



Physical Geography Lab

GEO 133 – PPI1

Fall 2021

Number of Credits: 2

Lab Meeting Times: Tuesday evenings. Time TBD.

Video lectures will be displayed to describe labs at times designated by your facility.

Instructor: Professor Tashman

Office Hours: We will be communicating through JPay each week, in addition to having opportunities to communicate in the classroom.

Lab Description

This class serves as the laboratory component for physical geography with lecture materials covering topics related to global and surface weather patterns, global climate classification, plate tectonics, and biogeography. In this class, students are expected to be geographically literate using maps and cartographic representation of the world's continents, oceans, and geographic formations. Students will further develop their geographic and geospatial knowledge of the world through scientific exploration and understanding of the physical processes testing geographic hypotheses.

Lab Goals

Students who complete this course will be able to:

- Identify the big ideas in scientific discourse as they relate to physical geography.
- Assimilate information relevant to the natural geological processes that govern the natural world.
- Understand the interconnectedness of the physical and biological world.
- Identify and understand the factors that dictate global and local weather and climate patterns.
- Interpret landforms and landscapes using topographic information.

Lab Objectives

The course goals and objectives incorporate specific General Education Outcomes (GEOs) established by the JC Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty. These goals are in concert with four-year colleges and universities and reflect input from the professional communities we serve. GEOs guarantee

students achieve goals necessary for graduation credit, transferability, and professional skills needed in many certification programs. The GEOs and course objectives addressed in this class include the following:

Essential Competencies

1. Think critically and act responsibly
2. Work productively with others, recognizing individual contributions to group success
3. Exhibit technological literacy

The General Education Outcomes addressed in this class are:

GEO 4: Demonstrate scientific reasoning. Students will be able to design and carry out valid experiments to assess a given hypothesis, and to draw appropriate conclusions based on the results.

Lab book

Applied Physical Geography: Geosystems in the Laboratory, 10thE. Thomsen and Christopherson

Lab Grading Procedure

Your grade will be based on the number of points you accumulate throughout the semester. There are ~180 possible points in this course. The breakdown of points is as follows:

- **Labs (180 Points):** There are 9 lab assignments in this course. Each lab assignment will be worth 20 points. **Any student that misses three lab assignments will have to repeat the course and will receive a failing grade (0.0) for the semester.**
- **All labs must be handwritten on the lab pages I have provided you in the course packet.**

Item	Points	% of Grade
Laboratories (~9 @ 20 pts)	180	≈100%
Total Points	180	

Makeup and Late Assignments Policy

There are no make-up assignments in this class.

Assignments must be turned into the Jackson College collection location at your facility by the designated due dates, which are listed at the end of the syllabus and on the lecture schedule. If you are unable to return the required assignments on the designated due date, it is your responsibility to e-mail your instructor through the JPay system *in advance*, otherwise a 0 will be given for that assignment. **Please keep in mind that it takes a lot of time to grade your assignments. I will not accept multiple assignments at the end of the semester that should have been turned in earlier.** It is your responsibility to turn in your work on time.

Where to Get Help

You can reach me through JPay with any questions or during scheduled weekly meeting times.

Feel free to work together if your unit or facility allows. However, all individual work must be in your own words and will not be the same as any other student's work in the class because this is considered copying which is a form of plagiarism. All copied work will receive a 0.

Although this is a correspondence class, my goal is to provide students with the tools they need to succeed in GEO 131/133.

Lab Calendar:

Note: This time frame for the subject of each lab is only approximate and is subject to change. You can find the full homework schedule and due dates in the GEO131 lecture syllabus.

WEEK	TOPIC
1	METRIC CONVERSIONS
2	TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS
3	PLATE TECTONICS
4	SOLAR INSOLATION AND SEASONALITY
5	THE INNER AND OUTER EARTH LAYERS
6	ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE
7	SURFACE WEATHER MAPS
8	CYCLOGENESIS AND HURRICANES
9	CLIMATE CLASSIFICATION

131/133 (Lab and Lecture) Grading Scale

Grading Scale - Grades will be rounded to the nearest percent. Grades may be curved at the instructor's discretion.

Extra Credit is not available in GEO 131 or 133. Focus your time and energy on completing assignments and studying for exams.

GPA	GRADE RANGE
4.0	90-100%
3.5	85-89%

GPA	GRADE RANGE
3.0	80-84%
2.5	75-79%
2.0	70-74%
1.5	65-69%
1.0	60-64%
0.5	55-59%
0.0	0-54%

Academic Honesty Policy

Academic Honesty is defined as ethical behavior that includes student production of their own work and not representing others' work as their own, by cheating or by helping others to do so.

Plagiarism is defined as the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Submitting other's work as your own
- Using data, illustrations, pictures, quotations, or paraphrases from other sources without adequate documentation
- Reusing significant, identical or nearly identical portions of one's own prior work without acknowledging that one is doing so or without citing this original work (self-plagiarism)

Cheating is defined as obtaining answers/material from an outside source without authorization.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Plagiarizing in any form
- Using notes/books/electronic material without authorization
- Copying
- Submitting others' work as your own or submitting your work for others
- Altering graded work
- Falsifying data
- Exhibiting other behaviors generally considered unethical
- Allowing your work to be submitted by others

Course Management

Consequences/Procedures - A faculty member who suspects a student of academic dishonesty may penalize the student by taking appropriate action up to and including assigning a failing grade for the paper, project, report, exam or the course itself. Instructors should document instances of academic dishonesty in writing to the Dean of Faculty.

Incompletes - Consistent with JC policy, incompletes are granted with instructor permission only in situations where a student is passing the course after 90% completion of curriculum and encounters an unusual emergency that prevents them from completing coursework.

Student Appeal Process - In the event of a dispute, both students and faculty should follow the Conflict Resolution Policy. The policy is presented in the Student Rights and Responsibilities section of the student handbook. **The first step of this process is to set up a scheduled conference with the instructor to discuss the issues of concern.**

Student Responsibilities

Contribute to a courteous learning environment – Our class interactions are valuable because science is a social exercise. In JPay correspondence, please be polite and ask questions in complete sentences in all communications. **Disrespectful behavior will be dealt with summarily** focusing on clarity and understanding. Students are expected to maintain a safe and productive learning environment.

Study - This is a difficult course that will take significant study time. You will need to use the text and electronic resources, review notes and do study questions to prep for exams. I expect you all to study at least 2 hours outside of class interactions using a variety of methods.

Collaboration

While JC encourages students to collaborate in study groups, work teams, and with lab groups, each student should take responsibility for accurately representing their own contribution.

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be based on e-mail correspondence and assignments turned in on the due dates. Your job is to turn in materials on time and to contact me when necessary (for instance, respond to my JPay pop quizzes before the end of each week), and you will be marked present for GEO 131/133.

Distance Learning:

Just as in a traditional classroom course, regular class participation and keeping up on the reading and assignments is strongly correlated with survival in college. It is my recommendation that you

plan to do your assignments and take your exams BEFORE the last day they are due. If problems occur, there is time to fix them before the deadline.

In compliance with Federal Title IV funding requirements, as well as college initiatives, I will be monitoring student participation on a regular basis and officially reporting student activity throughout the term to assure compliance with college policy and federal regulations. It is imperative that you contact your Success Navigator immediately if you desire to drop or withdraw from the course. Being withdrawn from a course can have an impact on financial aid, billing, athletic eligibility, and housing status. As a college student you are responsible for how your participation impacts your academic progress; the accountability lies with you.

Utilizing JPAY Email Services

All JPays are closely monitored by the MDOC. It is expected all communication will be related to the student's education and coursework. No personal information may be shared. Personal information is considered inappropriate and will be flagged. A student may be removed from the Jackson College Corrections Education Program for violation of this policy.

JPays may not include attachments, including photos, videos, or other material.

Students will use JPay to communicate with the instructor throughout the semester. The instructor will add the student to their JPay account. This communication may be used to:

The expectations for communication between instructors and students in a specific course are:

- 1) Students will communicate questions or seek clarification on course-related content only
- 2) Students will only share questions related to their own coursework. Other students or their work will not be discussed in JPays.
- 3) Instructors will normally respond to student JPays within 24 business hours.
- 4) Instructors may use JPay to provide feedback to students on course assignments
- 5) Students are expected to use professional communication skills in their JPays to instructors: clear, concise writing; correct spelling and language appropriate to an academic setting.
- 6) Please be sure to put the instructor's last name and course information, i.e. Tashman, GEO 131, in the first line of the JPay.

Absence Policy

Students are expected to submit all work to be picked up at times designated by Jackson College and your facility. Late assignments are not accepted in this class. If you are unable to return the required assignments on the designated due date, it is your responsibility to e-mail your instructor through the JPay system *in advance*, otherwise a 0 will be given for that assignment.

Caveat

Some revisions may be necessary during the course. Jackson College will close in the case of inclement weather; your instructor may fall ill; other events may prevent the schedule from being strictly adhered to. Students will be made aware as soon as possible in such cases.

Important Dates

DATE	EVENT
MONDAY 9/20	CLASSES BEGIN
FRIDAY 10/8	FIRST HOMEWORK PICKUP DATE
FRIDAY 10/22	HOMEWORK PICKUP DATE
FRIDAY 11/5	HOMEWORK PICKUP DATE
FRIDAY 11/19	HOMEWORK PICKUP DATE
FRIDAY 12/3	HOMEWORK PICKUP DATE
FRIDAY 12/10	FINAL HOMEWORK PICKUP DATE
FRIDAY 12/10	LAST DAY OF CLASS