RESOURCE GEOGRAPHY

GEO 2370
Section 1
~~Fall 2018~~Spring 2019

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Department of Political Science
University of Central Florida
Office Hours: M: 1~~2~~:00-2:00~~:45~~
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Course Focus

Analysis of basic principles and problems associated with development, use, conservation, and management of natural resources, with special emphasis on the United States. Additionally, students will be challenged to think about the world around them, understand the multiple stakeholders behind resource and resource management, and understand how public opinion and domestic politics impact resource and resource management.

This is an introductory level college course in Physical Geography. It requires no prior experience with the subject.

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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 effects of natural resource consumption.
7. Debate the ethical implication of exploitation, conservation, and 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 of natural resources.
11. Investigate traditional and non-traditional energy resources.
12. Investigate the possibility of sustainability.
13. Produce advanced discussions on select resource issues and topics

14. Formulate an advanced level of understanding of the geography of resources.

Required Texts

None

Supplementary Course Materials
Supplementary course materials will include readings from articles, newspapers or websites will be provided on Webcourses or can be found via common internet search tools.

Final Grading Scale

A	> 93	B+	87 – 89.99	C+	77 – 79.99	D+	66 – 69.99
A-	90 – 92	B	83 – 86	C	72 - 76	D	62 – 65
		B-	80 – 82	C-	70 - 71	D-	60 – 61
						F	< 59.99

Grading Criteria**
Final Exam: 20% Monday~~Wednesday~~, April 29 at 4:00~~December 5 at 1:00~~ PM
Assignments: 33%
Debates, Rebuttals, & Critiques: 30%
Resource Talk: 17%

Attendance Policy:
I do not hold a formal attendance policy. Attendance, however, will help each student understand the materials from the course and analyze the readings for their value to the course. This is a freshman level course. We will simulate real-life work and examples in Resource Geography. Treat this course as a career. Throughout the semester, I will randomly take attendance and for each time you are not present, I will deduct 5% from your final grade. If you have a valid class excuse, I will exempt you from the deduction on a case-by-case basis.

Americans with Disabilities Act
Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:
(1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
(2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.

~~Course Schedule~~

~~August 20/22: Introduction to the Course & Geography & Defining Nature and Landscape Reading~~
~~August 27/29: The Geography of the United States & GeoPolitical Impacts of Resources in the USA~~
~~September 3/5: No Class September 3 (Labor Day) & Populations & Resources~~
~~September 10/12: Capitalism & Resource Theories~~
~~September 17/19: Congressional Testimonies on Resource Debates~~
~~September 24/26: The Paris Climate Accords Ideas &~~
~~October 1/3: Development & Development Theories~~
~~October 8/10: Resource Debate 1 & 2~~
~~October 15/17: Resource Debate 3 & 4~~
~~October 22/24: Debate Wrap-Up and Current Events on Resource Management~~
~~October 29/31: Group Talks 1 & 2~~
~~November 5/7: Group Talks 3 & 4~~
~~November 12/14: No Class November 12 (Veteran's Day) & Group Talk 5~~
~~November 19/21: Group Talk 6 & No Class Wednesday, November 21~~
~~November 26/28: Group Talk 7 & 8~~
~~**Wednesday, December 5 at 1:00 PM: Final Exam**~~

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General Education Program

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This course fits into the University of Central Florida's General Education Program in the Science Foundations grouping. In this course, students will gain a deep understanding of scientific methods and learn to connect and apply them to challenges facing society. This part of the General Education Program is designed to help students learn to develop, assess, and apply models of systematic inquiry and to discover the relevance of such approaches to their lives in and beyond college. This course will help students learn to critically read and evaluate information, compile data, and analyze findings through application and experimentation.

Additionally, throughout this course, students will also find elements from the University of Central Florida's General Education Program's Interpretation and Evaluation grouping, in which students will learn to assess and decipher information in a world full of conflicting sources and to employ social science models to produce knowledge. This course will also require elements from the University of Central Florida's General Education Program's Communication grouping, as you will be required to

speak and produce materials to showcase and develop your oral and written communication strategies and practice working with and creating multi-modal texts.

*All elements of this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor during the course with due notice. An effort will be made to avoid any changes but circumstances may necessitate potential alterations, particularly those related to course format, scheduling and content.