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GPHY 112N.01: Introduction to Physical Geography Lab

Anna E. Klene

University of Montana - Missoula, anna.klene@umontana.edu

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GPHY 112N
INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY LAB
(1 credit)

Spring 2018

Course Information

Mondays 3:00 – 4:50 pm (Stone Hall 218)
Fridays 3:00 – 4:50 pm (Stone Hall 218)

Contact Information

Andrew Nemecek

Teaching Assistant

Department of Geography

Stone Hall, Room 205

andrew.nemecek@umconnect.umt.edu

Office Hours: Monday 10-11am; Tuesday 2-3pm; Wednesday 2-3pm and by appointment

Anna Klene

Department of Geography

Stone Hall, Room 216

anna.klene@umontana.edu

Suggested Lab Manual

GEOS: The Pearson Custom Library for Geography & Geology

Course Policies

Attendance

Attendance is encouraged but not mandatory. Attendance will be extra credit and worth one lab grade (20 points). This extra credit may be important to any of you with a grade that straddles, for example, a C and a B. I will allow up to two unexcused absences. **If you receive more than 2 unexcused absences, you will not receive extra credit for attendance.** If you know that you are going to miss a class for an excused reason, please let me know in advance or ASAP. You must provide proper documentation for the absence. Attendance will be taken each week on a sign-in sheet. It is important that you attend class to obtain valuable information to help you pass the course.

Class Procedures

Every week, you will complete a lab exercise. Following the instructions is crucial to completing your lab correctly. At the start of each lab, I will give a brief lecture relevant to the lab and/or complete some example problems.

Grading

Your final grade will consist of points from your lab exercises and the extra-credit attendance (if you receive the extra credit). There are no quizzes, tests, or final exams in this course. Each lab is worth 20 points, and there are 12 labs. I will drop your lowest grade, so the course is worth 220 points plus the attendance extra credit. The lab exercises are due at the **beginning** (3:00 pm!) of the following lab session. For every day that a lab assignment is late, 10% will be deducted from the total points earned. Anything turned in after 3:00 pm will be considered one day late. I encourage you to complete as much of the labs as possible during lab, as this will be the most efficient use of your time.

I will coordinate with the instructor for GPHY 111, the Physical Geography lecture, to design labs. Labs will reflect concepts covered in Physical Geography lectures. Therefore, labs are not currently prepared, and I will design them on a weekly basis based on what is covered in those lectures.

Weekly labs will generally be based on lectures covered in previous or current weeks. For example, the first lab, for the week of 1/29-2/2, will cover maps and cartography and earth locations and time, but the tenth lab, for the week of 4/16-4/23, will cover glaciers. This is not a solid schedule, and it is subject to change.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic
1	1/22 & 1/26	Review Syllabus
2	1/29 & 2/2	Maps & Cartography, Earth Locations and Time
3	2/5 & 2/9	Solar Energy and Seasons
4	2/12 & 2/16	The Atmosphere: Composition, Structure and Function
5	2/19 (Presidents' Day) & 2/23	No LABS!
6	2/26 & 3/2	Temperature

7	3/5 & 3/9	Weather
8	3/12 & 3/16	Global Climate and Climate Change
9	3/19 & 3/23	Tectonics, Earthquakes and Volcanoes and Mountain Forming
10	3/26 & 3/30 (Spring Break)	No LABS!
11	4/2 & 4/6	Flooding and Recurrence Intervals
12	4/9 & 4/13	Coastal and Arid Geomorphology
13	4/16 & 4/20	Glaciers
14	4/23 & 4/27	WILD CARD!
15	4/30 & 5/4	WILD CARD!

All exercises, as well as the final grade, are based on the scale below.

- A = 95 – 100%
- A- = 90 – 94.99%
- B+ = 87 – 89.99%
- B = 83 – 86.99%
- A- = 80 – 82.99%
- C+ = 77 – 79.99%
- C = 73 – 76.99%
- C- = 70 – 72.99%
- D = 60 – 69.99%
- F = 59.99% and below

Other Policies

Be on time! I expect everyone to be on time for class. If for some reason, you are late, please be quiet and non-disruptive. It is expected that you will remain in class during the allotted time until your weekly exercise is completed. If you have a special reason for leaving early, please contact the instructor before class begins, and exit quietly.

Additional Information

Consult the Dean of Students website for the Student Conduct Code at:
<http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/documents/StudentConductCode.pdf>.

Carefully review the sections on plagiarism (also consult the UM Catalog). Cheating and plagiarism are not tolerated and will be dealt with as outlined in the Code.

In terms of scheduling and assignments, this syllabus may slightly change throughout the semester.