**SYLLABUS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Discipline</th>
<th>Geography</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Title</strong></td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Physical Geography</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Rubric and Number</strong></td>
<td><strong>GEOG 1301</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location and Meeting Days and Times</strong></td>
<td><strong>Southeast Campus, Room 308 Tuesday and Thursday- 1:00 to 2:30pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Semester Credit Hours (SCH)</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 SCH – Regular Term</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contact Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>48 Contact Hours</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Course Length</strong></td>
<td><strong>16 weeks</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of Instruction</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lecture and Web-Enhanced</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Instructor Contact Information</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bakama BakamaNume, PhD, Instructor</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Department of History, Economics and Philosophy</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>E-Mail Conferencing:</strong> <a href="mailto:bakama1@yahoo.com">bakama1@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instructor Office Location and Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>Campus: Southeast</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Office : N/A</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Office Hours:</strong> Before and After Class.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Course Description</strong></td>
<td><strong>The course examines basic science principles from meteorology, climatology, geomorphology, soil science, ecology, and biogeography. The objective is to understand the physical processes that shape the varied landscapes of the earth</strong></td>
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**CORE Requirements, Certificates, AA-Degree Plan, and Transfer Information**

**HCC CORE HUMANITIES or MULTICULTURAL AREAS**, or Elective. Fulfills general college requirement for various academic and professional four-year college majors. **DISCIPLINE NOTICE:** Students who are pursuing an HCC AA-degree plan are advised that except as noted, this course may not be used to satisfy any other HCC CORE requirement, though it may satisfy certain transfer institution college major requirements. Students who are in doubt about their enrollment in this course should immediately see an HCC academic counselor who can review his or her AA-degree plan.

**Prerequisites**

**Must be placed into college-level reading (or take Gust0342 as a co-requisite) and be placed into college-level writing (or take Engl 0310/0349 as a co-requisite).**
Course Goals

This course provides a practical, critical introduction to questions of how physical landscape is shaped (environmental process) and global environment. Traditional theoretical and contemporary views concerning the geological and climatic forces are examined. The goal is to help students understand the world around them and interpret what they see in a meaningful, accurate and exciting way.

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Students should be able to recognize the different landforms and climatic types and the processes that shaped them.

2. Interpret and Explain core environmental questions, concepts and terms that illustrate a comprehensive understanding of each.

3. Be able to understand and identify interactions and consequences between human activity and the environment.

4. Demonstrate the ability to understand the major world physical regions, and knowledge of physical processes.

Course Learning Objectives

1. Acquire a broad familiarity with the dynamics of physical processes.

2. Learn historically significant questions of the environment, definitions of special terms, and concepts of environment formation and change.

3. Cultivate reading comprehension of writings specific to physical geography.

4. Fulfill major requirements expected of introductory physical geography science college courses.

5. Articulate the relevance of physical geography to everyday life.

CORE Curriculum Competencies

This course stresses the HCC CORE Competencies of reading, writing, speaking, listening, critical thinking, and computer literacy.

Course Calendar

See Syllabus Course Calendar – It is intended to be a guide, not a straight-jacket. Updates and revisions will be given in class. Depending on class learning progress, your instructor reserves the right to either accelerate, or slow the completion of course curriculum per the Calendar tool.

Instructional Methods and Internet Component

This is a web-assisted lecture course that uses. Lecture notice, quizzes, and other
assignments will be e-mailed to you on your college email address. If you would like to receive the information on a different address, provide the address to the instructor.

Text Information:

Required Texts:

Recommended Additional Sources: Other readings on specific topics will be provided.

Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office, and to do so in a reasonable manner.

To visit the ADA Web site, log on to www.hccs.edu, click Future Students, then scroll down the page and click on the words Disability Information.

For questions, please contact Donna Price at 713.718.5165 or the Disability Counselor at your college.

District ADA Coordinator - Donna Price - 713.718.5165
Southeast ADA Counselor - - 713.718.7218

Academic Honesty

The pressure to earn high grades and belief that *a good end can justify any means whatsoever* leads many students to try cutting corners by resorting to less than honest methods. Do yourself a favor by avoiding that trap. The HCC *Student Handbook* lists cheating, plagiarism, and collusion as scholastic dishonesty. It defines *plagiarism* as "the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own written work offered for credit." It defines *collusion* as "the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work for credit." Work submitted for this course that is determined to be the result of either cheating, plagiarism, or collusion will earn a "0" for that assignment, and may cause the student to receive an "F" in the assignment. The student may receive an “I” for the course depending on stated requirements for the assignment and the weight it carries in determining your course grade. Students receiving an “I” for a course are ineligible for graduation until the “I” has been removed from a student’s transcript. Probation or dismissal from HCC and ALL its several colleges may also result. *See Student Handbook.*

Academic misconduct (See Student Handbook):
You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to college disciplinary procedures.

Forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.

2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.

3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.

4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else’s words, ideas, or data as one’s own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one’s own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic misconduct (See Student Handbook)
The college respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

Attendance and Withdrawal Policies

HCC Students are expected to attend class regularly. A daily record of absences will be maintained throughout the semester. NOTE: IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO DROP, OR OFFICIALLY WITHDRAW FROM THIS COURSE IF, FOR ANY REASON, THAT STUDENT IS NO LONGER ATTENDING. NEW RULES ARE IN EFFECT THAT GREATLY CHANGE HOW AND WHEN THAT CAN BE DONE. YOU WILL NOT BE WITHDRAWN FROM THIS COURSE BY YOUR PROFESSOR. FURTHERMORE, THERE ARE POSSIBLE PENALTIES OTHER THAN LOSING ONE'S PAID TUITION THAT EVERY STUDENT MUST CONSIDER CAREFULLY BEFORE WITHDRAWING. THESE INCLUDE:

(1) Students who repeat a course for a third, or more times, may face a significant tuition/fee increase at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities.

(2) The Texas Legislature passed a law limiting new students (those starting college in Fall 2007) to no more than six total course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. There may be future
penalties imposed.

(3) No student may withdraw from a course following the set "last date to withdraw", which for Spring 2011 is Thursday, March 18, 2011 at 4:30 pm. After that date and time, a student can only be given a grade earned, or an "I" for incomplete. Incompletes must be made up by the end of the following long semester, after which they will automatically change to a grade of "F". Your instructor will not withdraw you for non-attendance and will withdraw a student if and only if provided a written request from that student.

HCC Student Services Information

SOUTHEAST COLLEGE STUDENT SERVICES provides master’s and doctoral-level counseling for high-quality support services for the Northwest College student body. Counselors are available at each campus to assist students in creating class schedules, evaluating college transcripts and completing degree/certificate plans.

HCC Student Services Information (Continued)

STUDENT SERVICES LOCATIONS AND HOURS:
Southeast Campus (Angela Morales Bldg, 2004)
(713) 718-7580
8:30am–6:00pm Monday thru Thursday 9:00am–1:00pm Friday

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
http://southeast.hccs.edu/southeast/campus-services
EARLY ALERT: HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor will “alert” you through counselors of concerns that you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance.

ALL STUDENTS ARE ADVISED: Contact your professor/counselor about opportunities for private tutoring and other assistance prior to considering withdrawal, or if you are not receiving passing grades. There are many opportunities available to assure your success!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Receiving either a “W”, or “I” in a course may affect the status of your student Visa. Once a W is given for the course (after you have formally submitted a withdrawal form), it will not be changed to an F because of the visa consideration. An “I” does convert to an “F”, but only after six months have passed from the end of the term it was received. Please contact the International Student Office at 713-718-8520, if you have any questions about your visa status and other transfer issues.

Grading Components and Weights
This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and
proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

- **Exams** – multiples choice tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material
- **Exercises/quizzes** – multiple choice assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material
- **Project** – assignment designed to measure ability to apply presented course material
- **Class Participation** – daily attendance and participation in class discussions

4,000 Words (Required discussions, blogs, essays, exams)

### Grading Policy

#### Grading Matrix (points will vary according to instructor’s grading system)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Value (points or percentages)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10 quizzes at 20 points each</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>1 paper at 40 points each</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>2 test at 30 points each</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>1 projects at 30 points each</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation/ Discussion</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>400</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grade Determination:**
- A = 400 - 355pts;
- B = 354 – 305pts;
- C = 304 – 245pts;
- D = 244 – 205pts;
- F = 204 pts or below

### Submission of Assignments:

Assignments and projects must be handed in on the due date. The due date will be announced as the assignment is handed out or posted. A 10 percent deduction will be applied for each day the project/assignment is late.

*Students are to submit a hard and soft copy of their assignment/project.*

Students are responsible for materials covered in-class and online during their absences, and it is the student's responsibility to contact and consult with the instructor for make-up assignments. In addition, any student who is absent on posted exam dates should be prepared to schedule the make-up of missed examinations on the first day of returning to class. Make-up examinations are taken by appointment at the campus Testing Center. This scheduling cannot occur during class time. Any other assignments not turned in on time (due to absences) must also be either turned in, or scheduled for late submission on the first day of returning to class. Finally, there will be no extension of due dates and/or make-ups for Online Requirements. Except for a medical excuse or documented family or personal emergency, there is no exemption from these rules.

### Course Content

This is a course about the physical geography processes, formation of landforms, and changes in the environment. It presents an overview of Earth’s physical environment including climate, water, landforms, and ecosystems; processes that control these systems and their global distributions; human effects on these processes. Students must write at least 4,000 words during this course. The evaluation of written work adheres to the professional teaching standards of geography for content and correct grammar. Students are advised that computer knowledge, word processing skills, and data base learning and research skills are necessary to complete this course. Help is available for
students who lack these skills.

**Tutoring Information**

Limited face-to-face tutoring is available from the course instructor during office hours, or by appointment. In addition, all Geography students are encouraged to use HCC’s online tutoring system for help with any geography class. Questions submitted to the ASK queue will be answered within 24 hours – and usually much before that. Tutors are on duty 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Online tutors will not do homework for you, but they will guide you in the right direction. To maximize the effectiveness of the system, be specific when you ask questions, and let the tutor know what class you are taking. You will receive two responses – one from an English tutor and one from a philosophy tutor.

Registering for online tutoring is easy. Go to [www.hccs.askonline.net](http://www.hccs.askonline.net). Select a user name and password that you will remember. Use any e-mail address, and add your student ID number (W number). It will probably take five minutes to set up your Askonline account. After that, you can submit questions in seconds. Tutor responses are not e-mailed to you. To see the answers, log back in to the system and click the bright yellow NEW button.

Online tutoring is also available for accounting, history, government, chemistry, physics, biology, math, English, and papers in all disciplines.

### 16 WEEK CALENDAR

**Week One:** Topic
- The Earth as a Rotating Planet
  - Chapter 1
  - Chapter Quiz

**Week Two:** Topic
- The Earth’s Global Energy Balance
  - Chapter 2
  - Chapter Quiz
  - Paper handed out

**Week Three:** Topic
- Air Temperature
- Atmospheric Moisture and Precipitation
  - Chapters 3 and 4
  - Chapter quiz

**Week Four:** Topic
- Winds and Global Circulation
  - Chapter 5
  - Chapter Quiz
  - Test 1

**Week Five:** Topic
- Weather Systems
- Global Climates
  - Chapters 6 and 7
  - Chapter Quiz
Week Six: Topic Earth Materials and Plate Tectonics
Chapter (s): Chapter 8
Assignment (s): Chapter Quiz
Project handed out (Due in two weeks from the date handed out)

Week Seven: Topic Volcanic and Tectonic landforms
Chapter (s): Chapter 9
Assignment (s): Chapter Quiz

Week Eight: Topic Weathering and Mass Wasting
Chapter (s): Chapter 10
Assignment (s): Chapter quiz

Week Nine: Topic Fresh water of the Continents
Chapter (s): Chapters 11
Assignment (s): Chapter Quiz (Paper Due in three weeks)
Test 2

Week Ten: Topic Landforms Made by Running Water
Chapter (s): Chapters 12
Assignment (s): Chapter Quiz

Week Eleven: Topic Landforms Made by Waves and Wind
Chapter (s): Chapter 13
Assignment (s): Chapter Quiz

Week Twelve: Topic Glacial Landforms and the Ice Age
Chapter (s): Chapter 14
Assignment (s): Chapter quiz

Week Thirteen: Topic Global Soils
Chapter (s): Chapter 15
Assignment (s): Chapter Quiz

Week Fourteen Topic Biogeography Processes
Chapter (s): Global Biogeography
Assignment (s): Chapter 16 and 17
Week Fifteen: Review
Assignment (s): Chapter Quizzes
End of Course Final Exam (See http://www.hccs.edu/registrar)