

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

Fall 2016
TR: 11:30 AM-1:00 pm
Lecture Room: DC room 1352

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

Note: Classes begin on September 8

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 go beyond the idea that physical geography is knowledge of the names of landforms, and try to understand the formative processes, and how they have significance for human habitation of the planet. The names are the vocabulary. In this course we try to construct the syntax of physical geography. In the first lecture, an overview of the course is presented and these geographical concepts are introduced.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: 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.

COURSE TEXTBOOK:

Christopherson, Robert W., Ginger H. Birkeland, Mary-Louise Byrne, Philip T. Giles, 2015, **Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography, 4th 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.

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 accepted based upon my judgment of the situation.

Note the following for essay substitutions:

Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin or similar) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all materials and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course. For further information on UW's Turnitin guidelines, see: <https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-waterloo-faculty/turnitin-waterloo>

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 one trial Iclicker that is not worth any marks to test your Iclicker.

The 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 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/clickers/common-i-clicker-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 2016***

Week #	Date	Topic	Readings (pages in Text, 4th edition)	Iclicker Test
1	2016-09-08	Introduction to the Course.		
2	2016-09-13	Earth Systems Concepts	5-20	
	2016-09-15	Climate Energy and the Seasons 1	43-63	Trial Iclicker Test
3	2016-09-20	Climate Energy and the Seasons 2		
	2016-09-22	Climate Energy and the Seasons 3	91-113	Iclicker Test One
4	2016-09-27	Climate Energy and the Seasons 4		
	2016-09-29	<i>Video: THIN ICE: The Inside Story of Climate Science</i>		
5	2016-10-05	In Class Mid-Term TEST ONE		
	2016-10-06	Atmospheric Temperature Moisture and Precipitation 1	117-141, 181-205	
6	2016-10-11	Study Day		
	2016-10-13	Moisture and Precipitation 2		Iclicker Test Two
7	2016-10-18	Weather Patterns 1	209-226	
	2016-10-20	Weather Patterns 2		

8	2016-10-25 2016-10-27	<i>Video: Amazing Planet</i> Earth's Composition, and Plate Tectonics 1	347-381	
9	2016-11-01 2016-11-03	Earth's Composition, and Plate Tectonics 2 Earth's Composition, and Plate Tectonics 3	394-421	Iclicker Test Three
10	2016-11-08 2016-11-10	<i>Video: An Ocean of Volcanoes</i> In Class Mid-Term TEST TWO		
11	2016-11-15 2016-11-17	Fluvial Processes & Landforms 1 Fluvial Processes & Landforms 2	453-489	Iclicker Test Four
12	2016-11-22 2016-11-24	Fluvial Processes & Landforms 3 Glacial and Periglacial Environments 1	553-567	
13	2016-11-29 2016-12-01	Glacial and Periglacial Environments 2 Glacial and Periglacial Environments 3		Iclicker Test Five

The Helpful and Legal Stuff

◆ Unclaimed assignments:

Unclaimed assignments and tests will be retained 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.

◆ **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. www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/. There will be no group work in this class.

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs 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. 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,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>

Within ENV, those committing academic offences (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) will be placed on disciplinary probation and will be subject to penalties which may include a grade of 0 on affected course elements, 0 on the course, suspension, and expulsion.

Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>

◆ Students who are unsure what constitutes an academic offence are requested to visit the on-line tutorial at <http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/ait/>

◆ **Research Ethics:** Please also note that the ‘University of Waterloo requires all research conducted by its students, staff, and faculty which involves humans as participants to undergo prior ethics review and clearance through the Director, Office of Human Research and Animal Care (Office). The ethics review and clearance processes are intended to ensure that projects comply with the Office’s Guidelines for Research with Human Participants (Guidelines) as well as those of provincial and federal agencies, and that the safety, rights and welfare of participants are adequately protected. The Guidelines inform researchers about ethical issues and procedures which are of concern when conducting research with humans (e.g. confidentiality, risks and benefits, informed consent process, etc.). If the development of your research proposal consists of research that involves humans as participants, the please contact the course instructor for guidance and see <http://iris.uwaterloo.ca/ethics/>

◆ **Note for students with disabilities:** The AccessAbility Office located in Needles Hall extension room NH 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 the AccessAbility Office at the beginning of each academic term.

◆ **Mental Health:** The University of Waterloo, the Faculty of Environment and our Departments 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:** Student needs 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. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, 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