Spring 2-1-2023

# GPHY 112N.01: Introduction to Physical Geography Laboratory: Climate, Landforms, and Vegetation Laboratory

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# Course Syllabus
# GPHY 112 Intro to Physical Geography Lab
# Spring 2023

**Teaching Assistant:** Marie Watson
**Office:** CHCB (Clapp Building) 412
**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 12-2pm – and by appointment; either Zoom or in-person
**Email:** marie.watson@umconnect.umt.edu

**Instructor:** Ashley Ballantyne, Professor
Dept of Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences
Email: ashley.ballantyne@umontana.edu
Office Hours: 1-2 pm Wed. (or by appointment)
Office: CHCB 435

**Instructor:** Anna Klene, Professor
Department of Geography
Email: anna.klene@umontana.edu
Office Hours: 3-5 pm Wed. (or by appointment)
Office: Stone 216 or via Zoom

## Meeting Days & Times:

Wednesdays starting January 18, 2023, 9:00-10:50am in Stone Hall, Room 218

**OR**

Fridays starting January 20, 2023, 9:00-10:50am in Stone Hall, Room 218

## Learning Outcomes:

- Define basic terminology used to describe physical processes and landscape forms both quantitatively and qualitatively
- Describe the main factors that influence spatial variation in weather and climate processes
- Demonstrate spatial understanding by using maps and other geographical representations to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective
- Describe the spatial distribution of landscapes, relate these differences to variations in weather and climate, and reflect on how the variation impacts people

## Course Requirements:

### Attendance:

Overall attendance will be recorded each week and worth the equivalent of one lab grade (30 points). If you know that you are going to miss a class for an excused reason, please let the instructor know in advance. Valid and honest reasons for missing class with timely communication will not affect attendance grades. This waiver is subject to the instructor's review. It is important that you attend class to obtain valuable information to help you pass the course.

### Class Procedures:

The first 10 minutes of class will be a short lecture on lab materials and procedure. Then, labs can be completed individually in-class. The TA will be present the entire class period to assist with questions. Students will work on a lab exercise each week individually. Following the instructions is crucial to completing your lab correctly.

Grading:

| Grade item | Points | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| Labs (14 total minus one) | 390 | 92.85% |
| Attendance | 30 | 7.1% |
| Total | 420 | 100% |

Labs are be due at midnight one week after an assignment has been introduced. At the end of the course, the distribution will be examined and letter grades assigned to the following categories: A=>90%, B=80-90%, C=70-80%, D=60-70%, etc. The lowest lab grade will be dropped at the end of the course. *Please note, completing this class for a traditional letter grade allows it to fulfill General Education and major-specific requirements. It will not if taken credit/no credit.

Late Work:

Late work without a valid and approved excuse will lose one-half a letter grade (5%) for each day late, including weekends. Completed labs are due at midnight a week after the lab is introduced. *Plan ahead to submit digital copies of all work this semester.*

Cultural or Ceremonial Absences:

Cultural or ceremonial leave allows excused absences for cultural, religious, and ceremonial purposes to meet the student's customs and traditions or to participate in related activities. Students must submit a written request to the instructor including a brief description (with dates) and the importance of the student's participation. Students remain responsible for completion of assignments as defined in the syllabus. Instructors shall excuse absences for reasons of military service or mandatory public service.

Academic Misconduct:

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct (plagiarism, signing another students name, inappropriate conduct, etc.) is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code (https://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards).

Disabilities Accommodation:

UM assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equity (https://www.umt.edu/disability/). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Equity, please contact ODE in Aber Hall or call 406.243.2243. I will work with you and ODE to provide appropriate modification.

Important Dates:

**Feb. 6:** Last day to drop/add in Cyberbear or change to "Audit" with partial refund.
**Mar. 28:** Last day to drop w/ drop/add link in Cyberbear (w/ prof & advisor sigs), $10 fee, & "W" grade.
**May 5:** Last day to drop w/ link (w/ prof, advisor, & dean sigs), $10 fee, & "WP" or "WF" grade.

## Recording in Class

Montana law requires that if you wish to record a lecture, you must first inform the instructor and they must consent before you do so.

## Electronic Devices

Please use electronic devices respectfully and appropriately during class periods. If they become a distraction or are being used inappropriately, the instructor may ask that you no longer bring the device to class. Decisions will be made on case-by-case basis.

## Basic Needs Security

Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Office of Student Success (http://www.umt.edu/oss/) for support. Also, connect with the UM Food Pantry (http://www.umt.edu/asum/agencies/food-pantry/default.php).

## Bear Necessities & Emergency Student Support

Students can familiarize themselves with the Bear Necessities entity at UM here: https://www.umt.edu/asum/agencies/bear-necessities/default.php. Run by the student government body, ASUM, they have direct support and emergency resources for students, including applications for $500 emergency loans.

**Tentative Course Schedule: Spring Semester 2023**

| Week | Dates – Wednesday Lab | Dates – Friday Lab | Topic |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1/18 | 1/20 | Introduction: Review Syllabus and Lab Organization |
| 2 | 1/25 | 1/27 | Lab 1: Coordinate Systems, Map Projections, Scale and Time |
| 3 | 2/1 | 2/3 | Lab 2: Temperature Concepts, Atmospheric Moisture, & Precipitation |
| 4 | 2/8 | 2/10 | Lab 3: Earth, Sun, Insolation |
| 5 | 2/15 | 2/17 | Lab 4: Weather Maps |
| 6 | 2/22 | 2/24 | Lab 5: Intro Map Making with ArcGIS (Tentative) |
| 7 | 3/1 | 3/3 | Lab 6: Global Climates & Climate Change |
| 8 | 3/8 | 3/10 | Lab 7: Water Resources & Recurrence Intervals for Natural Events |
| 9 | 3/15 | 3/17 | Lab 8: Exploring Environmental Careers |
| | **Spring Break** | | **No labs** |
| 10 | 3/29 | 3/31 | Lab 9: Plate Tectonics, Global Patterns, & Volcanism |
| 11 | 4/5 | 4/7 | Lab 10: Topographic Maps & Landforms |
| 12 | 4/12 | 4/14 | Lab 11: Fluvial Landforms |
| 13 | 4/19 | 4/21 | Lab 12: Glacial Landforms |
| 14 | 4/26 | 4/28 | Lab 13: Biogeography & Environmental Geography |
| 15 | 5/3 | 5/5 | Lab 14: Global Biomes & Soils |
| | **Finals Week – Good Luck!** | | **No labs** |

*This schedule may be modified as needed. Changes will be announced in class and posted on Moodle.