Course Syllabus

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SYLLABUS

SPRING TERM 2018

University of Central Florida

Political Science Department

GEO 2370 – 0001 Resource Geography (17422)

NSC 0110 Mo-We 4:30 - 5:45pm

Professor: John R. Swanson

Classes begin January 8, 2018. Classes End April 23, 2018

Final Exam April 30, 2018 4:30 - 6:50 pm

"The task is not to see what has never been seen before, but to think what has never been thought before about what you see everyday." Erwin Schrodinger

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Analysis of basic principles and problems associated with development, environment, land use, conservation, and management of natural resources, with special emphasis on the United States.

TEXTBOOK:

Introduction to Geography: People, Places and Environment, Dahlman, Bergman and Renwick, 6th ed. Pearson, Prentice Hall. ISBN 13 978 0 321 84333-3

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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. Define natural resources and become familiar with specific examples.
4. Analyze the economic factors that control the use of natural resources.
5. Investigate the political importance on natural resource issues.
6. Examine the ecological interrelationships of natural resource consumption and their environment.
7. Debate the ethical implications of exploitation vs. conservation vs. preservation.
8. Investigate the issues associated with agriculture, grazing, forestry, and biodiversity.
9. Analyze the use of water resources.

10. Understand the cultural factors that influence the use and consequences of natural resources.
11. Investigate traditional and non-traditional energy resources.
12. Investigate the possibility of sustainability.
13. Reciprocal discussions on selected environmental resource issues and topics.

Course Competency's: In addition to the specific course objectives mentioned above, the course will also reinforce the following competencies wholly or partially.

Competency 1. Think critically and make reasoned choices by acquiring, analyzing, synthesizing, 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.

TEXTBOOK READINGS, LECTURES, AND EXAMS:

Class 1 M 1/08/18 Syllabus Review. What Is A Natural Resource - Research Paper Team Selection - Model for Studying A Resource.

Class 2 W 1/10/18 Chapter 1 - Introduction to Geography - Describing Earth

M 1/15/18 MLK DAY - NO CLASS

Class 3 W 1/17/18 Chapter 2 - Weather and Climate

Class 4 M 1/22/18 Chapter 3 - Landforms

Class 5 W 1/24/18 Chapter 4 - Biochemical Cycles

Class 6 M 1/29/18 Chapter 5 - Population and Migration

Class 7 W 1/31/18 **TEAM TEST I Ch 1 - 5 Questions and Team Research Paper Progress Report**

Class 8 M 2/05/18 Chapter 6 - Cultural geography

Class 9 W 2/07/18 Chapter 7 - The Geography of Language and Religions

Class 10 M 2/12/18 Chapter 8 - Food and Agriculture - Human Food Supply

Class 11 W 2/14/18 Chapter 9 - Earth's Resources - Environmental Protection

Class 12 M 2/19/18 Test II Review Ch 6 - 9 plus Ch 1 - 5

Class 13 W 2/21/18 **TEST II Chapter 6 - 9 plus Ch 1 - 5**

Class 14 M 2/26/18 Chapter 10 - Cities and Urbanization - Chapter 11 A World of States

Class 15 W 2/28/18 Chapter 12 - Economic Growth

Class 16 M 3/05/18 Chapter 13 - Global Challenges Test III Review

Class 17	W 3/07/18	**Test III**

Spring Break Monday 3/12/18 to Saturday 3/17/18

Class 18	M 3/19/18	**Due Date for Team Research Papers - Set Presentation Schedule**
Class 19	W 3/21/18	Team Presentation 1
Class 20	M 3/26/18	Team Presentation 2
Class 21	W 3/28/18	Team Presentation 3
Class 22	M 4/02/18	Team Presentation 4
Class 23	W 4/04/18	Team Presentation 5
Class 24	M 4/09/18	Team Presentation 6
Class 25	W 4/11/18	Team Presentation 7
Class 26	M 4/16/18	Team Presentation 8
Class 27	W 4/18/18	Team Presentation 9
Class 28	M 4/23/18	Final Exam Review
Class 29	M 4/30/18	**Final Exam 4:00 - 6:50**

These lectures and class schedule may be covered as discreet topics and/or integrated with other topical areas in an order which is at the discretion of the professor. These and other topics may be expanded, elaborated, and/or modified at the discretion of the individual professor and is in no way intended to be comprehensive or all inclusive. Students may contact me through the Political Science Department Office, by ucf knights e-mail or the Webcourse - Inbox Messages. **Office Hours: M -W from 12:00 to 2:00 pm or by appointment.**

TEAMS:

Students will be grouped into ten (9) five (5) member teams. Each team will work as a unit discussing assignments, reviewing for exams, and preparing a research paper organized around The Model For Studying A Place.

TEAM PROJECTS:

A team project will ask students to examine a contemporary natural resource issue from various academic disciplines and work in a coordinated effort to write a research paper. The team will organize their paper around the Model For Studying A Resource. (Below) **The research paper will be in MLA Format, Title Page, Index, Thesis Statement, no longer than 30 pages (5 pages each student) in length and be typed, double spaced with one inch margins, and bound.** Due date for the written report is class number 18 - March 19, 2018. Team presentations will begin with class 18 - March 21, 2018 and continue through class 27 - April 25, 2018. The project will be assessed from the perspective of your peers as well as the professor. Each student must be an active participant in both the written and oral presentation to receive

full credit for the activity. Thus, 20% of your course grade termed team presentation will be based upon your attendance and involvement in class discussion, your ability to interact with a group, your written report, and your presentation. Grading of the project will be based on the four competencies listed above. Attendance is mandatory for each presentation.

TESTING AND GRADING:

There will be a total of three short answer essay and multiple choice tests on readings from the textbook, lecture notes and classroom discussion, and one cumulative multiple choice final exam (each worth 100 points). Also, 100 possible points will be given for the written research assignment and class presentation. (25 group interaction, 50 written paper, and 25 presentation). Five hundred total (500) possible points.

Arrangements for Make-up tests must be made by the class following the date of the missed test. There will be no make-up tests for the Final Exam without documented extreme emergencies, the consent of the professor, and in accordance with UCF Policy.

GRADING SCALE:

GRADE	PERCENT	POINTS
A	95 - 100	475 - 500
A-	90 - 94	450 - 474
B+	87 - 89	435 - 445
B	84 - 86	420 - 430
B-	80 - 83	400 - 415
C+	77 - 79	385 - 395
C	74 - 76	370 - 380
C-	70 - 73	350 - 365
D+	67 - 69	335 - 345
D	64 - 66	320 - 334
D-	60 - 63	300 - 319
F	< 60	< 300

ATTENDANCE:

It is important to be in attendance at each meeting of this class. Attendance is mandatory for all during the team presentations. Attendance policy as described in the UCF Student Catalog will be followed.

UCF POLICY:

All policies contained in the UCF Student Catalog will be followed.

MODEL FOR STUDYING A RESOURCE:

I Location and Physical Characteristics: Where Found, Perpetual, Renewable, Potential

II Population: Who uses, Education, Age, Income, Gender, Culture, Political, Social Conditions

III Economic: Issues, Ownership, Technology, Political, Scarcity, Supply/Demand, Substitution

IV History: Changing Conditions , Political, Human/Nature, Conservation, Preservation, Exploitation

V Problems and Prospects: Environmental, Economic, Local, Regional, National, Global, Space/Universe

Parts I, II, III, and IV of the Model are factual information and require footnotes for your source. Part V. is your analysis and conclusion and must be in your own words.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Thu Jan 11, 2018	Syllabus Quiz (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1261008/assignments/5373381)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jan 31, 2018	Test I (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1261008/assignments/5373385)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Feb 21, 2018	Test II (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1261008/assignments/5373386)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 7, 2018	Test III (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1261008/assignments/5373387)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 19, 2018	Team Research Paper (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1261008/assignments/5373383)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 25, 2018	Final Exam (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1261008/assignments/5373382)	due by 11:59pm
	Test 4 Final Exam (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1261008/assignments/5373384)	