Geg 112-3 Credits

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Course Description:

An introductory and general education elective course relating to the living and nonliving environments of the earth. Topics addressed include the weather and climate, landforms, solar energy, the hydrologic cycle, natural hazards, the atmosphere, and the physical landscape.

Required Text:

Earth, Portrait of the Planet
Stephen Marshak

Paperback Version!


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Course Objectives:

After completing this course, students should be able to communicate the following:

Recognize the geographic patterns to the earth’s physical environment,
including global patterns of climate, ecosystems, soils, and landforms. Since this is a geography course, place and spatial pattern are very important. (online assessment)

Recognize basic environmental processes operating in the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere that produce geographic patterns. (online assessment)

Recognize examples of the connections between the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere. Everything is connected; there are no true “sound bites” when it comes to the environment. (online assessment)

Apply some of the technical skills required for the study of geography and the environment. Skills include reading, interpreting and creating maps, air photos, graphs, and charts. (online assessment, discussion board, final paper)

Assessment and Grading Rubric

This course will consist of chapter tests and assignments, discussion board posts and a final paper. I will read all your assignments, but will not necessarily provide formal critiques on each assignment. If I see problems in your work I will provide necessary feedback.

A final paper or project will be completed and submitted by the conclusion of the course.

If you have any questions about your assignments and assessments, please let me know and I will give you assistance.

I will post assignments in advance so that you can work at your own speed.
If you need additional time for your work due to illness or special situation please let me know and we can work out a different time schedule.

**Assessments and Assessment Policy:**
1. Complete online final chapter tests---- points vary
2. Complete the final paper----100 pts
3. Complete weekly online discussion board questions….10 points each

**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.

**Grading Scale**

90-100 A  
80-89 B  
70-79 C  
60-69 D  
Below 60 F

**I have a set of grading standards that I plan to follow on each area of the work in this course. See Grading Standards.**

**Grading Standards**

The text below defines the outlines of the standards for the grades of A, B, C, D, and F, in my classes at Doane College.

A implies excellence in written and oral presentation, performance, attendance, discussion, class participation and attitude. It is the highest level of professionalism in my classes. The work is, on the whole, not only clear, precise, and well-reasoned, but insightful as well.

B implies above average in written and oral presentation, performance, attendance, discussion, class participation and attitude. It is the next level of professionalism in my classes. The work is, on the whole, not only clear, precise, and well-reasoned, but does not have the depth of insight.

C implies average in written and oral presentation, performance, attendance, discussion, class participation and attitude. It is the next assessment level in my classes. The work is,