

**Peru State College
Geography 101
Physical Geography
Fall 2009**

Credit Hours: 3

Meeting Time: Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 6:30 P.M.

Location: T.J. Majors 114N

Instructor: Robert West

Home Phone: 402-852-2746

Office Phone: 402-852-2988

Email: bwest@esu6.org

Address: 508 15th
Pawnee City, NE. 68420

COURSE OBJECTIVE/ORGANIZATION

The purpose of this course is to provide you with an introductory geographical study of our earth and how its features affect man. The earth itself is very complex but through this course I will attempt to help the student understand how the environment affects us as well as how we ourselves affect the environment.

The classroom format will be built around lectures, assigned readings, visual aids, discussion, exams and quizzes. It is essential that you complete the assigned readings both from the text and outside materials provided as the information from the lectures depend on an understanding of these materials. The exams will come from the lectures and assigned readings. They are both essential to your ability to pass the course and most important, to your understanding of the subject matter.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. *Academic Requirements:* All tests are primarily essay in nature. There will be two major essay exams and one outside project given during the course of the semester. In addition, weekly quizzes over lecture material or video material will be given. Make up exams are at the discretion of the instructor and arrangements for make ups are the responsibility of the student.
 - a. Outside Project: Each student will select a physical feature of interest, describe its features, its origins, its effect on flora and fauna, its relationship to man and where it may be found elsewhere in the world. Sources should come from Geographical magazines, books, internet, or news articles and listed in your paper. Notice I haven't placed a limit on the number of pages, as this should be a topic you would generate an interest in and thus the limit of pages would be a moot subject.
2. *Administrative Requirements:* Attendance is expected. The course relies heavily on class

lectures, and tests are geared closely to the content of the lectures. Missed classes will adversely affect your ability to do well on the test and attendance will be given consideration in arriving at a final grade. If a student cannot make it to class, they would be expected to contact me prior to class. Regardless of the reasons for absences, the student is solely responsible for any material covered in the class from which he/she was absent.

TEXT/COURSE MATERIALS

Physical Geography

Eighth Edition

Author: McKnight and Hess

TOPICS

Where is Earth's relationship with the Universe and the Solar System?

How do various types of maps assist us?

What is the make-up of the Earth's atmosphere?

What is weather and how does it influence the Earth?

How does the Earth influence weather?

List and explain the Earth's climates.

What are the three types of rocks and how are they formed?

What is Lithification and how does it function in the Earth's formation?

What is Volcanism?

What is the importance of plate tectonics?

What is Diastrophism?

How does erosion change the face of the Earth?

What caused the Glaciers and how did they change the world?

Incomplete Coursework:

“To designate a student's work in a course as incomplete at the end of a term, instructors record the incomplete grade (I). Students may receive this grade only when serious illness, hardship, death in the immediate family, or military service during the semester in which they are registered prevents them from completing course requirements. In addition, to receive an incomplete, a student must have completed a majority of the course's major requirements. Unless extenuating circumstances dictate otherwise, students must initiate requests for an incomplete by filling an Incomplete Grade Contract, which requires the student and faculty signature.

The Incomplete Grade Completion Contract cites the reason(s) for the incomplete and details the specific obligations the student must meet to change the incomplete to a letter grade. If students agree to complete required work prior to the normal deadline for making up an incomplete – the end of the subsequent semester – this date must appear in the contract. The dean, the instructor, and the student receive signed copies of the incomplete Grade Completion Contract. Even if the student does not attend Peru State College, all incomplete course work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester. Unless Faculty Senate approves an extension, if the student does not fulfill contract obligations in the allotted time, the incomplete grade automatically

becomes an F. Students who have filed an application for graduation are not eligible for a grade of Incomplete.” (PSC College Catalog, 73)

Accommodation Statement:

“The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (public law 93-112) section 504, provides that ‘no otherwise qualified disabled individual in the United States...shall solely by reason...disabled, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or by subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.’” (PSC College Catalog, 58) It is the student’s responsibility to notify the institution of any special circumstances that would affect his/her ability to compete equally in the college environment. Learning disabilities must be appropriately documented. While students are encouraged to self-identify at the earliest possible time, students may not know or choose to self-identify, but can still receive services at any time once they self-disclose and document. Students should contact the office of Student Support Services, Vice President for Student Affairs or the Director of Admissions for further advisement.

Academic Dishonesty:

“Academic integrity is a basic principle that requires the student to take credit only for ideas and efforts that are his/her own. Cheating is defined as the submission of materials in assignments, exams, or other academic work that is based on sources prohibited by the faculty member. Cheating shall include, but is not limited to, situations in which a student:

1. Refers during an academic evaluation to material sources not authorized by the faculty member.
2. Utilizes devices during an academic evaluation that are not authorized by the faculty member.
3. Provides assistance to another student or receives assistance from another student during an academic evaluation in a manner no authorized by the faculty member.
4. Presents as his/her own the ideas or words of another person without the customary and proper acknowledgement of sources.
5. Knowingly permits his/her words to be submitted by another person without the faculty member’s permission.
6. Acts as a substitute or utilizes a substitute in any academic evaluation.
7. Fabricates data in support of laboratory or fieldwork.
8. Possesses, buys, sells, obtains, or uses a copy of any materials intended to be used as an instrument of academic evaluation in advance of its administration.
9. Alters grade records of his/her own or another student work in a course or a component of a course.” (PSC College Catalog, 74-75)