

## **GEOG 105: Introductory Lab in Physical Geography Spring 2008**

Instructor: Stephanie Meador

Office: 500 Lindley (the door on the left on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, at the top of the main stairs)

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Office Hours: Monday: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Or by appointment

**Introduction:** Physical geography covers a variety of subjects and includes a wide range of topics, such as climatology, river systems, and glaciers. We will be covering a limited amount of these topics using a hands-on approach for a more in-depth understanding of physical processes. We will also be reinforcing material covered in GEOG 104, Lecture in Physical Geography. Although these classes may be taken at different times, it is encouraged that they be taken concurrently. By the end of this course, you can expect to have a greater understanding of the physical geography of Kansas, understand spatial patterns of physical processes, and effects physical geography has on cultural landscapes. As I am a cultural geographer, I plan to demonstrate how valuable an understanding of physical geography is in making sense of the world around you, regardless of your field of study here at KU.

**Required Text:** *Physical Geography Laboratory Exercises* by Dr. William Johnson.

**Materials:** The following materials are needed every class session: pen/pencil, calculator, and notebook. An atlas, such as Rand McNally or Goodes Physical Geography atlas, is strongly suggested. Other materials required for labs will be provided.

**Labs:** Labs are completed during class time and handed in before leaving. Generally labs take two class periods to complete. You are responsible for completing all labs and turning them in on time. **Late labs are not accepted.** There will be no partial credit for labs turned in late. If you know you will be absent for a lab, speak to me prior to the expected absence. You are still responsible for any material covered in class when you are absent and will be expected to turn in these materials prior to the absence.

**Quizzes:** There are 4 quizzes during the semester. These will be held every 3 to 4 weeks. You must take all 4 quizzes—all quizzes “count” and the lowest grade is not dropped. If you know you will be absent on an quiz day you must contact me to schedule an alternate quiz time that will be held prior to the scheduled quiz. Only those with well documented, valid reasons, i.e. emergency or illness, will be considered for alternate quiz times.

**Attendance and Participation:** The nature of a lab requires you to be present. This is a hands-on course that uses equipment and supplies only available in the classroom. I do not teach labs during office hours, but am more than happy to discuss any material and answer any questions you may have. I do expect class members to ask/answer questions and you will be graded on your classroom participation. Simply coming to class is only a portion of your Attendance/Participation grade that you will earn each day of lab. If you are not completing your work in lab, you will not receive participation for the lab that day. I will not give credit for things like sleeping during a movie or coping answers from a neighbor, even if you were present the whole class time.

**Grades:** Grades can be checked on Blackboard (<http://courseware.ku.edu>) throughout the semester. If you have any questions about your grade throughout the semester, please let me know. If you feel I have made an error, let me know immediately. Do not wait until the end of the semester to dispute your grade. Grade itemization is as follows:

Labs	50%
Quizzes	30%
Attendance and Participation	20%

**Academic dishonesty is not tolerated. Those caught will be subject to department and university policies.**

It is perfectly okay for the labs to be completed in pairs or groups, but you must do your own work and turn in your own labs.

**Turn off all cell phones and put all newspapers away before class begins. If you use these or other disruptive items in class you will receive a zero for the day.**

Any student with a disability that might prevent full demonstration of academic abilities should contact me as soon as possible so that we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate the educational opportunity.

Date	Topic	Important Dates
23 January	Introduction	
28 & 30 January	Maps	
4 & 6 February	Map Library Trip & Solar Radiation	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of February @ Map Library (Anschutz 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)</b>
11 & 13 February	Moisture in the Atmosphere & Review	
18 & 20 February	QUIZ & Weather Systems	<b>QUIZ #1—18<sup>th</sup> of February</b>
25 & 27 February	Weather Systems & Climate	
3 & 5 March	Climate & Vegetation	
10 & 12 March	Vegetation & QUIZ	<b>QUIZ #2—12<sup>th</sup> of March</b>
17 & 19 March	No Classes	<b>Spring Break!</b>
24 & 26 March	Biomes & Climate Through Time	
31 March & 2 April	Soils & Review	
7 & 9 April	QUIZ & Geology	<b>QUIZ #3—7<sup>th</sup> of April</b>
14 & 16 April	Landforms	
21 & 23 April	Rivers	
28 & 30 April	Glaciers	
5 & 7 May	Review & QUIZ	<b>QUIZ #4—7<sup>th</sup> of May</b>

This syllabus is subject to change at any time. Notice will be given as early as possible in the event of such change being made.

Please take note that there is no class or final during Finals week—one of the nice treats of this lab!