Course Information

Course Description

Geomorphology is the study of physical, chemical, and biological processes that occur on the surface of a planetary body. This course focuses on the origin, development and relationship of landforms created by fluvial, glacial, aeolian, and karst processes.

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

None

Prerequisite Skills

Accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, and Google Earth

It is expected that you have a strong general knowledge of physical geology: rock types and descriptions, geologic processes, and plate tectonics. These topics will be reinforced in this course.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Develop a strong understanding of the linkages between landscape form and process
- Familiarity and experience applying fundamental concepts in physical systems
- Experience collecting and analyzing field data
• Develop scientific reading and writing skills
• Understand the connection between humans and landscapes
• Experience working in groups

Course Delivery

This is a face-to-face course with learning resources and supplemental materials posted in Blackboard.

Adjustments to the schedule and assignments will be made if the semester is moved to online only.

The lectures will be recorded and streamed live via Blackboard Collaborate. The videos will not be posted to the Blackboard content area, since they are available through the Collaborate link. If you must miss class due to sickness or quarantine, you will be responsible for the material presented in the lectures, and paying attention to assignments posted in Blackboard.

How will class attendance work?
• You are required to have completed the health screening prior to attending lecture. If you are flagged as potentially having COVID you will not be allowed to attend class in-person.
• You will be required to wear face masks and maintain a 6 ft distance from others in class at all times.
• You will be required to sanitize your work station.
• NOTE: You are NOT automatically dropped if you stop attending class. So, if you want to drop the class you must do it through Ramport.

What if I’m sick?
• If you are sick (with anything, not just COVID), you are required to stay home. Rest, relax, and drink plenty of fluids.
• I WILL require a note from a doctor stating that you were ill when you are able to return to lab. You can get this from your regular doctor or from the ASU Health Clinic.
• Please email me to let me know if you aren’t feeling well so that we can make arrangements.

What if I have a pre-existing condition or simply don’t feel safe attending in-person classes?
• Please talk to me before considering taking this class entirely remotely.
  ○ I will accommodate those who have letters from the Student Affairs office.
CLASS SETTING

• All persons must complete wellness self-screening prior to entering the classroom
• Face coverings are required for students in the classroom
• Faculty may opt to remove their face covering while lecturing, provided they remain at least 6 ft away from all students
• Surfaces (tables and chairs) will be wiped down by students prior to use
• The classroom seating arrangement should allow 6 ft separation between persons
• Seating charts must be used for contact tracing purposes
• Attendance must be taken each class meeting for contact tracing purposes

Required Texts and Materials
All material will be posted in Blackboard. The textbook is available as a pdf in Blackboard. I expect you to follow along in the textbook.

Technology Requirements
All resources for this course will be made available in Blackboard. I will be available to meet via Collaborate, and the lectures will be recorded and saved in Collaborate. It is your responsibility to keep up with Blackboard; make it a habit to check it daily.

CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES
You may use a laptop or tablet to take notes during class. Please do not disturb others with their use. Please keep all electronics on vibrate or on silence. The use of any electronic device not authorized by the instructor during a test may result in the forfeiture of your grade for that test. All electronic devices should be turned off and stored out of sight during tests.

Communication
Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

**Written communication via email:** All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

**Virtual communication:** Office hours may be done in-person or on Collaborate.
Life Happens Clause

Life happens to all of us. Despite our best efforts, some days nothing seems to go right. Your car breaks down on the way to school, you run out of the house without something and have to go back despite the fact that you were already running late, your boss calls you into work, or your child is sick and you have to go pick them up from daycare/school. Or you get so overwhelmed that everything seems too much to deal with.

If this happens to you, please email me. We will figure out what to do to keep you on track in the course. Whether that means extra tutoring sessions, deadline extensions, or something else. Please don't suffer in silence. I want to help out, you just need to let me know what is going on.

Grading

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework/In-class Activities</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Field Trip &amp; Project</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karst Project</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (cumulative)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Grading System

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 90.00-100 points
- B = 80.00-89.99 points
- C = 70.00-79.99 points
- D = 60.00-69.99 points
- F = 0-59.99 points (Grades may be rounded up)
Assignment and Activity Descriptions
This course will combine elements of a traditional geomorphology lab course within the lecture. We will inspect and analyze topographic maps and aerial photos to describe and identify landforms and geomorphic processes. These activities will account for 35% of your final grade. Journals will be submitted on Blackboard, reinforce material from the lectures or academic journals, and will account for 15% of your final grade.

There will be one mandatory field trip, on the weekend of 3/20 and 3/21. The field trip will run on both days; you get to pick which day works for your schedule. You can attend on both days if you wish to spend more time in the field. You are responsible for your own travel to and from the location. We will continue to follow all COVID-19 safety protocols while in the field. This field trip will culminate with a report and follow-up questions.

The karst project will include a presentation of the assigned geologic region.

The final exam will be a traditional exam consisting of multiple choice and short answer questions.

Late Work Policy
Late work will be accepted, with deductions of 5% for every class period the assignment is late.

General Policies Related to This Course
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook ¹
- Angelo State University Catalog ²

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university's Statement of Academic Integrity. ³
Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

Any suspicions of plagiarism will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize
or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.7

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day8 for more information.

**Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students**
As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy10 to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**
The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.
Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Miller, J.D.
Special Assistant to the President and Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-486-6357
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Modifications to the Syllabus
This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic may require significant changes in course delivery and content on potentially short notice.

Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Projects/Exams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: 1/25 – 1/29</td>
<td>Topographic maps, aerial photos, and what is geomorphology</td>
<td>Pgs 3 - 24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: 2/1 – 2/5</td>
<td>Weathering: Physical and Chemical</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3: 2/8 – 2/12</td>
<td>Soils</td>
<td>Handout on BB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4: 2/15 – 2/19</td>
<td>Fluvial landscapes</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5: 2/22 – 2/26</td>
<td>Fluvial Landscapes</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6: 3/1 – 3/5</td>
<td>Engineering: Hillslopes and Mass Wasting</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7: 3/8 – 3/12</td>
<td>Engineering: Stress and Strain</td>
<td>Handout on BB</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Handouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/22 – 3/26</td>
<td>Engineering Project</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3/29 – 4/2</td>
<td>Glacial, glaciofluvial, and periglacial landscapes (4/2 no class)</td>
<td>Chapters 10 and 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4/5 – 4/9</td>
<td>Karst</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>4/12 – 4/16</td>
<td>Coastal processes</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4/19 – 4/23</td>
<td>Karst Project Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>4/26 – 4/30</td>
<td>Aeolian landscapes</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>5/3 – 5/7</td>
<td>Quaternary Climate Changes and Ice Ages</td>
<td>Handout on BB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>5/10 – 5/14</td>
<td>Final Exam on 5/12 10:30 – 12:30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. [https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/)
2. [https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/](https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/)
4. [https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/)
5. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)
7. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14207-op-1017-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14207-op-1017-grading-procedures)
8. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)