet Earth pp. 167-173

8 MAR. 14 **Hydrosphere-** Ch. 7 pp. 177-198

Water Qualities & 195-205

**Quiz #3**

9 MAR. 21 SPRING BREAK

10 MAR. 28 **Hydrosphere**- Ch.8 p. 207-210

**Violent Weather** Ch.9 p. 263-273

11 APR. 4 **Global Climate** Ch. 10, pp: 245—273

Introduce Student Projects **Mid-Term Exam**

12 APR. 11 **Lithosphere** Dynamic Planet, Ch. 11 pp. 323-356

. Magnetism, Plate Tectonics

Earthquakes, Volcanoes DVD-The EARTH

**––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––**13 APR. 18 **Lithosphere** Ch. 12. p. 366-400

Rivers Ch. 14. pp 431-445

––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––

14 APR. 25 **Biosphere** Ecosystems Ch. 19 pp. 605-639  **GROUP PRESENTATIONS** **Quiz** **#4**

# 

15 MAY 2 **Biosphere** Evolution Ch. 20. pp. 650-675

**GROUP PRESENTATIONS**

# 

16 MAY 9 **Biosphere** The Human Factor Ch. 21- pp. 677-687

**GROUP PRESENTATIONS**

––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––

17 MAY 16 REVIEW for FINAL

**GROUP PRESENTATIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

18 MAY 23 **CUMMULATIVE** **FINAL EXAMS** ALL WORK DUE

# 