Course Information
Division: Science/Math
Contact Hours: 60
Total Credits: 4

Prerequisites: English 090 and Reading 090 and MATH 090 or qualifying score on accepted placement tests.

Course Description
Physical Geography is an exploration of Earth’s major systems, including: hydrosphere, biosphere, atmosphere, and lithosphere with a focus on the spatial characteristics and inter-connectedness of these systems. This course will examine these different systems through an introduction to geology, geomorphology, soils, hydrology, climatology, meteorology, ecology, and biogeography, and will look closely at how these systems interact with people and society.

Course Outcomes
In order to evidence success in this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the major concepts related to the four spheres of the Natural environment (atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere) and their interactions
2. Explain the fundamental cause of seasons on Earth based on the relationship between the Earth and the Sun
3. Identify and articulate absolute and relative locations, distances, and elevations of places using coordinate systems and topographic maps.
4. Identify and explain the causes and patterns of oceanic and atmospheric circulation and how these relate to the weather and climate distribution on the earth.
5. Identify and describe physical features and landscapes occurring on the Earth in a spatial and temporal reference frame and explain their significance associated with the physical and geophysical processes.
6. Demonstrate basic scientific writing and research skills.

Date Updated: 1/12/2024 By: Hans N. Lechner