



GEOG 1301: Physical Geography

Course Syllabus: Fall 2018

"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities."

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
	off campus	12:30-1:30	off campus	12:30-1:30	off campus	as needed

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

Catalog Course Description (include prerequisites): 3 credit hours.

Lecture/Lab/Clinical: Three hours of class each week.

This course introduces students to the processes that drive Earth's physical systems. Students will explore the relationships among these physical systems, with emphasis on weather and climate, water, ecosystems, geologic processes and landform development, and human interactions with the physical environment.

Required Textbook(s):

Petersen, Sack, & Gabler. Fundamentals of Physical Geography. 2nd ed. 2015

Publisher: Brooks/Cole

ISBN Number 13: 978-1-133-60653-6

Recommended Reading(s): Instructor Handouts, many available via blackboard

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of scientific investigation as they apply to Earth's physical systems and processes.
2. Describe and explain the processes of Earth's physical systems: weather and climate, water, ecosystems, geologic processes and landform development.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the interactions among the Earth's physical systems.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the modifications humans make to the environment through interactions with Earth's physical systems.

Lectures & Discussions:

1. Lecture – The majority of the information in this course will be delivered in the form of lecture. Because of this, it is strongly recommended that the students attend all classes and be attentive. Due to the amount of material that will be covered this semester it is suggested that the students take notes from the lecture material.
2. Reading – The textbook, as well as outside readings via Blackboard to be announced in class, provides a supplement and framework for the lecture material. The students are responsible for reading the corresponding material prior to the lectures, so the students will be prepared for class.

3. Class Discussion – Class discussion, ranging from informal talks to organized discussion days, will be an important part of the class. It is vital that the students participate with class discussions in order to receive the maximum benefit from the course.

4. Instructional Aids – Varied instructional aids, including audio-visual, supplementary documents and readings, Chapter Reviews, and Internet assignments will be used to furnish additional information for class.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Grades will be based on the following scale:

90%-100% = A

80%-89% = B

70%-79% = C

60%-69% = D

59% and below = F

Incomplete grades will only be given under special conditions upon consultation with the instructor prior to final exams. If an incomplete grade is given, the remaining coursework must be completed within a specified period of time, usually six weeks from the end of the semester. If the work is not completed within the given time the student will receive a failing grade for the course.

Review Exercises/Exams:

Review Exercises via blackboard will be turned in for a grade

Exams - There will be announced exams during the semester. The information on the exams will be drawn primarily from the lecture material and chapter review questions, but can include any information from the text, supplemental readings, or instructional aids. At the end of the semester the lowest exam grade (Not Including the Final) will be dropped. Because of this, no make-up exams will be given.

Final Exam - The final exam is a comprehensive exam.

Assignments:

Read each chapter, define Terms for Review, and answer Questions for Review, as defined in schedule. Review chapters, Terms for Review, and Questions for Review to prepare for each exam.

Other Course Requirements: None

Student Responsibilities/Expectations:

Attendance is expected. Students are expected to attend all classes. Regular class attendance is necessary for maximum success in college. Please be on time and be prepared. You will be less prepared for exams if you miss lecture; you are responsible for obtaining class notes from those students who attended a lecture you missed.

NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:

"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

Academic Ethics

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with Shannin Garrett, Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in the College Connection. She can be reached at 903-434-8218. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the NTCC website - Special Populations.

Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (Ferpa):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Other Course Policies:

Please TURN-OFF cell phones, pagers, and other noise-making devices. NO TEXTING