

Cleveland State University
 Levin College of Urban Affairs
 Department of Urban Studies
 Instructor: Winifred Weizer
 Office: UR217 Hours by appointment

Physical Geography (UST 289 Section 1)
Fall Semester, 2004 11:00 am to 12:05 pm MWF
 Email: w.weizer@csuohio.edu or
wei1656@wolf.csuohio.edu
 Phone: 687-2136 (leave message)

Course Description: This course is an introductory examination of the development of the physical environment in which we live. The course will cover this development drawing from a number of scientific fields, among them being meteorology, geomorphology and agronomy.

Course Objective: The objective of the course is to assist the student in understanding how the physical environment has developed and its impact on our metropolitan areas both suburban and urban. This course will also assist the student to understand how geographical knowledge can aid in understanding and solving problems of the city.

Course Method: Although lectures by the instructor are the primary course method, other methods will also be used including guest speakers and class discussion. *Students are expected to come prepared to discuss the material that is assigned.*

Grading Policy: Grades are based on the results of exercises, tests, and class participation. There will be three tests given (two midterms and the final). Two exercises will be assigned at various points throughout the class. The grade will consist of the following;

Midterm One	10%
Midterm Two	20%
Final	25%
Application Exercise 1	15%
Application Exercise 2	15%
Class Attendance	
/Participation	15%

Exam attendance is required. Makeup exams will **only** be given with the **prior approval** of the instructor. Late assignments are subject to a 5% grade penalty per week they are late.

Text: Strahler, Alan, Strahler, Arthur. 2003. Introducing Physical Geography Third Edition. New York, NY. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Class Schedule and Readings

Week 1: August 30 September 3: Course Introduction. What is Physical Geography?
 The Earth as a Rotating Planet
 Read Prologue, Chapter 1 and 2

Class Schedule and Readings (continued)**Week 2: September 6 to September 10:** The Earth's Global Energy Balance

Read Chapter 3

Application Exercise Distributed

*September 6 Labor Day – No Class**September 10 Last day to drop and not have it appear on transcript.***Week 3: September 13 to September 17:** The Earth's Global Energy Balance, Air Temperature

Read Chapter 4 and 5

Week 4: September 20 to September 24: Atmospheric Moisture and Precipitation, Winds and Global Circulation,

Read Chapter 6

*September 22: Application Exercise 1 is due***Week 5: September 27 to October 1:** Weather Systems

Read Chapter 7 and 8

September 27 – Midterm #1 (Covers Chapters 1 to 5)**Week 6: October 4 to October 8:** Global Climates, Biogeographic Processes,

Read Chapter 9 and 10

Week 7: October 11 to October 15: Global Biogeography, Global Soils

Read Chapter 11 and 12

*October 11 Columbus Day – No Class***Week 8: October 18 to October 22:** Earth Materials, The Lithosphere and Plate Tectonics

Read Chapter 13

Week 9: October 25 to October 29: Volcanic and Tectonic Landforms

Read Chapter 14

Week 10: November 1 to November 5: Weathering and Mass Wasting***November 1 Midterm #2 (Covers Chapters 6 to 12)***

Read Chapter 15

November 5 Last day to drop with a W on transcript

Class Schedule and Readings (continued)**Week 11: November 8 to November 12:** Fresh Water of the Continents

Read Chapter 16

Application Exercise 2 distributed

Week 12: November 15 to November 19: Landforms Made by Running Water

Read Chapter 17

Week 13: November 22 to November 26: Landforms and Rock Structure

Read Chapter 18

*November 25 and 26th – No Class Thanksgiving weekend***Week 14: November 29 to December 3:** Landforms Made by Waves and Wind

Read Chapter 19

*November 29: Application Exercise 2 is due***Week 15: December 6 to December 3:** Glacial Landforms and the Ice Age*Friday December 3 Final Review****Friday December 17 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Final Exam***

Note: Students are strongly encouraged to email the Instructor with questions or problems they may be having. I am on campus most days of the week and check my email on a daily basis. I am also willing to meet with students that may be having difficulty with the material. Please contact me to set up a specific time and place.

University Policies

Students should refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin for procedures regarding add/drop and withdrawals.

Physically challenged/Special Needs

Students with special needs (physical handicaps, learning disabilities, English as a second language) should identify themselves so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.