

**University of Waterloo**  
**Department of Geography and Environmental Management**  
**GEOG 102 – “Geography and Our Planetary Environment”**  
Dr. Ellsworth LeDrew

Fall 2017  
T Th: 1:00 PM-2:20 PM  
Lecture Room: AL room 113

Office: EV1 121 ☎ 888-4567 x 32783  
email: ells @ uwaterloo.ca  
Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00 to 4:00 PM

Note: Classes begin on Thursday September 7

**MOTIVATION:**

“What you Learn Here will have Impact at the Ends of the Earth”

*COURSE DESCRIPTION:* This is an introductory course in the study of the landscape of the earth. We introduce the basic principles of physical geography, identify some of the major geographical questions of current research, and provide a framework for future study. We reach beyond the simple idea that physical geography is knowledge of the names of landforms and places. **We wish to understand the formative processes and how they have significance for human habitation of the planet.**

The place names are the vocabulary. In this course we begin to construct the syntax of physical geography – how these places and features are linked together by processes, energy flow and mass flow.

*COURSE OBJECTIVE:* The major objective of this course is to understand the linkage between all of the physical components of the planet system, how humans are affected by geographical processes, and how humans can modify geographic processes, either intentionally or unintentionally.

This will be accomplished by a series of lectures, Geo-Wiki assignments and quizzes.

*UPON COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE THE STUDENT WILL ACHIEVE A BASIS TO:*

- 1/ *understand* the principles of planetary processes that affect their daily life. Examples include climate change, weather processes, floods and their impacts, the aesthetic attraction of the physical landscape, earthquakes and their human impact
- 2/ can understand the issues involved *in making informed and articulate decisions* in their future personal and professional life regarding the role humans play in

environmental change. Examples include evaluation of the role climate deniers can play in policy formulation, design of flood management policies, design of conservation areas, issues of environmental hazard and relief efforts.

*COURSE TEXTBOOK:*

Christopherson, Robert W., Ginger H. Birkeland, Mary-Louise Byrne, Philip T. Giles, 2015, **Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography, 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition**, Pearson Education, Canada.

Note, A special edition with only the chapters required is available for a reduced price. Previous editions are also acceptable except that the page numbers in the course schedule will not be correct.

Web companion information is given in the text with an authorization code. This may not be available for resale texts.

A copy will be on Library Reserve

*COURSE EVALUATION:*

Iclicker Participation marks	5 %
Iclicker In-class quizzes	20 %
Geo-Wiki Photo Submissions	15 %
Midterm Exam One	15 %
Midterm Exam Two	15 %
Final Exam	30 %

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Missing Assignment and Examinations:** If you miss an exam due to a valid medical reason, personal or family emergency, etc., contact me immediately, and promptly obtain a University of Waterloo medical or counselor's note explaining the reason for your absence, degree of incapacitation, dates covered by the note, etc. Please provide the original of the note to me in person. I need the ORIGINAL copy. Do **NOT** have another person deliver it and do not slip it under my office door where it may be dislodged by cleaners and never found again!

*Typically*, the missed examination or test is made up by an essay with a topic that I determine which covers material covered in class lectures and the textbook readings. It is to be completed within 5 days. The note does **NOT** guarantee such an alternative arrangement! The arrangement is only provided based upon my judgment of the situation.

**Also note, only ONE missed examination or test**, even with a valid medical or counselor's note, will be accommodated with such an alternative arrangement. The second or successive examination or test missed will result in a zero for the examination. This applies to the mid-terms and final examination.

No alternative arrangements are made for missed I-clicker tests or other assignments.

**Examinations:** It is the student's responsibility to be available to write exams in the scheduled times. The two midterm exams will be held in class during the lecture period. The final exam will be held during the university's scheduled examination period. The exams are mandatory, and no alternative exam dates are possible.

**In class quizzes (20%):**

**Note that there will be interactive quizzes** in class using the 'I-clicker' to be purchased from the bookstore. Individual 'I-clickers' are registered to each student. *Use of an Iclicker registered to another student is cause for disciplinary action under policy 71 (see note below).* Individual I-clickers must be registered for the course on the Learn website for Geography 102. Instructions will be provided. If registered for another course, it will **NOT** be transferred to this course automatically. Note that purchase of an Iclicker is a course requirement and it is the student's responsibility to ensure that it works correctly.

There will be marked quizzes and unmarked quizzes and all quizzes will be administered at the beginning of class.

The *unmarked quizzes* will help you gauge your learning and preparation throughout the course. They will have the same format as the marked quizzes. **The Dates for the Unmarked Quizzes are on the Lecture Schedule.**

The *marked quizzes* will be a series of five tests graded out of a total of 20 marks using the I-clicker system. These will be multiple-choice of eight questions, each worth ½ mark. **The Dates for the Marked Quizzes are on the Lecture Schedule.** Each quiz with more than 6 of the 8 questions answered will get 1 participation mark in addition to the grade out of 5. This means that if you are late you may miss questions and may not get the participation mark.

**Materials and announcements** for the class will be found on the Universities 'Desire to Learn' web site at: <http://learn.uwaterloo.ca/> (use your WatIAM/Quest username and password)  
Documentation on this site is available at:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/information-systems-technology/services/student-response-systems/common-iclicker-questions>

I will post the overheads for the lectures that I give on this site in advance. I reserve the right to change the overheads during the topic, but I will tell you in class if they have been rearranged or updated. I commonly add current material or change the content and order. Students often complain about the wireless capability in the class rooms so be certain to download current content before the lectures.

The **Geo-Wiki** photo submissions and will be explained in class with instructions on the Learn site.

***COURSE CALENDAR  
FALL 2017***

<b>Week #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings (pages in Text, 4th edition)</b>	<b>GeoWiki Assignment Due</b>	<b>Iclicker Test</b>
1	2017-09-07	Introduction to the Course.			
2	2017-09-12 2017-09-14	Earth Systems Concepts Solar Energy, Radiative Forcing and Energy Processes 1	5-20 43-63		Unmarked Iclicker Test One
3	2017-09-19 2017-09-21	Solar Energy, Radiative Forcing and Energy Processes 2 Solar Energy, Radiative Forcing and Energy Processes 3	91-113		Marked Iclicker Test One
4	2017-09-26 2017-09-28	Solar Energy, Radiative Forcing and Energy Processes 4 <i>Video: THIN ICE: The Inside Story of Climate</i>		GeoWiki Assignment One Due 12 Midnight Sept 27	
5	2017-10-03 2017-10-05	<b>In Class Mid-Term TEST ONE</b> Temperature, Atmospheric Moisture and Cloud Formation 1	117-141, 181-205		Marked Iclicker Test Two
6	2017-10-10 2017-10-12	Study Day Temperature, Atmospheric Moisture and Cloud Formation 2			Unmarked Iclicker Test Two

7	2017-10-17	Weather Systems and Global Atmospheric Circulation 1	209-226		
	2017-10-19	Weather Systems and Global Atmospheric Circulation 2			Marked Iclicker Test Three
8	2017-10-24	<i>Video: Amazing Planet</i>		GeoWiki Assignment Two Due 12 Midnight October 25	
	2017-10-26	Earth's Internal Energy and Structure and the Geological Cycle	347-381		Unmarked Iclicker Test Three
9	2017-10-31	Earth Materials, Rock Cycle, Plate Tectonics 1	394-421		
	2017-11-02	Earth Materials, Rock Cycle, Plate Tectonics 2			Marked Iclicker Test Four
10	2017-11-07	<i>Video: An Ocean of Volcanoes</i>			
	2017-11-09	<b>In Class Mid-Term TEST</b>			
11	2017-11-14	Fluvial Processes & Landform Evolution 1	453-489		
	2017-11-16	Fluvial Processes & Landform Evolution 2			Unmarked Iclicker Test Four
12	2017-11-21	Fluvial Processes & Landform Evolution 3			
	2017-11-23	Glacial Processes and Environmental Change	553-567		
13	2017-11-28	Glacial Processes and Landscape Evolution 1		GeoWiki Assignment Three Due 12 Midnight November 29	
	2017-11-30	Glacial Processes and Landscape Evolution 2			Marked Iclicker Test Five

## The Helpful and Legal Stuff

### ◆ Intellectual Property

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, TA, and/or the University of Waterloo. Intellectual property includes items such as:

- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
- Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams); and
- Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student's educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner's permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA and/or the University of Waterloo for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository).

Permission from an instructor, TA or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights.

Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).

### ◆ Academic Integrity:

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. The University's guiding principles on academic integrity can be found here: <http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity>. ENV students are strongly encouraged to review the material provided by the university's Academic Integrity office specifically for students: <http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/Students/index.html>

Students are also expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their actions. Students who are unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who need help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. Students may also complete the following tutorial:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/library/get-assignment-and-research-help/academic-integrity/academic-integrity-tutorial>

When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses

and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline: <https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>. Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance: <https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>

◆ Note for students with disabilities: AccessAbility Services, located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

◆ Mental Health: The University of Waterloo, the Faculty of Environment and our Departments/Schools consider students' well-being to be extremely important. We recognize that throughout the term students may face health challenges - physical and / or emotional. Please note that help is available. Mental health is a serious issue for everyone and can affect your ability to do your best work. Counselling Services <http://www.uwaterloo.ca/counselling-services> is an inclusive, non-judgmental, and confidential space for anyone to seek support. They offer confidential counselling for a variety of areas including anxiety, stress management, depression, grief, substance use, sexuality, relationship issues, and much more.

◆ Religious Observances: Students need to inform the instructor at the beginning of term if special accommodation needs to be made for religious observances that are not otherwise accounted for in the scheduling of classes and assignments.

◆ Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. See Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm). When in doubt please contact your Undergraduate Advisor for details.

◆ Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 – (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals) [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm)

◆ Unclaimed assignments:

Unclaimed assignments will be retained for ... [period of time\*; or: “until one month after term grades become official in quest”]. After that time, they will be destroyed in compliance with UW’s [confidential shredding procedures](#).

◆ Communications with Instructor and Teaching Assistants:

All communication with students must be through either the student’s University of Waterloo email account or via Learn. If a student emails the instructor or TA from a

personal account they will be requested to resend the email using their personal University of Waterloo email account.

**◆Recording lectures:**

- Use of recording devices during lectures is only allowed with explicit permission of the instructor of the course.
- If allowed, video recordings may only include images of the instructor and not fellow classmates.
- Posting of videos or links to the video to any website, including but not limited to social media sites such as: facebook, twitter, etc., is strictly prohibited.

**◆Co-op interviews and class attendance:** Co-op students are encouraged to try and choose interview time slots that result in the least amount of disruption to class schedules. When this is challenging, or not possible, a student may miss a portion of a class meeting for an interview. Instructors are asked for leniency in these situations; but, a co-op interview does not relieve the student of any requirements associated with that class meeting.

When a co-op interview conflicts with an in-class evaluation mechanism (e.g., test, quiz, presentation, critique), class attendance takes precedence and the onus is on the student to reschedule the interview. CECA provides an interview conflict procedure to manage these situations.

Students will be required to provide copies of their interview schedules (they may be printed from WaterlooWorks) should there be a need to verify class absence due to co-op interviews.