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, navigation, and understand how they influence peoples’ lives.
5. Learn a little bit about “Mystery Landforms” distributed about the globe.
6. Understand more about energy generation and use on our planet.
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 5 units, with information from the previous unit’s information often carrying over into the following units. With this in mind, completing the previous week’s information prior to taking on subsequent units and maintaining a steady pace throughout the class will be very important.

**Unit 1:** History of the Earth  
**Unit 2:** Time, Navigation and Getting Around the Earth  
**Unit 3:** The Dynamic Earth and Some Unique Islands  
**Unit 4:** Water and Our Water Resources  
**Unit 5:** A Look at Our Energy Resources and Final Project

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

Text book readings will be needed 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