



**GEOG 1L – Physical Geography Lab  
Spring 2009, Ticket #21465**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Anne Saxe      **EMAIL:** [asaxe@saddleback.edu](mailto:asaxe@saddleback.edu)

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

- Text: *Physical Geography Lab Manual*, Pearson Custom Publishing, ISBN # 0-558-09240-3
- Pencils (no pens are to be used on labs!)

**OPTIONAL MATERIALS (some of these items are in the classroom, but if you'd like your own):**

- Colored pencils
- Ruler
- Standard calculator
- A standard world atlas

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an earth environment laboratory that explains in greater depth the ideas and relationships of physical geography. Stresses the scientific method in interpreting Earth-sun relations; time; earth representation through globes and maps; weather (temperature, moisture, pressure and winds); climate; natural vegetation; soils and landform evolution by tectonic forces, erosion and deposition.

**Required Prerequisite: Must be taken concurrently with GEOG 1 or within one year of completing GEOG 1.**

**STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES**

The successful student will be able to:

- 1) Read, interpret and compare isopleth, weather and topographic maps and air photos.
- 2) Apply systems of classification to climatic and biogeographic phenomena.
- 3) Graph, arrange and critically interpret meteorological and hydrologic data.
- 4) Differentiate and compare landforms produced by geomorphological processes.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT**

1. Regular attendance and participation – It is important to attend all regularly scheduled classes as the class format is interactive. In addition, sections of labs to complete will vary, and the lab schedule is subject to change. **Labs are to be completed in class only.** You may be dropped for excessive absences, and **more than three missed lab projects will result in a grade of F for the semester.**
2. Labs – There will be *approximately* 15 lab assignments. Each lab is worth 10 points for an *approximate* total of 150 points over the duration of the course. Labs should be completed in groups (3 persons maximum!) and in sequential order. **Students must be present in class the day a lab is due in order to receive credit.** Students are permitted to miss one lab session without losing points.
3. Midterm and Final Exam – The midterm and final exam are worth 50 points each (100 points total). The final will only include information presented after the midterm exam. Both tests will include multiple choice, true/false, short answer and problem solving/diagramming questions.
4. Class Etiquette – In the spirit of promoting a safe classroom environment that is conducive to promoting academic growth, please keep all cell phones, iPods, etc. turned to the off position during class. **NO TEXTING IS PERMITTED!!!** Plan to arrive on time and stay until the lab is completed satisfactorily. Consistent tardiness may adversely affect your grade. Disruptive students will be asked to leave class and a complaint will be filed with the Student Services Office. No guests are permitted.

### GRADING POLICY

The points you earn on the labs and poster presentation project will determine your overall course grade. Your final grade for the course is computed by averaging your total accumulated points for the semester, and it will be based on the following grading scale: 90-100%=A (225-250 points), 80-89%=B (200-224 points), 70-79%=C (175 -199 points), 60-69%=D (150-174 points), and 0-59% (0-149) points and lower) and/or more than three missed or incomplete lab projects =F. **TOTAL POSSIBLE IS APPROXIMATELY 250 POINTS.**

#### IMPORTANT DATES TO BE AWARE OF:

**Drop with Refund by:** 🚨 Friday, 1/23/2009

**Elect CR/NC by:** 🚨 Thursday, 2/19/2009

**Drop without 'W' Grade by:** 🚨 Thursday, 2/19/2009

**Drop with 'W' Grade by:** 🚨 Thursday, 4/9/2009

\* If you must drop the course for any reason, please be sure to follow the proper administrative procedures for dropping a course. **It is ultimately the student's responsibility to drop the course!**

### ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating during exams and quizzes, copying another student's homework, or plagiarism) is not acceptable in any course at Saddleback College. A violation of the academic honesty policy may result in a student receiving a failing grade on a test or assignment, a failing grade for the course, sanction by the dean, and/or expulsion from the college.

***TENTATIVE SCHEDULE* – Students are advised to read labs before the scheduled class, however do NOT attempt to complete labs before class as the schedule is subject to change!**

| Week      | Topic(s) and Required Reading  |
|-----------|--|
| 1 - 1/14  | Course Syllabus; Location (Lab 1)  |
| 2 – 1/21  | Portraying Earth: Time, Map Projections and Map Scale (Lab 2)                        |
| 3 - 1/28  | Introduction to the Atmosphere: Earth-Sun Relations, Solar Angle, Insolation (Lab 3) |
| 4 - 2/4   | Atmospheric Moisture: Humidity, Adiabatic Processes, Stability (Lab 4)               |
| 5 - 2/11  | Atmospheric Pressure, Wind and Satellite Images (Lab 5)                              |
| 6 - 2/18  | Transient Atmos. Flows & Disturbances: Air Masses, Mid-Latitude Cyclones (Lab 6)     |
| 7 - 2/25  | Climate Classification and Biome Distribution (Lab 7); Midterm Review                |
| 8 – 3/4   | <b>Midterm Exam</b>  |
| 9 - 3/11  | The Internal Processes: Common Rocks (Lab 8)   |
| 10 - 3/18 | <b>Spring Recess – NO CLASS</b>  |
| 11 - 3/25 | The Internal Processes: Earthquakes and Earth's Interior; Plate Tectonics (Lab 9)    |
| 12 – 4/1  | Map Skills: Contour Lines, USGS Topo Maps, Topo Profiles (Lab 10)                    |
| 13 - 4/8  | The Internal Processes: Faults, Volcanoes (Lab 11)                                   |
| 14 - 4/15 | Weathering and Mass Wasting & Arid Lands (Lab 12)                                    |
| 15 - 4/22 | Fluvial Processes: Stream Drainage Patterns, Floods (Lab 13)                         |
| 16 - 4/29 | Coastal Processes & Terrain: Coastal Landforms (Lab 14); Final Exam Review           |
| 17 - 5/6  | <b>Coastal Environment Field Trip – TBA (Lab 15)</b>                                 |
| 18 – 5/13 | <b>Final Exam</b>  |

An excellent website for the textbook that corresponds with many of the labs in your manual is:  
[http://wps.prenhall.com/esm\\_mcknight\\_physgeo\\_9/](http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_mcknight_physgeo_9/)