

GGG102 Fall 2018

Physical Geography

<http://estc.gmu.edu/Course/GGS102-18/>

Course Information:

Title: GGS102 Physical Geography

CRN: 73510

Time: 10:30 -11:45 AM, Mondays and Wednesdays, 08/27-12/19/2018

Classroom location: Planetary Hall 131

Instructor: [Prof. John J. Qu](#) , TA -[Manqi Li](#)

Telephone: (703) 993-3958

E-mail: jqu@gmu.edu and mli14@gmu.edu

Office: Room 2412, Building: Exploratory Hall

Office Hour: Stop by 1:30—3:30PM Mondays and Wednesdays or make appointment

Course Description:

This is an introductory course to physical geography. This course will introduce the students to the basic concepts and fundamentals of the Earth system. The course will cover earth-sun relations, weather, climate, soils, vegetation, geology, and landforms; and introduce the students to types and uses of maps. Physical characteristics of the Earth system and “Earth from Space” will be the focuses. Through this Mason natural science core course, students explore new ideas, engage in inquiry and experiential learning, and learn how to integrate this learning into their chosen major and beyond. It will incorporate the diverse of Google Earth.

Prerequisites

There are no formal prerequisites.

Final project:

The description of the individual Final Project can be discussed in the classroom.

Grading:

Grades will be based upon your performance on the homework exercises, tests/g midterm, class attendance and final term paper and presentation. The weighted contribution of each of these items to your final grade is given below:

Homework 10%

Tests/quizzes 15%

Midterm 20%

Final exam: 30%

Final Project 20%

Class attendance and discussions 5%

(A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, F=<60)

Textbook:

Required Textbook:

Introducing Physical Geography, Alan Strahler, Wiley, 6th Editions

Detailed Schedule

Week one 08/27, 08/29	Introduction and Chapter 1
Week two 08/28, 09/03	Chapter 2 and Chapter 3
Week three 09/05, 09/10	Chapter 4 and Chapter 5
Week four 09/12, 09/17	Chapter 6 and Chapter 7
Week five 09/24, 09/26	Chapter 8 and Chapter 9
Week six 10/01, 10/03	Independent reading and Mid-term
Week seven 10/08, 10/10	Chapter 10 and Chapter 11
Week eight 10/15, 10/24	Chapter 12 and Preparing final group project
Week nine 10/29, 10/31	Chapter 13 and Chapter 14
Week ten 11/05, 11/07	Chapter 15 and Chapter 16
Week eleven 11/12, 11/14	Chapter 17 and Guest speaker
Week twelve 11/19, 11/21	Preparing final group project and Thanksgiving Break
Week thirteen 11/26, 11/28	Final Group Project Presentations
Week fourteen 12/03,12/05	Reviewing and independent reading
Week fifteen 12/10	Final Exam
Week fifteen 12/12	Final group project papers (due date)