

GEOG 118: Physical Geography

CRN: 24338 (Early College Academy)

Contact Information

Please check in any time! Here are some ways to contact me.

1. Send a message to my Canvas Inbox or email me directly at lpitts@citruscollege.edu (24 hour timeline Monday-Thursday and within 48 hours Friday - Sunday) If you do not hear from me in that time, please feel free to resend your message.
2. For fastest response send me an email/Canvas mail (please include your name, your school and the class. Example: "Hey, Lisa Pitts from GEOG 118 at Citrus, I have a quick question about...")
3. Come to my [Student Hours](#) (Tues and Thursday 9-10 am and Tuesdays at 5pm). Individual assistance is always available by appointment. I look forward to seeing you during student hours!
4. Live Lectures M-Th 7 am via Zoom (<https://bit.ly/GEOG118wPitts>).

For more information about communication, please refer to my [Communication Plan](#)



Statement of Access

Students with special needs are encouraged to meet with instructors to discuss the opportunity for academic accommodation and referral to [Skills Center](#), [Tutoring Center](#), [Writing Center](#), or [Disability Support Services](#).

Course Description

Physical geography is an introduction to the physical processes that create the varied landscapes of our Earth. It is a holistic approach that integrates the climate, vegetation, soils, land forms, ecosystems and natural resources into a complex system, of which humans are an integral part. Geography is the science that answers questions about where things are located on the Earth's surface and why things are located there. We will study the spatial variations in the world's natural landscape including the nature and characteristics of the physical environment, the processes involved in the creation of the physical environment, and their spatial distribution.

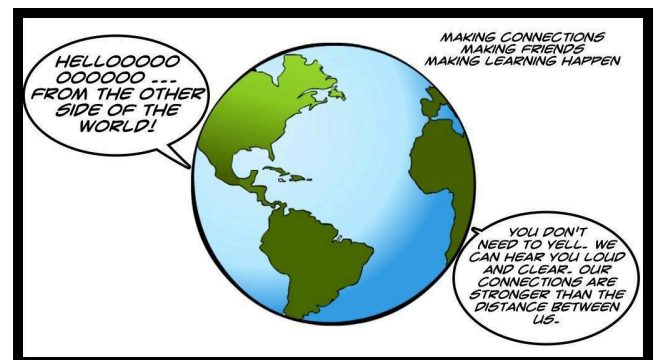
Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Analyze how the earth's atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere interact to form varying environments that serve as hosts for human societies.
2. Evaluate the impact of human actions upon the mobile equilibrium between the spheres, including the potential environmental damage.
3. Utilize basic scientific concepts and tools to measure and describe the varying physical features of the earth.

Attendance / Withdrawal

Online attendance is mandatory and crucial to your success in this class. Student "attendance" in online courses will be defined as active participation in the course as described in the individual course syllabus in addition, attendance at the weekly Zoom is **optional but encouraged**.



The last day to withdraw from this class and receive a "W"

grade is October 25th. This semester you will not be able to choose the EW so if you cannot continue with the course I encourage you to drop before the deadline or a grade will be assigned at the end of the term.

Grading Criteria & Scale

Assessment of Learning

This course will be primarily evaluated with several class exercises and exams, which will be given according to the [schedule](#). The exams are primarily objective tests, consisting of some combination of multiple choice, true-false, matching, fill-in answer, maps, and short response questions worth 150 points each. Each exam will cover the material presented in readings, course exercise questions, discussion questions, videos, and any other course material during the preceding few weeks. The Final Exam will include cumulative questions, but the major focus will be on the most recent course material.

Instructor Policy:

Final course letter grades will be determined according to a standard 90-80-70-60-percentage scale (see below). No “plus/minus” grades will be given.

Assinment / Activity	
Exams and Map Test (150 points each)*	Assignments (30 points each)
Quizzes (20 points each)*	Weekly Discussion (20 points)
Group Assignments (50 points each)	Final Exam (200 points)

* Lowest score will be dropped

Assignment Policies:

Opening and Closing of Each Week’s Assignments, Number of Attempts on Assignments Policy, Late Assignment Policy, Timed Exam Policy, Weekly Discussion Questions can all be found on <https://sites.google.com/view/pittsthenerd/home>.

Projects (group):

There are 3 group assignments in this class. Students will be graded based on their level of participation and contribution to the project. More information about these projects can be found in the Assignment descriptions. In general one of the projects will be using Google Tour Builder or An ArcGIS Story map to show land forms of the world. The other project is to create a Google Slide show about a portion of the 200 places in the World Assignment. Students will join a group of their choosing. The last project is related to the 200 places but this time you will make a Map Quiz of your locations. Again details will be provided in the assignment itself. [Places Topic Sheet Link](#)

Disclaimer:

From time to time this syllabus may need to be amended during the semester for various reasons, to add new material into classes, respond to student inquiries, change exam dates, etc. Students will be notified of syllabus changes during regularly scheduled class periods. It will be the responsibility of the students to ensure that they possess the latest version of the class syllabus or information with respect to the changes.

Important Contact Information

Instructional Dean, Social and Behavioral Sciences and Online Education:

Dana Hester Ed. D. — 626-914-8870