

# Geography 1 (Physical) Distance Course Orientation

Welcome to Physical Geography. I trust that you will learn and enjoy more of the world in which you live after you have completed this course. Here is **vital** information you need to be able to use this method of instruction.

**You must obtain the lecture material (about 29 lectures):** The lectures are unedited, real time, class presentations. It's like sitting in the 6<sup>th</sup> row of the class, being there, only you cannot ask questions. (That's what the blog is for). Due to copyright limitations, some of the material is not available to you unless you sign in to iTunes U with your college log in. I will not test you on any material that is not present in the lecture presentations for the course.

- A. **The best way to obtain the lectures is on line at iTunes University.**  
Instructions are on the home web page. Go to:  
<http://www.cabrillo.edu/academics/metgeo/> and view the **lower part** of the page. Most of my students download from iTunes U. Hint: only download one or two lectures at a time.
- B. If you **do not have a fast internet connection (DSL or cable)** you may purchase the lectures at the Cabrillo College Bookstore. They are on **two DVD's**, but **they are mp4 data files**, so you **must have a DVD player on your computer** to use them. You will also need to use software (i.e. Quick Time – or one probably currently on your computer) to play them.
- C. These two DVD's are also available to check out from the college library (library use only) You can bring in a laptop computer (with a DVD drive) and download both DVD's (takes 8 gigs of space) on to your hard drive & watch them whenever you wish.
- D. The library also has uncompressed DVD lectures to watch there if you prefer.
1. **Communication:** There is a blog available for everyone to use if you have questions or comments about the course. <http://cabrillogeography1.blogspot.com/>  
Please use this blog instead of email since most questions are of interest to more than one person. Any communication of a personal nature should be emailed to me at: [dabalogh@cabrillo.edu](mailto:dabalogh@cabrillo.edu).

**Taking Tests:** Go to the assessments area of Blackboard. There are dates assigned as a window for taking each of the three tests. You are required to take the test within these dates. Each test is 1.5 hours long. You must finish during that time, so make sure that you start the test when you have the time to take it.

**Make up Tests:**

**There will be a 10 point deduction for all students who miss taking the tests on time.**

I use the Cabrillo College Proctoring Center for make up tests. Rm. 1071  
Telephone 831.479.6369. Give them at least 3 days notice. You may take the tests whenever you are ready, but you must take all three exams before the end of the semester. More than one missing assignment and I will issue a no credit and you will have to re-enroll in a future semester.

2. **Map Reading:** The only other outside assignment is to learn how to read a USGS Map. This assignment is completed at the Cabrillo College Library and can be done whenever the library is open. Check their web page for hours of operation. You have the entire semester to complete this assignment. The test is taken in the library. Further information is given on the Course Outline, please read it.
3. **Handouts:** There is a package of handouts which you need to download at: <http://www.cabrillo.edu/academics/metgeo/geography/geography1/index.html> They are PDF files so you need Adobe Reader (free on the internet). The lecture numbers for which the handouts are used are listed there.
4. **Errata:** Earth Abides by George Stewart is no longer in print. I have removed it from the Course Outline, but may reference it in some of the lectures. You may ignore any comment regarding this book as being testable material. There will be no questions on the final exam relating to this fine novel. I still recommend it to you as a good read, but since I cannot guarantee that the Cabrillo College Bookstore can stock it I have removed it from the required readings for the course.
5. **The Text Book:** You do not need to purchase one unless you want to. Copies of the most recent edition are available in the college library. Old editions are available to check out. You may purchase older editions of the book and use them. I have left several older edition reading lists on the website. Most of the video and PC animations are available in the Cabrillo College Library under my name. If you purchase a text book, the animations come with it. I will be trying to improve the class as the semester unfolds, so check the blog now and then for further information.
6. **The Web Site:** Please take a tour of the Geography portion of the web site. There are pretests, old student notes, and other materials which you will find helpful as you take this course.  
<http://www.cabrillo.edu/academics/metgeo/geography/geography1/index.html>

Thanks,

**Dave Balogh**

**Background (If you are interested):** I received a college grant two years ago to purchase a camera and DVD burner to record my lectures. Initially, the purpose was for students who missed a lecture or who wanted to hear parts of it again (I talk a bit fast) to be able to go to the college library & watch the DVD there. Last year, iTunes University gave Cabrillo College space to put information on line for college teachers. I decided to compress all lectures and upload them to iTunes U. so that my students could just download them at home. I had no idea how popular that decision would be. I received so much positive feedback from my students that I decided to offer the course in this distance learning format.

**Geography 1 COURSE OUTLINE (Distance Learning)**

**Texts: Mc Knight, T. L., Physical Geography, 9th. Ed., Prentice. Hall**  
**Recommended: Any Good World Atlas**

**There will be three examinations including the final. Hourly exams should be taken when lecture material is completed to the point listed below.**

**An Audio-Tutorial Map reading series is required to be taken and satisfactorily completed by all students in Geography. The fifth session is a graded test. See next page for details.**

| <b>Class Session Number</b>  | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Reading Assignment</b>     |
|--|--|-------------------------------|
| 1.   | Introduction to Geography  | pp. 1-6                       |
| 2.   | Site and Situation: Our Place in the Universe  | pp. 6-10                      |
| 3.   | Latitude and Longitude   | pp. 10-18                     |
| 4.   | Cartography What's a Map?  | pp. 29-53                     |
| 5.   | Map Projections  |                               |
| 6.   | Cadastral Systems: What's a Day, The Calendar  | Lecture Only                  |
| 7.   | The Seasons  | pp. 18-28                     |
| 8.   | Time, Moon and Tides   | pp. 267-270                   |
| 9.   | The Atmosphere, Lapse Rates, air pollution.  | *Ch. 3 and 4                  |
| <b>10. End of Material for FIRST EXAM (check calendar on Blackboard for dates)</b> |  |                               |
| 11.  | The Electromagnetic Spectrum   | *Ch. 3 and 4                  |
| 12.  | <b>First Test (Lectures 1-9)</b> <i>There is no lecture for class 11</i>                 |                               |
| 13.  | Refraction, Scattering, Albedo, Absorption)  |                               |
| 14.  | Energy Budget  |                               |
| 15.  | Gas Laws and Primary Winds   | Ch. 5 and 6                   |
| 16.  | Second Order Winds, the Monsoons   |                               |
| 17.  | Third Order (Local) Winds  |                               |
| 18.  | Water in the Air, Clouds, Precipitation  |                               |
| 19.  | The Extra- Tropical Cyclone  | Ch. 7                         |
| 20.  | Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones, Tornadoes  |                               |
| <b>End of Material for SECOND EXAM (check calendar on Blackboard for dates)</b>    |  |                               |
| 21.  | Climate History and Classification (Koppen A-C)  | Ch. 8,*10,*11                 |
| 22.  | <b>Second Test (Lectures 10 - 19)</b> <i>There is no lecture for class 21</i><br>214-215 | pp.                           |
| 23.  | (Koppen D-E), Soil & Water Balance, Hydrologic Cycle                                     | *Ch. 9<br>pp. 261-266,280-287 |
| 24.  | Soils  | pp. 358-372; *Ch.12           |
| 25.  | Plate Tectonics, Mountain Building   | pp. 387-402, 413-454          |
| 26.  | Weathering and Water Caused Landforms  | *Ch. 15 and 16                |
| 27.  | Water Continued, Introduction to Glaciers  |                               |
| 28.  | Glacial Landforms, Marine Landforms  | *Ch. 19                       |
| 29.  | Wind Landforms and<br>The Biotic Environment and Pollution                               | pp. 538-553 *Ch. 20           |
| <b>FINAL EXAM (check calendar on Blackboard for dates)</b>                         |  |                               |

\* You are only responsible for parts relevant to class lecture

## **\*\* MAP READING Outside Assignment (Required for Distance Learning Students)**

You are asked to go to the Library (Aptos Campus) front desk. There you can check out a video (or DVD) lesson, maps and an exercise sheet for each of five map reading lessons.

1. Listen to the video for each exercise
2. Fill out the exercise worksheet
3. Then check the key (available at the loan desk) to determine if our results agree.
4. If you find a discrepancy, first check the map to see if you have overlooked the correct response. Should you still have a question about the map, please see me during an office hour or after class.

5. **The fifth lesson is a test, which will be graded.** The points earned will be part of your final grade (roughly equal to 1/7<sup>th</sup> of total possible points). **Grading Policy:** There are 50 questions worth 1 point each. A score of 45+= A, 40- 44 = B, 35-39=C, 30-34=D. You are asked to turn in your work on Exercise 4 (the Profile) **when you take your exam** in the Library. Exercise 4 will be graded as follows: Turn in original page with correct profile = 2 points. Error in profile or method = 1 point. Fail to turn in Exercise = 0 points. These will be added to your total score.

The **Last day to receive any credit** is the **Friday *before* final examinations begin.** Note: missing this last due date means that you will receive **no points** for Map Reading, putting you at a 50 point disadvantage over the rest of the class in determining your final grade. You may do this assignment whenever the Library is open during the semester.

**Special Note:** Many learning disabilities are not apparent to others. I will make any reasonable accommodation to assist you in learning the material, but I must be aware of your need. If you need extra time on examinations or etc., please phone **DSS at (X6379).**

## **Geography I Grading Policy**

Grades in Geography I are determined by **total** points earned, in the Map Reading Assignment and on each of three examinations in the classroom (**a curve will be established and published for each test based upon student performance**). There are no extra credit assignments to replace missing work. No grades are “dropped”. Missing work = 0 points. You may view grades on **Blackboard**.

**\*\* Examinations** There will be two hourly examinations and a non-comprehensive final.

**Most of the examination material comes from the lecture sessions.**

### **Grades:**

- a) You may take this course on a credit/no credit basis or a letter grade. A letter grade will be assigned unless you request a CR/NCR option.
- b) **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DROP A COURSE IF YOU STOP ATTENDING.** Withdrawals (W) cannot be granted to any student who is enrolled in the class after 75% of the semester is completed. If, at the end of the semester you have **one** missing assignment, you may request an INCOMPLETE, but **only** by **request, in writing before** the date of **the final exam**. If you have **more than one** missing grade you will receive a grade of "NCR"(no credit)

**\*\*Accommodations can be made if you cannot come to the Aptos Campus to complete the Map Reading or take your tests at the Proctoring Center. Please email or phone Mr. Balogh for further information.**