GEOG 205

The course: Geomorphology is the study (-ology) of the form (morphos) of the earth (geo). Since the earth is shaped by physical, chemical, and biological processes, geomorphology is a broad and interdisciplinary field. The principles of geomorphology thus have roots in physics, mathematics, environmental sciences, and social sciences. Principles of geomorphology are critical to those in various fields within geography, geology, and earth and environmental sciences.

This course will provide students with an understanding of the driving forces behind processes that shape the earth. Students will be able to identify features on the earth using modern methods and tools and will understand the ways in which geomorphologists measure rates and patterns of landscape change. Students will be able to understand both the "big picture" view of landscape evolution and the specifics of a suite of processes and landforms including hillslopes, soil, rivers, coasts, glaciers, and more.

How it's moved online: All lecture content with be asynchronous on LEARN – students can view and interact with lecture material at their own pace. Lecture content will consist of weekly slide presentations uploaded to LEARN, with a series of short (max 15 minute) voice-over narrations by the instructor which cover the material presented on for each week.

The instructional team and students will actively communicate on forums. Students will be encouraged to ask questions, leave comments, and get to know their colleagues and the instructional team using these forums. Forums will also be used to emulate participation, which ensures students are keeping pace with the course content and successfully adapt to the asynchronous nature of the course.

Laboratory content will be delivered asynchronously online – students will be able to complete their lab assignments any time before the due date. The online tools and methods that will be used are either hosted online (and thus do not require software) or use free, easily available tools that can be run directly from students' machines. Every attempt will be made to ensure students have appropriate and timely access to these resources.

Additional voice-over narrations, videos, or other content will be added at the instructor's discretion. Examples include extra clarification, discussion of common questions, links to relevant current events or geomorphology in the news, and comments specific to lab content. While the course has no synchronous sessions, the instructional team will have regular online office hours.