

San José State University
Department of Geography & Global Studies
GEOG 1, Geography of the Natural Environment, Section 01, Fall, 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Joe Hasty
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Office Hours:	Online
Class Days/Time:	Online
Classroom:	Online
Prerequisites:	None
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	B1
Course Fees:	None

Course Format

This course is an asynchronous online only class with no scheduled meeting times.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, and grades can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/>.

Course Description

Atmospheric, biologic and geologic processes that create the natural environments of the world. Discovery of local, regional and global patterns in the location and distribution of environmental phenomena, and the human modifications of natural environments.

Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Objective 1: use the methods of science and knowledge derived from current scientific inquiry in life or physical science to question existing explanations.

Assignment application: Out of class essay assignments and in-class exam questions (short answer and multiple choice).

Objective 2: demonstrate ways in which science influences and is influenced by complex societies, including political and moral issues.

Assignment application: Out of class essay assignments and in-class exam questions (short answer and multiple choice).

Objective 3: recognize methods of science, in which quantitative, analytical reasoning techniques are used.

Assignment application: Out of class essay assignments and in-class exam questions (short answer and multiple choice).

Required Texts/Readings

Title: McKnight's Physical Geography: A Landscape Appreciation

Author: Darrel Hess

ISBN-13: 978-0134195421

Edition: 12th

Copyright: 2017

Subscription to MyLab and Mastering Online: Embedded in Canvas

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Grading Policy

Quizzes (15)	150 points
Unit Assignments (15)	225 points
Map Assignments (15)	75 points
Discussions	150 points
Midterm #1	150 points
Midterm #2	150 points
Final Exam	150 points
Total Possible Points	1050 points
Total Graded Points	1000 Points

Percentage	Total Points	Letter Grade
100% +	1000-1050	A+
95-100%	950-1000	A
90-94%	900- 949	A-
87-89 %	870-899	B+
83-86%	830-869	B
80-82%	800-829	B-
77-79 %	770-799	C+
73-76%	730-769	C
70-72%	700-729	C-
65-69%	650-699	D+
60-64%	600-649	D
Less than 60 %	Less than 600	F

Websites: This course is integrated with the Canvas learning environment and MyLab and Mastering website. These password-driven websites allow student access to course material. The subscription to MyLab and Mastering is required and will be an additional cost. Use the link on the course home page in Canvas to set up the MyLab and Mastering account.

Course Structure: The course is organized into 3 **SECTIONS**, each composed of 5 **Modules (15 total)**. Each module extends over one semester week (shorter for Winter, Summer, or late start sessions) and contains four graded components: a discussion, a quiz, a map assignment, and a unit assignment. Each section extends over 5 semester weeks (shorter for Winter, Summer, or late start sessions) and will be accompanied by an exam. **Please note that modules do not correlate with chapters in the text.** The required readings for each unit will be posted on the reading schedule.

Quizzes: There will be 15 quizzes, one for each module. These will be open note and open textbook (not open websites). The quiz may be taken anytime during the allotted time window. Once the quiz is started, you will only have 15 minutes to finish. The questions and time constraints are designed to encourage retention of course material. You will not have enough time to look up each answer in the text or notes. Quizzes can be submitted late for 1/2 credit. These will be conducting in MyLab and Mastering.

Unit Assignments: There will be 15 assignments, one for each module. They are worth 15 points each (225 points total). They will consist of a variety of online computer work, including Google Earth, dynamic animation, map, and video assignments. Late work will be accepted for 1/2 credit. These will be conducting in MyLab and Mastering.

Map Assignments: There will be 15 map assignments, one for each unit. They are worth 5 points each (75 points total). They will consist of properly locating geographic locations in various world regions. Late work will be accepted for 1/2 credit. These will be conducting in MyLab and Mastering.

Midterm Exams: There will be two midterm exams. Each will be worth 15% of your final grade. They will come in two parts. The format of the first part will include 50 multiple choice questions and you will have 60 minutes. The format of the second part will include 5 short answer questions and you will have 30 minutes. These will be open note and open textbook. Both parts of the exam must be taken during the established time slot, but they do not have to be taken one right after the other. Check the Calendar for these times. The questions and time constraints are designed to encourage retention of course material. You will not have enough time to look up each answer in the text or notes. Make ups may be given at the instructor's approval. These will be conducting in MyLab and Mastering. These will be conducting in MyLab and Mastering.

Final Exam: The final exam will follow the same format as the midterm exams and **will not be cumulative**. It will only cover the last section. There are no make-ups. These will be conducting in MyLab and Mastering. This will be conducting in MyLab and Mastering.

Discussion Topics (Attendance): Attendance is not graded, but participation on the discussion board accounts for a substantial portion of your grade. There will be 15 discussion topics, one for each module. You are expected to make original, productive comments on each discussion topic. For full credit, you must respond to the original topic AND respond to at least one peer comment. These will be conducting on the Canvas website.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit available in this course. However, please note that there are 1050 points assigned, but the course is graded on a scale of 1000. There are 50 extra points built into the course and are considered the extra credit opportunity, where it is possible to raise the overall grade.

Academic Honesty: It is expected that students take extensive notes from their reading and may use these notes for all quizzes and exams. However, it is not allowed to look up answers from the Internet. We do not use proctoring software because it creates an atmosphere of distrust from the beginning of the course. Instead, we rely on a system of trust and academic integrity. However, any violations of this, including plagiarism, will be punished to the fullest possible extent. **PLEASE DO NOT CHEAT!** It places all parties involved in a horrible and uncomfortable position.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>"

GEOG 1 / Geography of the Physical Environment

Fall, 2020, Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice.

Course Schedule

Week #	Dates	Module, Topics and Readings
1	8/19 to 8/30	Module 1: Introduction to Geography - Reading: Hess, Chapter 1
2	8/31 to 9/6	Module 2: Portraying the Earth - Reading: Hess, Chapter 2
3	9/7 to 9/13	Module 3: Weather and Climate I - Reading: Hess, Chapter 3 and 4
4	9/14 to 9/20	Module 4: Weather and Climate II - Reading: Hess, Chapter 5
5	9/21 to 9/27	Module 5: Weather and Climate III- Reading: Hess, Chapter 6 (Section 1 Exam)
6	9/28 to 10/4	Module 6: Weather and Climate IV- Reading: Hess, Chapter 7
7	10/5 to 10/11	Module 7: Weather and Climate IV- Reading: Hess, Chapter 8
8	10/12 to 10/18	Module 8: The Hydrosphere – Reading: Hess, Chapter 9
9	10/19 to 10/25	Module 9: Intro to Landform Study - Reading: Hess, Chapter 13
10	10/26 to 11/1	Module 10: The Internal Process - Reading: Hess, Chapter 14 (Section 2 Exam)
11	11/2 to 11/8	Module 11: Preliminaries to Erosion – Reading: Hess, Chapter 15
12	11/9 to 11/15	Module 12: Fluvial Processes - Reading: Hess, Chapter 16
13	11/16 to 11/22	Module 13: The Topography of Arid Lands – Reading, Hess, Chapter 18
14	11/23 to 11/29	Module 14: Glacial Modifications of Terrain - Reading: Hess, Chapter 19

Week #	Dates	Module, Topics and Readings
15	11/30 to 12/6	Module 15: Coastal Processes and Terrain - Reading: Hess, Chapter 20
16	12/9 to 12/15	Final Exam (Section 3 only)