



Course ID:	Course Title:	Spring 2020
GEOG 120-1	Physical Geography	Prerequisite: none
		Credits: 3

Spring two-week MODULE (half days) plus scheduled final exam and deliverables

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	Monday - Friday	Instructor:	Dr. Stephen Jeans	First day of classes:	May 4
Time:	9:00 am - 12:30 pm	Email:	sjeans@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	end of 2nd day
Room:	synchronous Zoom	Phone:	(403) 284-3630	Last day to request revised exam:	(speak to instructor)
Lab/Tutorial:	built into one class	Office:	email/Zoom/phone	Last day to withdraw from course:	end of 2 nd day of the 2 nd week
Final Exam:	three-hour Zoom, Saturday, May 30, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm	Office Hours:	morning to evening, + arrangements made	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	(speak to instructor)
				Last day of classes:	May 15

Course Description

An introduction to the science of spatial pattern, variation, process, and interrelationship of Earth's major surface systems along with their influence on human habitat and human interdependence with the planet, including elements of atmosphere, waters, landforms, soils, and biotic communities.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Learning focuses on research and study in many physical geography fields. Geographic tools and research techniques are utilized including remote sensing and field work to confirm, interpret the environment, and resolve geographic issues.

At the conclusion of the course students will be able to:

- (knowledge)
- explain the history, techniques, and major scientific fields of physical geography
 - understand broad concepts of Earth as a globe explained by mapping, geometry, and systems theory
 - distinguish climate from weather along with circulation patterns, water budgets, and energy balance
 - explain surface water, groundwater, and ocean location/quality along with hazards including flooding
 - interpret surface landforms patterns as lithospheric, fluvial, or other natural process and movement
 - understand and hypothesize about cold regions, permafrost, and resources of northern communities
 - classify typical soil profiles, formation, distribution, management, and environmental governance
 - identify biotic and abiotic ecosystem components, diversity and distribution, and resource importance
 - relate natural resources to population, densification, development, regulation, and sustainability

- (skill)
- identify and utilize geospatial materials and processes including maps, remote sensing, and GIS
 - undertake ground truthing to collect and confirm map, satellite, and air-photography imaging
 - model and communicate quantitative and qualitative data in relation to environmental and settlement
 - develop cartographic and interpretative materials to communicate science and physical geography
- (attitude)
- appreciate aspects of the finite and interconnected nature of Earth and human habitation of it, and
 - express a perspective on science and human values including faith for geographic decision-making

Textbooks

Mastering Geography with Pearson eText -- Standalone Access Card Package -- for
 Christopherson, R.W., Birkeland, G., Byrne, M.-L., & Giles, P. (2016). *Geosystems: An introduction to physical geography (4th Canadian edition)*. Pearson Canada Inc. ISBN-13: 9780134854069 [OR previous version, looseleaf book, etc.]

Course Schedule

A tentative schedule is proposed below, and is therefore subject to change, because of outdoor observing and geographical learning exercises that may take advantage of clear skies (in your own back yard or from your window) at the instructor's discretion. Planned for the course are readings and topics in the following order:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Note</u> about activity, requirements
05-04	Chap. 1, 2	About physical geography, Earth energy	intro to maps and assigned term project
05-05	Chap. 3, 4, 5	Atmospheric structure and temperature	
05-06	Chap. 6, 7, 9	Hydrosphere circulation and interactions	
05-07	Chap. 8, 10	Earth's climate, weather	
05-08	Chap. 11+text	Climate Change + Fieldtutorial	geographic techniques used outside
05-11	Exam +Assign	Exam + Geographic inquiry, assignment work	Midterm Exam , project work
05-12	Chap. 12, 13, 14	Lithosphere dynamics and tectonics	
05-13	Chap. 15, 16, 17	Processes of stream, coast, wind, and glacial	
05-14	Chap. 18, 19	Biosphere and soils	
05-15	Chap. 20	Biome geography + Review	
05-30	Final Exam	Saturday, normal class time 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Zoom meeting with assigned activities

Requirements:

Assignments

In-class worksheet and/or an exit slip will be expected before a student leaves a class. The content and marking of each day's work will depend on the type of activity. However, exit slips typically consist of two to five questions answered in about 5 to 10 minutes and then emailed to the instructor.

A Geography Term Assignment called *Far Away Place* will be demonstrated and discussed in class by the professor. The assignment is a term project that is due two weeks following the end of the course. Study and research for the *Far Away Place* assignment is an opportunity for students to fully engage in the course material through their own interests and academic pursuits and growing understanding of the natural science of physical geography. This assignment includes a written, researched, component (a few pages in length) and may include other media the student would prefer and with permission of the instructor.

Fieldtutorial

If the opportunity is available to safely observe outdoor geographical phenomena from the location of the student, then activities may involve going to your back yard, deck, or window. Every attempt will be made to inform students about such opportunities a class before. Watch for an email from your instructor or Moodle posting. It is the responsibility of the student to be safe, to dress appropriately and maintain an appropriate social distance.

Cautions and Student Equipment

To reinforce concepts encountered during this course, participants will be asked to observe and/or take part in multiple demonstrations and activities that will include the use of equipment. Safety is an expectation of each student for themselves, for the well-being of others. Only simple materials will be used (basically kitchen science), a listing of those items that you may need will be provided prior to the start of class.

Attendance:

Class attendance is mandatory. Participation in Zoom class and related activities is mandatory. Marks/points lost through excused absence can be discussed with the instructor and suitable alternate arrangements made at the instructor's discretion.

Exit-slip Journal and Daily marks (30%) -- A component for marking is handed each class, and each component has a count of 5 marks. Points will be summed up at the end of term to produce the 30% grade.

Therefore, please ensure your electronic device is close to an internet hub/router or plugged directly in by cable. Close any unnecessary software (streaming video, social media, games, etc.). Inability to connect or a lost connection can be addressed by re-logging in, emailing the instructor, and/or telephoning the instructor (at 403-284-3630) for assistance. Practice with these online tools is available by contacting the instructor and/or the Ambrose University IT Help Desk.

Grade Summary:

Grading Schedule

Exit Slip and/or class assignments	30%	
Mid-term written examination	20%	multiple-choice questions, practical component (e.g., mapping)
'Far Away Place' assignment	25%	
Final written examination	<u>25%</u>	multiple-choice questions, practical component, ~non-cumulative
Total: 100%		

Late assignments may be accepted at instructor's discretion -- if contact and arrangements are made, however the mark achieved may be reduced by 5%/day (up to 10%/day if no contact is attempted by the student prior to the due-date).

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

Grade	Numeric equivalent	Interpretation	Grade Points
A+	100	Mastery: Comprehensive understanding of subject matter	4.00
A	95		4.00
A-	90		3.70
B+	85	Proficient: Well-developed understanding of subject matter	3.30
B	81		3.00
B-	76		2.70
C+	71	Basic: Developing understanding of subject matter	2.30
C	67		2.00
C-	62		1.70
D+	59	Minimal Pass: Limited understanding of subject matter	1.30
D	55		1.00
F	49	Failure: Failure to meet course requirements	0.00

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed/emailed out.

Other:

Some general class resources may be available online through the University Moodle site. Resources to be printed and required for class will be posted and announced at least a class before. For help on how to access these files please see the IT Help Desk.

Ambrose University Library has a wealth of connections to online materials/sites, please inquire about this resource.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student

to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. We encourage students to build mental health supports and to reach out when help is needed.

On Campus:

- Your course Instructor
- Counselling Services: ambrose.edu/counselling
- Peer Supportive Listening: One-to-one support in Student Life office. Hours posted at ambrose.edu/wellness.
- For immediate crisis support, there are staff on campus who are trained in Suicide Intervention and Mental Health First Aid. See ambrose.edu/crisissupport for a list of staff members.

Off Campus:

- Distress Centre - 403-266-4357
- Sheldon Chumir Health Care Centre - 403-955-6200
- Emergency - 911

Sexual Violence Support

All staff, faculty, and Residence student leaders have received *Sexual Violence Response to Disclosure* training. We will support you and help you find the resources you need. There is a website with on and off campus supports – ambrose.edu/sexual-violence-response-and-awareness.

Off Campus:

- Clinic: Sheldon Chumir Health Centre - 403-955-6200
- Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse - 403-237-5888

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.