

Tentative Syllabus

ENVIRONMENTAL GEOMORPHOLOGY - AGLY 401, Spring 2009

TIME: MW 10:00 – 12:40 pm, SBDG ROOM 216 (4 credit hours)

INSTRUCTOR: Karin L. Willoughby, 207 SBDG; karinw@usca.edu; #641-3379

OFFICE HOURS: MW 1 – 1:30 pm; TTh 12:15 – 1 pm; F 11:15 – 11:45 am or by appt.

TEXTS: Fundamentals of Geomorphology by R.J. Huggett, 100 Topographic Maps,
Reading Maps

The course goal is to provide students with an understanding of the intertwining geologic processes that build and wear down the earth's surface along with the climatic processes that sculpt the earth's surface to produce the variety of landforms we see. Student objectives are 1) to have a general knowledge of constructive and destructive forces that form landscapes; 2) to have a specific knowledge of the meaning of landform terms; 3) to demonstrate understanding of landform terms by being able to recognize those forms on topographic maps; 4) to apply these basic skills in analyzing and understanding the geologic past and present as represented on topographic maps; 5) to apply these skills to environmental problems facing humans; and 6) to communicate this knowledge to others, in both oral and written form. The student will demonstrate competence in the above objectives through discussion, map-reading, problem-solving, oral presentation and examination. Lecture and lab are interwoven to provide extensive practice of studied concepts.

Course grades are based on:

5 exams, 10% each	(subtotal	= 50%)
final exam		= 15%
2 class presentations		= 12%
field trip/presentation		= 3%
map assignments		<u>= 20%</u>
		100%

Letter grades are based on the standard scale: 90% and above = A; 80 - 89.9% = B; 70 - 79.9% = C; 60 - 69.9% = D and below 60% = F.

The second class presentation (10- 15 minutes) must be based upon a map of the student's choice and be accompanied by a 2-page minimum typed report for 9% of the grade. This presentation will be on April 22 and will not be accepted after the assigned date without a doctor's excuse. Attendance is most strongly recommended, since this course relies on intensive use of maps and other visuals in nearly all class meetings. Make-up exams will be offered at the instructor's discretion and only to those students who provide a university recognized written excuse as listed in the student handbook. Make-up exams may differ in design or content from the original exam.

Text readings in addition to the ones given below may be assigned and all readings should be completed by the assigned class meeting. The student is responsible for acquiring and completing any materials from any missed class. Cell phones must be OFF whenever the instructor is lecturing.

If you have a physical, psychological, and/or learning disability which might affect your performance in this class, please contact the Office of Disability Services 126A, B&E, (803)641-3609, as soon as possible. The Disability Services Office will determine appropriate accommodations based on medical documentation.

Tentative Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
1/12	Introduction to course and review of key geologic principles and theories	
/14	Sources of Energy affecting Earth's surface; <i>History of Maps</i> ; Landform Scales (p. 4) and discuss student presentations	<u>Geomorphology</u> Ch. 1
/19	Holiday	
/21	Latitude & Longitude review, Symbols, Scale Topographic Maps, Contour Lines	<u>Reading Maps</u> p.18, 23-24, 45-47, p.48-57, 63-66
/26	"Road Rally" assignments, parts #1-5	
/28	" " " #6-9	
2/ 2	<i>Aerial Photographs</i>	<u>Reading Maps</u> p.5-8, 14-17, 58-62
/ 4	Earth Materials and Constructive Processes	<u>Geomorphology</u> Ch. 2 and 3
/ 9	Destructive Processes	
/11	Climatic Patterns and Effects; Ancient Landscapes	<u>Geomorphology</u> Ch. 15
/16	EXAM #1	
/18	Tectonic and Structural Landforms	<u>Geomorphology</u> Ch. 4 and 5
/23	1 st Student Presentation (5-8 minutes); <i>Contouring; Topographic Profiles</i>	
/25	<i>Individual Map Features: Fluvial/Valley Features</i>	<u>Topographic Maps</u>
3/ 2	Fluvial and Plateau Features; read Ch. In <u>Geomorphology</u> as needed	" "
/ 4	Escarpment Features; Mountain Features	" "
/9 –11 SPRING BREAK		
/16	Solution Features; Alpine Glaciation	" "
/18	Turn in EXAM #2 Continental Glaciation	" "
/23	Plains Features; Wind Features	" "
/25	Volcanic Features	" "
/30	Coastal Features and Shorelines	" "
4/ 1	Geologic Maps; <i>Regional Landform Analysis (5 assignments)</i>	
/ 6	Turn in EXAM #3; Landform Analysis Cont'd	
/13	" " " EXAM #4	
/ 16	" " "	
/20	EXAM #5	
/22	2nd Student Presentations	
/27	Summary and Review	
5/1	FINAL EXAM (8 -11 am)	

