

GEOG 1301: Physical Geography
GEOG 1101: Physical Geography Lab
Spring 2022

Angelo State University
Dr. Arnoldo De León Department of History

Instructor

Rob Briwa (he/him/his) | Office: Academic 210G | rbriwa@angelo.edu

Course details

GEOG 1301 Lecture Section 010 | A 225 | MWF | 10:00 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.

GEOG 1101 Lab Section 01Z | Classroom: CAV 031 | Tuesday | 3:30 p.m. to 5:20 p.m.

Course materials

This course makes use of an Open Educational Resource (OER) as textbook and reference. It is available here: <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/geophysical/>.

Other readings will be made available on Blackboard, and I have further resources available in my office upon request.

Office hours

Briwa | Mondays 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. | Wednesdays 11 a.m. to noon | Other times by e-mail appointment.

Course description

Geography is a broad discipline, with human and physical dimensions. In the broadest sense, physical geography examines the spatial characteristics of relationships and interactions between the physical makeup of Earth (lithosphere), the kinds of life upon it (biosphere), its varied bodies of water and hydrological processes (hydrosphere), frozen reaches (cryosphere), and the fragile ribbon of gases between us and the void of space (atmosphere). GEOG 1301 and GEOG 1101 are designed to introduce the complexities of Earth processes through the lenses of climate and landscape. My fundamental hope is you will recognize how these processes operate on a variety of geographic scales—including locality, region, and globe—and appreciate the relevancy of physical geography to everyday life. GEOG 1301: Physical Geography also incorporates a required Laboratory Section (GEOG 1101) that meets Tuesdays, 3:30 to 5:20, in CAV 031. Your performance in this lab is essential to success to GEOG 1301.

Learning goals

Upon completion of this course, students should have achieved the following goals:

- Gain a basic understanding of processes and interactions between the Earth's lithosphere, biosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and cryosphere and the systems and processes at work within these zones;

- Acquire fundamental knowledge about the distribution of Earth's major landforms, rivers, and physiographic regions;
- Learn the language and theory underlying physical geography and its cognate disciplines;
- Appreciate the value of geographical thinking to everyday life.

You are not alone

Diminished mental health, including significant stress, mood changes, excessive worry, or problems with eating and/or sleeping can interfere with your learning experience. So, too, can problems with relationships, family worries, loss, or a personal struggle or crisis. It's OK to experience difficulty, and it's OK to reach out for help.

Students' mental and physical well-being are my utmost concerns. I encourage you to explore and make use of health services available to students. The University Health Clinic is based in the [University Sports Medicine Clinic, Shannon Clinic - Jackson](#). The Health Clinic provides confidential services to ASU students *who have paid the current Medical Services Fee*. Students who are registered, attending classes, and have paid the medical services fee have access to unlimited visits to all [Shannon Urgent Care locations](#) for Basic Medical Care by board certified healthcare providers at no additional cost.

Similarly, ASU Counseling Services provides short-term therapy to ASU students. Whether you are suffering from issues like depression, anxiety, adjustment issues, relationship problems, academic concerns, emergencies, or trauma, ASU Counseling Services are there to help. Appointments can be made by calling [325-942-2371](tel:325-942-2371) or visiting [Counseling Services](#), at 1901 Johnson St, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

You are not alone in navigating this semester. **I am a resource for you.**

Evaluation

Your performance is evaluated by projects, quizzes, and laboratory assignments. There are a possible **450 points** for this course (not including extra credit points). Total points are tentative and subject to change, but I do not curve project scores or course point totals. Extra credit is not available on an individual basis.

Grades are not discussed over email, utilize office hours or schedule an appointment.

Grade Thresholds

- A: 405 or more points
- B: 360-404 points
- C: 315-359 points
- D: 270-314 points
- F: Under 270 points

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.

Quizzes (100 points): 5 @ 20 points each

GEOG 1301/1101 is a content-heavy course, and one of the best ways of learning course materials is by remaining engaged with them! To incentivize student engagement with course materials, you will be required to take five quizzes over the course of the semester. These quizzes will take diverse forms (i.e., multiple choice, short answer, or data interpretation), but the weeks during which they are distributed are listed in the course schedule below. Further details about the format and content of quizzes will be discussed in class.

Physical Geography and the Humanities Project (50 points): 1 @ 50 points

Students enrolled in GEOG 1301/1101 hail from diverse academic backgrounds, many of which fall outside the arena of the physical sciences. This project will require you to think about Physical Geography's relationship to the humanities, broadly defined, and I will require you create an original artistic work (short story, poem, painting, song, sculpture, video performance, film, etc.) that reflects core ideas in Physical Geography. I will provide further details and guidelines on Blackboard and in-class!

Map Quizzes (100 points): 4 @ 25 points each

Our world is a rich mosaic of diverse landforms and physical features, and success in Physical Geography hinges upon understanding the spatial distribution of geographic phenomena across the surface of the Earth. You will be required to identify locations of selected geographic phenomena (seas, mountain ranges, plains, rivers, major lakes) across the Earth's surface for North and South America (Quiz 1 and 2) and Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Oceania (Quiz 3 and 4). These quizzes are open book. Further details on Quiz materials and format will be provided in class.

Lab Assignments (200 points): 8 @ 25 points each

Laboratory exercises and activities are an integral part of GEOG 1301/1101: Physical Geography. You are expected to come to lab sessions prepared to complete all lab activities within the time period allotted. I provide further information about specific labs in their corresponding lab meetings. Some Lab periods will be used as an expanded lecture or other class-based activity. **Unless otherwise specified, Labs are due 1 week from their distribution.**

Extra Credit (25 points): Up to 25 points (Variable @ variable points each)

A primary means through which students learn is through attending class, taking notes, and engaging with classroom materials. To incentivize classroom attendance and note taking, I will randomly distribute in-class, open-book pop 'quizzes.' These quizzes will take various forms and range in their points value, but if successfully completed they may contribute up to 25 extra

credit points to your overall grade. **You cannot make up a pop-quiz if you are absent the day it is distributed.** There may be other extra credit opportunities as the semester continues; should this arise, I will announce these opportunities in class and on Blackboard.

I also reserve the right to implement a course curve (for all students) at the end of the semester in order to account for any structural biases that may have made the course unfairly difficult.

Missed assignments and late assignments

Any late work submitted will receive a 5% deduction for each day late prior to grading (which may then result in further deductions depending on the submission's quality), but I will still offer written comments on the submitted work. Any work submitted 5 days after the due date will accrue a 20% deduction, and I reserve the right to offer no comments.

Extensions are given only in cases where a valid/verifiable absence **has been approved at least 24 hours in advance** of the due date (e.g., serious illness, a University-approved event). In the case of an excused absence without prior arrangements, you must notify me within 48 hours of the scheduled due date.

Course policies and procedures

Disruptive behavior

I define disruptive behavior as behavior that interferes with the learning environment of your peers. This includes talking out of turn during lecture, as well as personal use of digital communication devices during lecture including, but not limited to: text, instant or email messaging, social media, and web browsing. Disruptive students will be ejected from the class at my discretion, according to University policy, and will be given an unexcused absence regarding any missed coursework. All electronic devices must be switched off during class and headphones/ear-buds removed!

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 Arts and Humanities adheres to the Statement of [Academic Integrity](#).

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. 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 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 via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#). **When in doubt—ask me in advance of submission!**

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Student Disability Services

Angelo State University and the Department of History are 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 at www.angelo.edu/ADA. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

[Ms. Dallas A. Swafford](#)

Director of Student Disability Services

325-942-2047

dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

[Houston Harte University Center](#) 112

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University and the Department of History are committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. 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. This is done in order to connect students with resources and options in addressing the allegations reported. As a student, you are encouraged to report any

incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator. You may do so by contacting:

Michelle Miller, J.D.

Title IX Coordinator

Mayer Administration Building, Room 210 325-942-2022

michelle.miller@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 at 325-942-2171, Counseling Services at 325-942-2371** or the **ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345**.

The Office of Title IX Compliance also provides accommodations related to pregnancy (such as communicating with your professors regarding medically necessary absences, modifications required because of pregnancy, etc.). If you are pregnant and need assistance or accommodations, please contact the Office of Title IX Compliance utilizing the information above. For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Student Absence for the Observance of Religious Holidays

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 Day](#) for more information.

Diversity and Inclusivity Statement

I acknowledge Angelo State University is located on the original homelands of Indigenous peoples, and their rich history is central to our commitment to learn from the past. I value human diversity in all its complex forms, and I respect the value of every person in this class. Everyone in class is encouraged to share their unique perspective as an individual, and not as representative of any category.

Furthermore, multicultural and intercultural awareness and competencies are key skills we must cultivate to create a safe environment defined by equity, participation, and empathy for others, as well as to develop the leadership skills that enable us to stand up against injustices experienced by marginalized individuals. To help develop these competencies and in keeping with Angelo State University's Values Journey, I intend to present material and classroom activities that celebrate diversity of thought, background, and experience.

Higher education is most useful when it challenges assumptions and provides new and sometimes uncomfortable ways of looking at issues. If you feel uncomfortable regarding content or perspectives presented in this course, I encourage you to contact me immediately so we can discuss those feelings. Your perspectives on course materials and diversity and inclusion matter to me, and I encourage you to share those as well.

I would prefer to use your preferred language when addressing you, so please let me know if your preferred name differs from what I am using. Similarly, please let me know your preferred gender pronouns.

Course schedule (Tentative and subject to revision. All revisions explicitly announced in class and announced on Blackboard.)

Week	Day	Topic(s) / In-class Quizzes	Reading / Take-home Assessments
1 st	--	Lab 3:30 – 5:20 Essentials of Geography, Earth Systems Concepts Portraying Earth	Scientific and Geographic Inquiry Geographic Grid System
	1/18/2022		
	1/19/2022		
	1/21/2022		
2 nd	1/24/2022	Introduction to the Atmosphere Lab 3:30 – 5:20 Insolation and Temperature I and II Quiz	The Atmosphere: Introduction through Heat Transfer
	1/25/2022		
	1/26/2022		
	1/28/2022		
3 rd	1/31/2022	Lab 3:30 – 5:20 Atmospheric Pressure and Wind I and II	The Atmosphere: Movements and Flow through Jet Streams Map Quiz 1
	2/1/2022		
	2/2/2022		
	2/4/2022		
4 th	2/7/2022	Lab 3:30 – 5:20 Atmospheric Moisture	Weather Processes and Systems: Introduction through Weather Front
	2/8/2022		
	2/9/2022		
	2/11/2022		
5 th	2/14/2022	Lab 3 :30 – 5:20 Atmospheric Disturbances Quiz	Weather Processes and Systems: Thunderstorms through Collecting Weather Data
	2/15/2022		
	2/16/2022		
	2/18/2022		
6 th	2/21/2022	Lab 3:30 – 5:20 Global Climate Systems, Biospheres, and Change I and II	Climate Systems and Change: Introduction through Highland Climates Map Quiz 2
	2/22/2022		
	2/23/2022		
	2/25/2022		

7 th	2/28/2022	<p align="center">Lab 3:30 – 5:30</p> <p align="center">Global Climate Systems, Biospheres, and Change III and IV</p> <p align="center">Quiz</p>	Climate Systems and Change: Climate Change in History through Anthropogenic Change
	3/1/2022		Wallace-Wells (2020)
	3/3/2022		
	3/5/2022		
8 th	3/7/2022	<p align="center">Lab 3:30 – 5:20</p> <p align="center">Hydrosphere</p>	Earth's Fresh Water
	3/8/2022		<p align="center">Final Project Guidelines Distributed</p>
	3/9/2022		
	3/11/2022		
9 th	3/14/2022	<p align="center">Spring Break: No Class!</p>	
	3/15/2022		
	3/16/2022		
	3/18/2022		
10 th	3/21/2022	<p align="center">Lab 3:30 – 5:20</p> <p align="center">The Lithosphere and Plate Tectonics</p> <p align="center">Quiz</p>	Plate Tectonics.
	3/22/2022		
	3/23/2022		
	3/25/2022		
11 th	3/28/2022	<p align="center">Lab 3:30 – 5:20</p> <p align="center">Soils I and II</p>	Reichmann (1987)
	3/29/2022		<p align="center">Map Quiz 3</p>
	3/30/2022		
	4/1/2022		
12 th	4/4/2022	<p align="center">Lab 3:30 – 5:20</p> <p align="center">Weathering and Mass Wasting</p>	Weathering, Erosion, and Mass Wasting: Introduction to Subsidence.
	4/5/2022		
	4/6/2022		
	4/8/2022		
13 th	4/11/2022	<p align="center">Lab 3:30 – 5:20</p> <p align="center">Fluvial Geomorphology</p>	Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition: Erosion and Deposition by Streams.
	4/12/2022		
	4/13/2022		
	4/15/2022		
14 th	4/18/2022	<p align="center">Lab 3:30 to 5:20</p> <p align="center">Arid Lands</p>	Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition: Transport of Particles by Wind.
	4/19/2022		Sowell (2001)
	4/20/2022		<p align="center">Map Quiz 4</p>
	4/22/2022		
15 th	4/25/2022	<p align="center">Lab 3:30 – 5:20</p> <p align="center">Glacial Landforms</p> <p align="center">Quiz</p>	Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition: Formation and Movement of Glaciers.
	4/26/2022		Olstad (2020)
	4/27/2022		
	4/29/2022		

16 th	5/2/2022	Lab 3:30 – 5:20 Coastal Geography	Weathering, Erosion, and Mass Wasting: Wave Action and Erosion.
	5/3/2022		
	5/4/2022		
	5/6/2022		
Finals Week	5/9/2022	Final Exam Slot 10:30 – 12:30.	Final Project Due 5/6

I am happy to see you here in GEOG 1301/1101: Physical Geography. Welcome!!!