

**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**VIRTUAL CAMPUS**

**Wayland Mission Statement**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

Course Title, Number, and Section

GEOG 1301 - Introduction to Physical Geography (Section VC 02)

Term

Fall 2018 (August 20 – November 3, 2018)

Instructor:Beverly Penner, MA

WBU Email Address & Phone Number

beverly.penner@wayland.wbu.edu (preferred) or 505.379.3604

Office Hours, Building, and Location

Available by email (preferred) and by phone

Class Meeting Time and Location

online

Catalog Description

Study of the physical world including the characteristics, processes of formation, distribution, and interrelationships of land and water, climate, vegetation, and soils.

**There is no prerequisite for this course**

Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Material(s)

*Physical Geography: A Landscape Appreciation,* 12th edition, by Darrell Hess, Pearson Publishers, 2016, ISBN 9780134169859

Course Outcome Competencies

Upon completion of this course, students will understand:

* The physical characteristics of the planet Earth.
* The four basic spheres of the Earth: Hydrosphere, Lithosphere, Biosphere and Atmosphere.
* The forces and concepts of climate.
* The basic internal forces that help create landscape.
* The major soil types found on Earth.
* The causation and effects of soil erosion.
* The basic functions of fluvial processes.
* The cause and impact of Coastal processes.

# Attendance Requirements:

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11 week term, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**Instructor’s policy on Academic Dishonesty**

**The instructor and the college require a high level of academic behavior and honesty from students in this course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work that was used in whole or in part for another course without obtaining permission of the instructor in advance, the submission for credit of any work that is attributable in whole or in part to another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to another student, or the attempts to commit such acts. Students who violate the college rules on academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the failure of that assignment and possible removal from the course. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the college community, policies regarding academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.**

Disability Statement

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university.  The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765.  Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:

**The course will consist of weekly modules with the timeframe running from Monday – Sunday evening each week. All work is due each Sunday evening by midnight your time. Grades will be based on:**

**10 discussion boards                                30 points (3 points each)  
1 project                                                         20 points  
2 exams (midterm and final)                 50 points (25 points each)  
Total points available:           100**

# The University has a standard grade scale:

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term or within the last two days of a micro-term to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long (10 to 15 weeks) term, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

# Student grade appeals

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change/revision if needed)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outline of Topics** | | | |
| **Week** | **Topic** | **Required Reading from Text (Chapters)** | **Notes** |
| 1 | Introduction to Earth  Portraying Earth | 1 & 2 | DB #1 due by 8/26 |
| 2 | Introduction to the Atmosphere  Insolation and Temperature | 3 & 4 | DB #2 due by 9/2 |
| 3 | Atmospheric Pressure & Wind  Atmospheric Moisture | 5 & 6 | DB #3 due by 9/9 |
| 4 | Atmospheric Disturbances  Climate & Climate Change | 7 & 8 | DB #4 due by 9/16 |
| 5 | The Hydrosphere  Cycles and Patterns in the Biosphere | 9 & 10 | DB #5 due by 9/23 |
| **Week 6** | **Midterm Exam:**  **Covering all material from Chapters 1 – 10** | | **September 24 - 30** |
| 6 | Terrestrial Flora & Fauna  Soils | 11 & 12 | DB #6 due by 9/30 |
| 7 | Introduction to Landform Study  The Internal Processes | 13 & 14 | DB #7 due by 10/7 |
| 8 | Weathering and Mass Wasting  Fluvial Processes | 15 & 16 | DB #8 due by 10/14 |
| 9 | Karst and Hydrothermal Processes  The Topography of Arid Lands | 17 & 18 | DB #9 due by 10/21 |
| 10 | Glacial Modification of Terrain  Coastal Processes and Terrain | 19 & 20 | DB #10 due by 10/28 |
| **Week 11** | **Final Exam:**  **Covering all material from Chapters 11 – 20**  **Project Due** | | **October 29 – November 3** |

# Important Information:

* All work must be submitted in Black Board, on time. Extenuating circumstances apply only if you have notified me before the due date. Otherwise, any work not submitted by each Sundays deadline will be given a grade of zero.
* Be sure to contact me only through the email platform within Black Board or at my Wayland email listed above. Please note that I prefer email contact but do provide my phone number just in case you need to speak with me. I will not answer outside the hours of 9am – 9pm daily, but of course you can reach me via email at any time. I strive to respond on a daily basis, or at the most within 48 hours.

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