



**Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Anthropology and Geography Department**

<http://learning.hccs.edu/programs/geography>

GEOG 1301: Physical Geography | Lecture | #12487

Summer 2 2020 | 5 Weeks (July 2020-August 2020)

Online | Alief-Hayes |

3 Credit Hours | 48 hours per semester

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor:	Estela Turbiville	Office Phone:	979-676-1321
Office:	Alief-Hayes Campus	Office Hours:	N/A
HCC Email:	estela.turbiville@hccs.edu	Office Location:	Alief-Hayes Campus

Preferred method of contact: Email

I will respond to all emails within two business days; I will reply to non-urgent weekend messages on the following Monday.

Department of Anthropology and Geography Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Tomi Middleton
Tomi.Middleton@hccs.edu 713-718-5625

What's Exciting About This Course

Physical Geography allows us to explore the dynamic nature of our amazing planet earth. Through this class, you will have an opportunity to expand your knowledge about the four great interconnected spheres that help define our planet. This class equips you with a deeper understanding of the science behind the physical forces that impact the earth while providing a greater awareness of the relevance physical geography has in our everyday lives. For example, we experience weather on a daily basis – after taking this class, you will have a more complete understanding of the elements that influence the weather conditions we experience. Taking a physical geography class therefore serves as a window in making the world a more meaningful place to each of us.

My Personal Welcome

Welcome! I'm delighted that you have chosen this course. One of my passions is to know as much as I can about our home planet, and I can hardly wait to pass that on. I will present the information in the most exciting way I know, so that you can grasp the concepts and apply them now, and hopefully throughout your life as well. As you read and wrestle with new ideas and facts that may challenge you, I am available to support you. The fastest way to reach me

is by my HCC email or via text message on my cell phone (see above). My goal is for you to walk out of the course with a better understanding of your natural and social surroundings. Please visit me or contact me whenever you have a question.

Prerequisites and/or Co-Requisites

This course requires college-level reading and writing skills. Research indicates that you are most likely to succeed if you have already taken and passed ENGL 1301. The minimum requirements for enrollment in this course include placement in college-level reading (or take INRW 0420 or ESOL 0360 as a co-requisite). If you have enrolled in this course having satisfied these prerequisites, you have a higher chance of success than students who have not done so. Please carefully read and consider the repeater policy in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#).

Canvas Learning Management System

This section will use [Canvas](https://eagleonline.hccs.edu) (<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu>) to supplement in-class assignments, exams, and activities.

HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Canvas. **USE FIREFOX OR CHROME AS THE INTERNET BROWSER.**

HCC Online Information and Policies

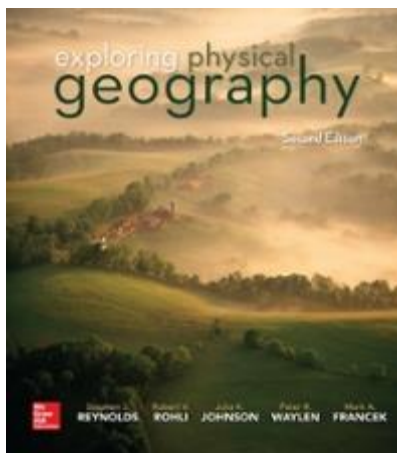
Here is the link to information about HCC Online classes including the required Online Orientation for all fully online classes: <http://www.hccs.edu/online/>

Scoring Rubrics, Sample Assignments, etc.

Look in Canvas for the scoring rubrics for assignments, samples of class assignments, and other information to assist you in the course. <https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/login/ldap>

Instructional Materials

Textbook Information



This textbook is **required** for this course:

Exploring Physical Geography 2nd Edition

by Stephen Reynolds (Author), Robert Rohli (Author), Julia Johnson (Author), Peter Waylen (Author), Mark Francek (Author)

This is a digital textbook (ebook) and you will receive instructions to access the book at the beginning of semester. Other (free) readings may be assigned throughout the semester.

Temporary Free Access to E-Book

See the link in Canvas to get free access to the E-book for 14 days.

Other Instructional Resources

Tutoring

HCC provides free, confidential, and convenient academic support, including writing critiques, to HCC students in an online environment and on campus. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is contextual and appropriate. Visit the [HCC Tutoring Services](#) website for services provided.

Libraries

The HCC Library System consists of 9 libraries and 6 Electronic Resource Centers (ERCs) that are inviting places to study and collaborate on projects. Librarians are available both at the libraries and online to show you how to locate and use the resources you need. The libraries maintain a large selection of electronic resources as well as collections of books, magazines, newspapers, and audiovisual materials. The portal to all libraries' resources and services is the HCCS library web page at <http://library.hccs.edu>.

Supplementary Instruction

Supplemental Instruction is an academic enrichment and support program that uses peer-assisted study sessions to improve student retention and success in historically difficult courses. Peer Support is provided by students who have already succeeded in completion of the specified course, and who earned a grade of A or B. Find details at <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/>.

Core Competencies – Courses offered at HCC which are taken within “core” status meet a set of stringent guidelines which will help the student advance core skills in foundational areas. Physical Geography meets a Life and Physical Sciences core requirement at HCC. Life and Physical Sciences core area courses “focus on describing, explaining, and predicting natural phenomena using the scientific method” and “involve the understanding of interactions among natural phenomena and the implications of scientific principles on the physical world and on human experiences.”

By taking a Life and Physical Sciences core offering, you will have the opportunity to further develop the following core competencies: critical thinking skills, communication skills, empirical and quantitative skills, and teamwork skills. Throughout the semester, assignments and assessments in this class will help measure your advancement in each of these core competencies.

Assignments as they relate to each of the core competencies:

Critical Thinking Skills - Examples may include, but are not limited to: research, reports, writings, use of Scientific Method, technology-based compilations or presentations which

include analysis, analysis/solutions of problems/case studies, analysis of spatial data and patterns, justification of results, and explanation of reasoning.

Communication Skills – Examples may include, but are not limited to: Assignments which present a grammatically correct essay or speech, effectively organized with a thesis statement, introduction, body, conclusion, supportive reasoning, and appropriately documented evidence. If the assignment is an oral presentation, the assignment should also require effective verbal and nonverbal delivery. Visual design elements should be incorporated into any communication assignment. Visual elements may include graphs, tables, slides, or streaming video as examples.

Empirical and Quantitative Skills – Examples may include, but are not limited to: case studies, atlas exercises, reports, creating or analyzing tables and graphs related to statistical data, projects that utilize applied mathematics.

Teamwork Skills – Examples may include, but are not limited to: collaborative work on case studies, atlas exercises, reports, projects or presentations which measure not only the end result, but quality of contribution, cooperation, and self-management in the process of working on a team-based assignments.

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

The PSLOs for Geography can be found at the following link:

<http://learning.hccs.edu/programs/geography/more-about-geography-hcc>

1.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of scientific investigation as they apply to Earth's shape, seasons, weather, climate, climate regions, biomes, the interior of Earth, volcanoes, tectonic activity, flooding, and weathering.

2.1 Describe and explain the processes of Earth's physical systems: weather and climate, water, biomes, geologic processes and landform development.

3.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the interactions among the Earth's physical systems.

4.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the modifications humans make to the environment through the enhanced greenhouse effect, deforestation, pollution, and thinning of the ozone layer.

5.1 Define geography, physical geography, and the earth's four interrelated spheres: the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere.

6.1 Describe and understand geography in terms of ocean current flows, wind flows, sediment flows, glacial flows, maps, and place.

Student Success

Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Attending class in person and/or online
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as a guide.

Instructor and Student Responsibilities

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and making up assignments
- Provide the course outline and class calendar that will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class in person and/or online
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
- Attain a raw score of at least 50% on the departmental final exam
- Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#)

Assignments, Exams, and Activities

Written Assignment

Writing assignment in the form of an essay is required for this course and constitutes 20% of the course grade. During the first week of class, students will select a topic from a list of topics to write the course essay. Detailed instructions will be given during the first week of the class on the requirements and how to submit the writing assignment.

Exams

Two exams and one Final Exam will be required for this course. The first two exams constitute 10% each of the course grade and the Final Exam is 20% of the course grade. The exams will be conducted completely online and consist of multiple choice and true/false questions.

Final Exam

The final exam will be completely online and constitutes 20% of the course grade. Like the other exams in this course, the final exam will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions.

Grading Formula

6 Discussions =	20%
5 Assignments =	20%
2 Exams @10% each	20%
1 Writing Assignment	20%
Final Exam	20%
TOTAL	100%

Incomplete Policy:

An incomplete grade can only be given if the student has completed at least 2/3rds (roughly 67%) of all the graded coursework for the semester by the semester's end. Furthermore, an Incomplete can only be given under extreme emergency conditions accompanied by acceptable written documentation, given that the student has already completed 2/3rds of the graded coursework. In all cases, the instructor reserves the right to decline a student's request to receive a grade of Incomplete.

HCC Grading Scale can be found on this site under Academic Information:

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/>

Course Calendar

Week	Dates	Event	Topic / Assignments Due
1	07-13-07-18		Chapter 1: The Nature of Physical Geography
			Chapter 2: Energy and Matter in the Atmosphere
			Chapter 3: Atmospheric Motion
2	07-19-07-25	Exam 1	Chapter 4: Atmospheric Moisture
			Chapter 5: Weather Systems and Severe Weather
			Chapter 7: Climates around the World
3	07-26-08-01		Chapter 8: Water Resources
		Exam 2	Chapter 9: Understanding Landscapes

Week	Dates	Event	Topic / Assignments Due
		Term Paper	Chapter 10: Plate Tectonics / Regional Features
4	08-02-08-08		Chapter 11: Volcanoes, Deformation, & Earthquakes
			Chapter 12: Weathering and Mass Wasting
			Chapter 13: Streams & Flooding
5	08-09-08-16		Chapter 14: Glaciers and Glacial Landforms
			Final Exam

Syllabus Modifications

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester and will promptly notify students in writing, typically by e-mail, of any such changes.

Instructor's Practices and Procedures

Missed Assignments

For each of the course modules, students are expected to read the assigned chapter(s), view the course videos, complete the assignments scheduled as well as complete the discussion posts by the designated deadlines. All assignments must be completed on or before the deadline for that module. There will be no extensions to course deadlines unless otherwise noted.

Academic Integrity

Here's the link to the HCC information about academic integrity (Scholastic Dishonesty and Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance):

<http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/>

Attendance Procedures

Houston Community College students are required to attend classes.

Online and hybrid course attendance will be determined in terms of participation. According to the U.S. Department of Education definitions simply logging into the course in Blackboard does not constitute attendance in the online class. Examples of online attendance, as defined by the U.S. Department of Education, includes direct interaction between instructor and student; submission of an academic assignment; examination, interactive tutorial or computer assisted instruction; participation in online discussion about academic matters; video assignments, etc. Any of the previously listed activities above can be used for certifying attendance for Distance Education students. Students are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades.

The instructor will review student participation for the week and enter attendance accordingly.

Student Conduct

It is the right of each student to participate in his or her learning, and it is the responsibility of each student to not interfere with the learning of other students. It is the expectation of the college that each student assumes the responsibility to follow college policies and procedures governing classroom conduct on campus and online. Instructors are authorized to establish, within reason, rules of conduct within the classroom. Instructors may ask a student to temporarily leave the virtual classroom whenever the behavior is believed to be disruptive or inappropriate. Please review this information in the Student Handbook, Rights and Responsibilities which can be accessed in The POD under Campus Services/Student Support Services/Documents.

Instructor's Course-Specific Information (As Needed)

Discussion Posts

All discussion posts will usually begin on Sunday of each week with the exception of the first one / first week. There will be six discussions that will require students to create their own thread response by Wednesday / Thursday of each Discussion Post week and **students must also post at least two responses to their colleagues' postings by Saturday midnight (or the designated deadline)**. Example: Each week, on Sunday, check to see what the new topic is and respond by Wednesday/Thursday with your own thread. Check in periodically and read what your colleagues write and respond to at least two of your colleagues' postings by Saturday midnight. **No postings will be graded after Saturday midnight. Posting at 12:01 a.m. is considered after the designed deadline.**

NOTE: As these discussion board questions require somewhat in-depth thoughts on your part, for the most part, there is no right or wrong answer. HOWEVER, there will be no blurbs, insults, zingers, or disparaging or discriminatory remarks of any sort. We will act accordingly, professionally, and above all, courteously in responding to the postings in discussion boards.

Geography Program Information

- Geography Program at HCC Learning Web: <http://learning.hccs.edu/programs/geography>
- Geography Library Website: <https://library.hccs.edu/geography>
- The HCC Anthropology and Geography Club meets several times a semester. Officer positions are available. Please contact Prof. Zamanian at ramin.zamanian@hccs.edu for more information and meeting dates.

HCC Policies

Here's the link to the HCC Student Handbook <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/> In it you will find information about the following:

- Academic Information
- Academic Support
- Attendance, Repeating Courses, and Withdrawal
- Career Planning and Job Search
- Childcare
- disAbility Support Services
- Electronic Devices
- Equal Educational Opportunity
- Financial Aid TV (FATV)
- General Student Complaints
- Grade of FX
- Incomplete Grades
- International Student Services
- Health Awareness
- Libraries/Bookstore
- Police Services & Campus Safety
- Student Life at HCC
- Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Student Services
- Testing
- Transfer Planning
- Veteran Services

EGLS³

The EGLS³ ([Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System](#)) will be available for most courses near the end of the term until finals start. This brief survey will give invaluable information to your faculty about their teaching. Results are anonymous and will be available to faculty and division chairs after the end of the term. EGLS³ surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. -EGLS3 surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/>

Campus Carry Link

Here's the link to the HCC information about Campus Carry:

<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/>

HCC Email Policy

When communicating via email, HCC requires students to communicate only through the HCC email system to protect your privacy. If you have not activated your HCC student email account, you can go [to HCC Eagle ID and activate it now](#). You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

Housing and Food Assistance for Students

Any student who faces challenges securing their foods or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students at their college for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

This will enable HCC to provide any resources that HCC may possess.

Office of Institutional Equity

Use the link below to access the HCC Office of Institutional Equity, Inclusion, and Engagement (<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/>)

disAbility Services

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including long and short term conditions, mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/disability-services/>

Title IX

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross
Director EEO/Compliance
Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity
3100 Main
(713) 718-8271
Houston, TX 77266-7517 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu
<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/>

Office of the Dean of Students

Contact the office of the Dean of Students to seek assistance in determining the correct complaint procedure to follow or to identify the appropriate academic dean or supervisor for informal resolution of complaints.

<https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-complaints/speak-with-the-dean-of-students/>

Department Chair Contact Information

Anthropology and Geography Department Chair:

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