

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2017	Instructor Name:	Austen Thelen
Course Title & #:	California Geography: GEOG 140	Email:	austen.thelen@imperial.edu
CRN #:	11197		
Classroom:	Online (Canvas)	Office #:	807 F
Class Dates:	August 14 – December 8	Office Hours:	Live: Mondays and Wednesdays – 11:15am- 12:15pm Online: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00am- 11:00am
Class Days:	Every Day	Office Phone #:	(760) 355-6537
Class Times:	Online (Canvas)	Emergency Contact:	Elvia M. Camillo Staff Secretary Behavioral & Social Science Department Imperial Valley College 380E. Aten Rd. Imperial, CA 92251 (760) 355-6144
Units:	3		

Course Description

This course thematically covers various issues faced by the state of California that are relevant to the discipline of geography, including water resources, vegetation patterns, landforms and geomorphology, climate, agriculture, cultural landscapes, ethnic diversity, urbanization and economic patterns. Special attention is paid to human-environment interactions that have resulted in the formation of California's unique human and cultural landscapes. (CSU, UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

There are no prerequisites, nor corequisites for GEOG 140.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Analyze the physical processes that shape California's natural environments.
2. Evaluate the use of natural resources in California in the development of both the state's human and physical landscapes.

3. Identify the origins, placement and future trends of California's economy, including agriculture, industry and services

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Examine the physical processes that shape California's natural environments.
2. Analyze the use of natural resources, especially water, within California as they apply to the state's economic and cultural development.
3. Analyze the influence of California's various ethnic groups in terms of their roles in shaping the state's cultural landscapes.
4. Evaluate the origins and development of industry and agriculture in California.
5. Compare patterns of urban development in California and evaluate current and future trends in urbanization.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

William A. Selby 2012. *Rediscovering the Golden State - California Geography 3*. Hoboken . Wiley ISBN: 978-1-118-45204-2.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Discussions

Group Activity

Lecture

Distance Learning

Audio Visual

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Midterm Exam: 100 points.

Final Exam: 100 points.

Quizzes: 11 quizzes worth 10 points each – 110 points.

Current Event Reports: 4 reports worth 20 points each – 80 points

Discussion Forums: 11 discussion boards worth 10 points each – 110 points.

Student's Final Grades are based on 500 total points, figured by the following breakdown:

450-500 points – A.

400- 449 points – B.

350 – 399 points – C.

300 – 349 points – D.

299 points or fewer – F.

Late Assignments Policy: Any assignment in this course may be submitted after its due date, up until 11:59 pm on the last day of the course for up to 80% credit.

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **CANVAS LMS.** Canvas is Imperial Valley College's main Learning Management System. To log onto Canvas, use this link: [Canvas Student Login](#). The [Canvas Student Guides Site](#) provides a variety of support available to students 24 hours per day. Additionally, a 24/7 Canvas Support Hotline is available for students to use: 877-893-9853.
- **Learning Services.** There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **Library Services.** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S

office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **Student Health Center.** A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 for more information.
- **Mental Health Counseling Services.** Short-term individual, couples, family and group counseling services are available for currently enrolled students. Services are provided in a confidential, supportive, and culturally sensitive environment. Please contact the IVC Mental Health Counseling Services at 760-355-6310 or in the building 1536 for appointments or more information..

Veteran's Center

The mission of the [IVC Military and Veteran Success Center](#) is to provide a holistic approach to serving military/veteran students on three key areas: 1) Academics, 2) Health and Wellness, and 3) Camaraderie; to serve as a central hub that connects military/veteran students, as well as their families, to campus and community resources. Their goal is to ensure a seamless transition from military to civilian life. The Center is located in Building 600 (Office 624), telephone 760-355-6141.

Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS)

The Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS) offers services such as priority registration, personal/academic counseling, tutoring, book vouchers, and community referrals to qualifying low-income students. EOPS is composed of a group of professionals ready to assist you with the resolution of both academic and personal issues. Our staff is set up to understand the problems of our culturally diverse population and strives to meet student needs that are as diverse as our student population.

Also under the umbrella of EOPS our CARE (Cooperative Agency Resources for Education) Program for single parents is specifically designed to provide support services and assist with the resolution of issues that are particular to this population. Students that are single parents receiving TANF/Cash Aid assistance may qualify for our CARE program, for additional information on CARE please contact Lourdes Mercado, 760-355- 6448, lourdes.mercado@imperial.edu.

EOPS provides additional support and services that may identify with one of the following experiences:

- Current and former foster youth students that were in the foster care system at any point in their lives
- Students experiencing homelessness

- Formerly incarcerated students

To apply for EOPS and for additional information on EOPS services, please contact Alexis Ayala, 760-355-5713, alexis.ayala@imperial.edu.

Student Equity Program

- The Student Equity Program strives to improve Imperial Valley College’s success outcomes, particularly for students who have been historically underrepresented and underserved. The college identifies strategies to monitor and address equity issues, making efforts to mitigate any disproportionate impact on student success and achievement. Our institutional data provides insight surrounding student populations who historically, are not fully represented. Student Equity addresses disparities and/or disproportionate impact in student success across disaggregated student equity groups including gender, ethnicity, disability status, financial need, Veterans, foster youth, homelessness, and formerly incarcerated students. The Student Equity Program provides direct supportive services to empower students experiencing insecurities related to food, housing, transportation, textbooks, and shower access. We recognize that students who struggle meeting their basic needs are also at an academic and economic disadvantage, creating barriers to academic success and wellness. We strive to remove barriers that affect IVC students’ access to education, degree and certificate completion, successful completion of developmental math and English courses, and the ability to transfer to a university. Contact: 760.355.5736 or 760.355.5733 Building 100.
- The Student Equity Program also houses IVC’s Homeless Liaison, who provides direct services, campus, and community referrals to students experiencing homelessness as defined by the McKinney-Vento Act. Contact: 760.355.5736 Building 100.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1: August 14 - 20	Syllabus & Introduction	Acquire course materials, become familiar with

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
		Canvas and the course, attend optional live orientation
Week 2: August 21-27	Module 1: California Regions and Basics	Read Chapter 1; Complete Module 1 Quiz and Discussion 1 by 11:59 pm on August 25
Week 3: August 28-September 3	Module 2: California Physical Geography Over Time	Read Chapters 2; Complete Module 2 Quiz and Discussion 2 by 11:59 pm on September 1
Week 4: September 4-10	Module 3: California Geomorphology	Read Chapter 3; Complete Module 3 Quiz, Discussion 3 by 11:59pm on September 8
Week 5: September 11-17	Module 4: Climates of California	Read Chapter 4; complete Module 4 Quiz, Discussion 4; Current Event Report 1 by 11:59 on September 15
Week 6: September 18-24	Module 5: California’s Biogeography	Read Chapter 5; Module 5 Quiz; Discussion 5 due by 11:59 pm on September 22
Week 7: September 25-October 1	Module 6: Hydrology in California	Read Chapter 6; Module 6 Quiz, and Discussion 6; Current Event Report 2 by 11:59 pm on September 29
Week 8: October 2 - 8	Review Week	
Week 9: October 9-15	Mid-Term Exam	Mid-Term due October 13 at 11:59 pm
Week 10: October 16-22	Module 7: California Population Dynamics and Migration Patterns	Read Chapter 7; Complete Module 7 Quiz and Discussion 7; Current Event Report 3 by 11:59 pm on October 27
Week 11: October 23-29	Module 8: Cultural Diversity in California	Read Chapter 8; Module 8 Quiz, Discussion 8 due by 11:59pm on November 3

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 12: October 30- November 5	Module 9: Primary Industry in California	Read Chapter 9; Module 9 Quiz, Discussion 9 due by 11:59pm on November 10
Week 13: November 6- 12	Module 10: Tech and Services in California	Read Chapter 10; Module 10 Quiz, Discussion 10; Current Event Report 4 by 11:59pm on November 17
Week 14: November 13- 19	Module 11: California’s Urban Geography	Read Chapter 11; Module 11 Quiz, Discussion 11 due by 11:59pm on December 1
Week 15: November 20- 26	Thanksgiving Break	
Week 16: November 27- December 3	Review Week	
Week 17: December 4-8	Final Exam	Final Exam Due Friday, December 8 at 11:59 Any outstanding work must be submitted by December 8 to receive credit.

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****