Geg 112 Physical Geography
3 Credit Hours

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Course Description:
An introduction to the living and non-living environments of the earth. Topics addressed include the weather and climate, land forms, solar energy, seasons, the hydrologic cycle, biogeography, and natural hazards. Upon successful completion of this course, students will have an understanding of the principles that govern the circulation of the atmosphere, the processes that produce the physical landscape, and the role of both in contributing to the distribution of living things upon the earth.


Primary Web Site Source:
http://www.physicalgeography.net/

Objectives:
The goals of this course are to explain the interaction of Earth’s natural systems such as landforms, air, energy, weather, and living organisms.

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Develop a general knowledge of physical geography and associated concepts dealing with land, air, and sea.
2. Learn about Earth’s natural resources and how they vary in concentration and location throughout the planet.
3. Explore the processes that act upon the earth in small, medium and large scales and learn how to recognize these processes in everyday occurrences.
4. Gain a familiarity with geographical terms such as latitude, longitude, weathering, tectonics, earth-sun relationships and understand how they influence peoples’ lives.
5. Answer everyday geography-based questions, such as: “How do I locate the epicenter of an earthquake?” or “Why do day lengths change?”
6. Learn a little bit about “Mystery Landforms” distributed about the globe.
7. Know the locations of states, countries, continents, rivers and oceans
Course Structure

Physical Geography is an undergraduate level, Internet and text-based, computer-delivered, distance learning course. It will be delivered online via Blackboard over an 8 week period. **Deadlines will be posted within the Blackboard Course Shell.**

**Modules:** The “course” will be structured around 8 “weekly” modules, with much of the previous week’s information often carrying over into the following weeks. This stresses the importance of completing the previous week’s information prior to taking on subsequent modules and maintaining a steady pace throughout the class. There will be weekly deadlines for assignments and assessments.

- **Module 1:** How the Earth Was Made
- **Module 2:** Globes, Maps and Getting Around the Earth
- **Module 3:** The Reasons for the Seasons
- **Module 4:** Atmospheric Water and Weather
- **Module 5:** Climates
- **Module 6:** Water Resources and How We Manage Them
- **Module 7:** Our Natural Resources
- **Module 8:** Tectonics, Volcanoes, and Earthquakes

Weekly work will involve a combination of powerpoint presentations, textbook readings, internet exercises, video and video clips, and at-home projects.

Each week a powerpoint presentation will be available to introduce and support information and concepts to be learned each week. Text book readings will be required to complete weekly assessments within each module. These assessments may span over multiple chapters. You will have multiple attempts to complete them, giving you additional exposure to the information at hand.

You will also investigate Mystery Landforms. These are worksheets that take you to different locations around the world. They will introduce you to places that may tell an interesting story or have a significant importance to the world around us. Some of these locations may be familiar to you and others may be virtually unknown. Let the adventure begin!

**Evaluation**

The course will consist of a combination of weekly internet and text based “worksheets” to be completed online. There will also be at-home activities (such as videos and ‘experiments’).

Grades will be determined based on a total points percentage:

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If you have any questions concerning a particular grade please feel free to bring them to me as soon as possible.
Technical Support
For general questions about accessing Blackboard and course materials, please contact the Doane Helpdesk at helpdesk@doane.edu, 402.826.8411 or by submitting the form at http://www.doane.edu/about-doane/offices/its/help-and-support.

Disabilities
Students with disabilities substantially limiting a major life activity are eligible for reasonable accommodations in college programs, including this course. Accommodations provide equal opportunity to obtain the same level of achievement while maintaining the standards of excellence of the college. If you have a disability that may interfere with your participation or performance in this course, please contact me to discuss disability related accommodations and other special learning needs.

Doane College Academic Integrity Policy:
The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All projects and tests will represent your own work. Any use of others' ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies. For a discussion of plagiarism, and a list of tools available to educators to ensure students are submitting original work, check out this useful website: http://www.guidetoonlineschools.com/online-teaching/plagiarism