DE ANZA COLLEGE, SUMMER 2020

GEO 1: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (GEO 001-65Z), Course ID #12283, 4 units
Class: Online using Canvas
Instructor: Dr. Kerry Rohrmeier
Rohrmeier Office Hour: Zoom by appointment
Instructor e-mail: rohrmeierkerry@fhda.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to the basic physical elements of geography and the diverse physical environment in which we live. Topics include the global patterns of weather and climate, landforms, soils and vegetation along with human modification of natural environments. The geographic tools used to explore these topics include maps, GPS, remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Physical geography is the study of the spatial dimension of earth's natural systems such as earth materials, tectonics, landforms, weather, climate, vegetation, water and ecosystems. Physical geographers examine how and why physical processes have acted to shape the earth, and at the same time explore human-earth relations by analyzing global issues such as air and water pollution, global climate change, and ozone layer depletion. Students will have a better understanding of the processes that cause natural disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and floods; and study the changes in the natural environment influenced by human action such as deforestation and habitat alteration. Lectures will be supplemented by video and slide presentations.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES (SLOs) for PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (GEO 1):

- Demonstrate understanding of the scientific method by identifying theories, evidence and hypotheses to explain earth processes and the impact of humans on the environment.
- Explain the causes of seasonal changes and differentiate between seasons in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.
- Synthesize and apply weather and climate variables.

TRANSFER STATUS: This course fulfills De Anza general education requirements and is UC and CSU transferrable.

a) **De Anza G.E.:** Area B, Physical Sciences
b) **CSU Breadth:** Area B, Sub Area 1, Physical Universe and Its Life Forms
c) **IGETC (UC/CSU):** Area 5, Sub Area A, Physical Sciences

ADVISORIES: English Writing 1A or English as a Second Language 5;
Mathematics 210 or equivalent

REQUIRED TEXTS:
1. *Elemental Geosystems* by Robert Christopherson, Pearson Prentice Hall

CLASS POLICIES:

- All **QUIZZES, EXERCISES, and EXAMINATIONS** must be taken at the scheduled online time period.
- **ASSIGNMENTS** are due on date stated.

STUDENT CONDUCT: as required by college policy.

  - Everyone in the discussion forum is expected to be civil and courteous. We will not always agree with other perspectives and opinions shared in the classroom, but I do expect respectful treatment.

  - Please save all your work (assignments, quizzes, exams, etc.) until after you have checked your final course grade. If you have questions about your grade in the class, you will need to bring in your work so I can check your grade, and if necessary, make corrections.

- **ACCESSIBILITY:** If you wish to request accommodation due to a health condition or disability, please come and talk to me as soon as possible. I will work with Disability Support Services (DSS) and Educational Diagnostic Center (EDC) to ensure that such accommodations are arranged in a timely manner.

- No form of **PLAGIARISM** will be tolerated. Students found cheating will receive zero points on the exam/assignment and in case of recurrence, an F in the course. In addition, if I find evidence of academic dishonesty, I will report the student(s) to the Division Dean of Social Sciences and Humanities, and the Student Development & EOPS Office at De Anza College.

Academic dishonesty as explained in the De Anza College Student Handbook: The two most common kinds of academic dishonesty are cheating and plagiarism. **Cheating is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of dishonest, deceptive and fraudulent means.**

- Copying, in part or in whole, from someone else's test
- Submitting work presented previously in another course, if contrary to the rules of either course
- Altering or interfering with grading
- Using or consulting, during an examination, and sources, consulting with others, use of electronic equipment including cell phones and PDA's, or use of materials not authorized by the instructor
- Committing other acts that defraud or misrepresent.

Plagiarism is representing the work of someone else as your own.

- Incorporating the ideas, words, sentences or parts of another person's writings, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own
- Representing another's artistic or scholarly work such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings or sculptures as your own
- Submitting a paper purchased from a research or term paper service, including the Internet
- Undocumented Web source usage.

Other Specific Examples of Academic Dishonesty

- Purposely allowing another student to copy from your paper during a test
- Giving homework, term paper or other academic work to another student to plagiarize
- Having another person submit any work in your name
- Lying to an instructor or college official to improve your grade
- Altering graded work after it has been returned, then submitting the work for re-grading
- Stealing tests; forging signatures on drop/add cards or other college documents
- Collaboration without instructor permission
- Gaining unlawful or unauthorized access to college or district computers or servers.

GRADING:
By enrolling in this class, a student agrees to become familiar with the contents of the syllabus and requirements of the course, the grading system, dates for tests, frequency of quizzes, due dates, and consequences of missing tests or assignments. Students will be graded according to their score on two exams, two quizzes, and a writing assignment.

- *Exams* are a combination of multiple-choice, matching, true/false, and data interpretation questions. There will be two exams during the quarter. Exams are not cumulative – meaning the second exam will cover class materials presented since the first exam.

- *Quizzes* cover material presented since the previous test. If you miss a quiz, you will receive a 0, which will count towards your final grade.

- For the *Term Project* please refer to the separate handout explaining this assignment. It includes a full description, plus a sample and grading rubric for your benefit.

- There is ample opportunity to demonstrate your desire for a good grade through the regular assignments. However, critical viewing of documentary films will count toward *extra credit* if you demonstrate in writing that you have paid attention and taken notes. To do so provide me a written critique within one week of notification. Each film paper can earn you an additional 10-points in the course; you may submit 3 extra credit reports to earn up to 30 additional points.

	Points Possible	**Course Grade %**
Quiz 1	25	5%
Exam 1	150	30%
Quiz 2	25	5%
Term Project	100	20%
Exam 2	150	30%
Extra Credit (Optional, up to 30 points)		
TOTAL	**450**	**100%**

GRADE SCALE:

A+ = ≥98%	**A** = 94-97%	**A-** = 90-93%
B+ = 87-89%	**B** = 84-86%	**B-** = 80-83%
C+ = 77-79%	**C** = 74-76%	**C-** = 70-73%
D+ = 67-69%	**D** = 60-66%	**D-** = 51-59%
	F = ≤50%	

COURSE SCHEDULE

Chapters indicated are from *Elemental Geosystems*

WK	TOPIC, READINGS, EXAM & ASSIGNMENT DATES
6/29-7/5	Introductions, Syllabus, Canvas, Term Project, Extra Credit Opportunities Ch 1. Essentials of Geography Geotechnology Mapping Exercise 1 Ch 2. Solar Energy, Seasons, and the Atmosphere *Film #1 – Chasing Ice* Ch 3. Atmospheric Energy and Global Temperatures
7/6-7/12	**QUIZ 1 (Chapters 1-3)** Ch 4. Atmospheric and Oceanic Circulations Ch 5. Water, Weather and Climate Systems TED "Gyres" Ch 6. Water Resources Ch 7. Climate Systems and Climate Change Exam Review
7/13-7/19	*Film #2 - Gasland* **EXAM 1 (Chapters 1-7)**
7/20-7/26	Amazing Planet Born of Fire Video Ch 8. The Dynamic Planet Ch 9. Tectonics, Earthquakes, and Volcanism Ch 10. Weathering, Karst Landscapes, and Mass Movement/Avalanches Ch 11. River Systems and Landforms
7/27-8/2	**QUIZ 2 (Chapters 8-11)** Ch 12. The Oceans, Coastal Systems, and Wind Processes Ch 13. Glacial and Periglacial Landscapes Ch 14. Soils, Tropical Rainforest Deforestation "Suburbs vs. Prime Soils" Exercise Ch 15. Ecosystem Essentials Ch 16 Terrestrial Biomes Ch 17. Human Denominator & Ecological Footprint
8/3-8/9	*Film #3 – An Inconvenient Sequel* Exam Review **TERM PROJECT DUE on Aug 5** **EXAM #2 (Chapters 8-17) open Aug 3 through Aug 7**