GEO 2370 – Resources Geography

Political Science

College of Sciences, University of Central Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS & FIRST DAY AGENDA

Instructor:	Dr. Charles Layman	Term:	Spring 2014
Office:	HPH 313	Class Meeting Days:	Mon & Wed
Phone:	407-823-2608	Class Meeting Hours:	4:30-5:45p
E-Mail:	Charles.Layman@ucf.edu	Class Location:	NSC 0117

I. Welcome!

Attendance & Introductions

II. University Course Catalog Description

Analysis of basic principles and problems associated with development, use, conservation, and management of natural resources, with special emphasis on the United States. (3 Credit Hours)

III. Required Text

Introduction to Geography: People, Places and Environment, Dahlman, Bergman and Renwick, 5th ed.
Pearson, Prentice Hall. ISBN 13 978 0 321 69531 4

IV. What is Resources Geography?

Brief discussion of the geographic perspective and defining what we will study in this resource geography course.

V. General Course Objectives & Competencies

1. To provide the student with the basic principles associated with resource development and use.
2. Students will learn about the use, conservation and management of natural resources.
3. Analyze the economic factors that control the use of natural resources.
4. Investigate the political importance on natural resource issues.
5. Examine the ecological effects of natural resource consumption.
6. Debate the ethical implications of exploitation vs. conservation vs. preservation.
7. Investigate the issues associated with agriculture, grazing, forestry, and biodiversity.
8. Analyze the use of water resources.
9. Understand the cultural factors that influence the use of natural resources.
10. Investigate traditional and non-traditional energy resources.
11. Investigate the possibility of sustainability.
12. Reciprocal discussions on selected environmental resource issues and topics.

Competency 1. Think critically and make reasoned choices by acquiring, analyzing, and evaluating knowledge.
Competency 2. Read, listen, write, and speak effectively.
Competency 3. Understand and apply quantitative information to changing world circumstances.
Competency 4. Evaluate your own and other's values from individual, cultural, and global perspectives.

VI. Grading & Policies

Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
3 Competency Exams	45%
Comprehensive Final Exam	15%
Group Project	25%
Participation & Engagement*	15%
	100%

Grading Scale (%)	
94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
0 - 59	F

Late Work Policy:
There are no make-ups for the competency exams or the final exam. Participation & Engagement activities/assignments/tasks will not be accepted late. Under extraneous circumstances the weight of the final exam will be adjusted to account for missed exams with prior approval from professor (NEVER after an exam is missed).

Extra Credit Policy:
Extra credit will be made available at the sole discretion of the professor. Availability is typically based on a student's participation and engagement (i.e. will not replace missing grades).

Group Work Grading Policy:
Expectations will be discussed in detail later in semester.

VII. Course Policies: Student Expectations

Disability Access:
The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Attendance Policy:
Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate enthusiastically. Failure to do so will result in the reductions of their participation and engagement grade. Excessive absences as deemed by professor may result in the reduction of a final grade and/or the assigning of an "I" (incomplete) for the course.

Professionalism Policy:
Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, *etc*. **must be silenced** during all classroom and lab lectures. Unless when required for participation (i.e. surveys and polling). Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, *etc*., and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade.

Academic Conduct Policy:
Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. If you are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook (http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/) for further details. Violations will not be tolerated.

VIII. Important Dates to Remember

Final Exam – April 28th 2014 (4:00-6:40p)