

**Thank you for choosing IVC! We are so happy to join you in your educational journey.**

### Basic Course Information

Semester:	<b>FALL 2021</b>	Instructor Name:	<b>Samuel Cortez</b>
Course Title & #:	<b>GEOG 100: Physical Geography</b>	Email:	
CRN #:	<b>10625</b>	Webpage (optional):	<b><a href="http://www.imperial.edu">http://www.imperial.edu</a></b>
Classroom:	<b>CALIP A YARD</b>	Office #:	<b>n/a</b>
Class Dates:	<b>Aug 16-Dec 11, 2021</b>	Office Hours:	<b>n/a</b>
Class Days:	<b>Correspondence</b>	Office Phone #:	<b>n/a</b>
Class Times:	<b>4 WEEK MODULES</b>	Emergency Contact:	<b>n/a</b>
Units:	<b>3.0</b>		

### Course Description

From the Imperial Valley College Catalog, this class is described in the following manner:

*“An introduction to the physical characteristics of the earth. Topics include: climate, land forms, natural vegetation, and the water and mineral resources of the earth.”* (CSU,UC)

This is essentially a physical science class: the first part of the course will focus on things happening in the atmosphere, such as weather and climate, while the second part will focus on things happening in the lithosphere (the planet itself), such as tectonics, erosion, deposition, and the creation of landforms.

Because it is a *geography* class, throughout the course we will be concerned with *why* these phenomena are happening *where* they are happening. And looking at lots of maps!

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

None

### 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. Demonstrate your understanding of geographic patterns of a specific locale by analyzing the flora, fauna, and weather patterns in relation to its physical setting. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Analyze current spatial geographic events using the Five Themes of Geography (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
3. Explain Plate Tectonics and how it has influenced landform formation (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)

## Course Objectives

**Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to understand, identify and summarize:**

1. The Earth's size, shape, and movements in space and the importance of these factors to environmental processes and patterns;
2. The atmospheric, geomorphological, and biotic processes that shape and influence the Earth's surface environments and landscapes.
3. The global distribution of the Earth's major climates, ecosystems, and physiographic (landform) features;
4. The basics tools and technological instruments and applications used in geographic research and inquiry;
5. Application of basic geographic concepts in the analysis of real-world variations in environmental patterns.

## Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

**Required text:** *McKnight's Physical Geography: A Landscape Appreciation* (12<sup>th</sup> edition) by Darrel Hess.

## Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Out of Class Assignments: This class is held via correspondence. All assignments will be sent to Calipatria Correctional Facility Prison via IVC Student Equity department.

- The course is designed for the completion of 4-Modules.
- Each module should be completed every 4-Weeks.
- Each module is composed with questionnaires, articles, assignments, reflections, quizzes and exams.
- Students are required to submit assignments (packages) through CDCR Staff. **PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT PACKAGES BEFORE THE DEADLINE.**
- Work at your own pace, each module is composed with approximately four chapters. I suggest you to complete one chapter per week. DON'T RUSH.
- Points may be deducted for assignments submitted after the due dates.

## KEY CONCEPTS/TERMS QUESTIONS

These questions will be provided for each chapter prior to the lectures and it is strongly suggested that they are completed as you read the assigned pages. The questions consist of key physical geography terms and concepts covered in the lectures and found in the reading. Exam questions come from these materials and you will be allowed to use these notes during exams. The questions will be made available for you to complete prior to the beginning of each chapter and will be due prior to the exam. A study guide containing the answers will be provided so you may prepare for the respective exams. Each set of questions (there will be 4 of them) is worth **50 points** for a total of **200 points**.

### PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

There will be **three**, worth **50 points** each for a total of **150 points**. The assignments consist of you writing a minimum of one-page essays each about specific topics in Physical Geography we are dealing with in class. There may be multiple questions/ topics that you will be required to write about. You will read the question(s) and write a minimum of two well-reasoned, clearly written paragraphs in response to the question; each paragraph must have a minimum of 5-6 sentences in your paper. Your response must clearly define the concept and explain its significance to topics discussed in class; references to the textbook will give authority to your answers and must be included. Each of the **three** entries will have a due date for submission.

### PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY IN THE NEWS

I will provide some news articles about items discussed in class that may come up in the news. You will read the articles and write a minimum of two well-reasoned, clearly written paragraphs in response to the article; each paragraph must have a minimum of 5-6 sentences in your paper. Your response must include one paragraph with a brief summary of the contents of the article in your own words and importantly the second paragraph must discuss how the article connects to some of the topics we are talking about in class. There will be **three** of these assignments worth **50 points** for a total of **150 points**. Please note that this class is not designed for memorization and regurgitation. Rather, in this class, I want you to think critically about how the physical geography of our world interacts with our human endeavors and I want you to find some relevance of what we are learning in class to what is happening outside and beyond college life.

### EXAMS

There will be four non-cumulative exams during the semester, worth **100 points** each, consisting of multiple-choice questions and matching definitions. Questions will emphasize concepts (how something works) over terminology (though there will be some terminological questions). Study guides for each exam will be provided one week prior to the exam date as well as we'll have a test prep session prior to the exam.

### MAP QUIZES

There will be **five** map quizzes during the semester, worth **20 points** each. These quizzes will need to be completed by the deadline, failure to complete by the deadline will result in the loss of those points. You may not make up quizzes unless you have any of the extraordinary circumstances mentioned above. The map quizzes will test your ability to properly locate and identify countries or states/provinces of each world region. With enough lead time I will provide a study guide for you to study the appropriate maps.

### MAKE UPS

In-class writing assignments may not be made up for any reason, ever. Quizzes, **assignments** and exams may **ONLY** be made up if you miss them due to **SERIOUS, EXTENUATING** circumstances.

Valid reasons for make-up exam:

- Serious illness requiring medical attention (which can be documented with a doctor's note)
- Death in the family (I hate to ask for documentation of this, but it seems that a LOT of grandparents, aunts, and uncles pass away right before exams)
- Issues in the Correction facility that may arise and that are beyond your control.

### Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Assignment	Points	Grading
1. Map Quizzes (5X20)	<b>100</b>	Your grade will be determined based on the following grading scale: 900-1000      A 800-899        B 700-799        C 600-699        D <599            F
2. Exam 1 (100 points)	<b>100</b>	
3. Exam 2 (100 points)	<b>100</b>	
4. Exam 3 (100 points)	<b>100</b>	
5. Exam 4 (100 points)	<b>100</b>	
5. Physical Geog News (3x50)	<b>150</b>	
6. Physical Geog Essays (3x50)	<b>150</b>	
7. Key Concept Questions (4x50)	<b><u>200</u></b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS:</b>	<b>1000</b>	

### Attendance

This class will meet through correspondence. Students are assigned course work every four weeks.

- Regular participation in submitting course content is expected of all students

### 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 Services for Students

**How do I access services now that we are mostly online? Please notice that some of these services may not be available to you. If any of these services is needed, please speak to Calipatria Correctional staff and or IVC's Student Equity Department.**

- [Learning Services](#). In order to accommodate students and maximize student success during the COVID-19 Pandemic, all tutoring support is being provided through one Zoom link ([IVC online Tutoring](#)). When campus is open again, there are several learning labs to assist students. Whether you need support using computers, or you need a tutor, please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- [Library Services](#). Visit the Spencer Library's page on the IVC website for a wealth of valuable resources and online access to databases, e-books and more. Contact us so we can help you with instructional and research development skills (for those conducting research and writing academic papers). When campus re-opens, students also have access to tutoring services in the Study Skills Center as well as private study rooms for small study groups. There is more to our library than just books!

### Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

**[Required language.]** 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. **When campus is open**, the DSP&S office is 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

**[Required language.]** 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, **but you must make an appointment**. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provides basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128, **or when campus reopens**, visit 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 for appointments, or **when campus reopens** visit Room 1536, for 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 in three key areas: 1) Academics, 2) Health and Wellness, and 3) Camaraderie. The Center also serves as a central hub that connects military/veteran students, as well as their families, to campus and community resources. The goal is to ensure a seamless transition from military to civilian life. When campus reopens, the Center is 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, book grants, transportation assistance, individualized counseling, tutoring, and community referrals to eligible students. Our staff is available to assist and support students in navigating personal, psychological, academic, and/or career-related issues through empathy, cultural-competence, and a commitment to equity and social justice. Also under the umbrella of EOPS is the CARE (Cooperative Agency Resources for Education) Program, designed to serve single parents and assist with addressing 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 about the EOPS or CARE Programs please contact our Program Office 760.335-6407 and/or visit our Program website [www.imperial.edu/students/eops](http://www.imperial.edu/students/eops) for eligibility criteria and application procedures. We look forward to serving you! - EOPS/CARE Staff

### **Student Equity Program**

The Student Equity & Achievement 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. SEA addresses disparities and/or disproportionate impact in student success across disaggregated student equity groups including gender, ethnicity, disability status, financial need, LGBTQIA+, Veterans, foster youth, homelessness, and formerly incarcerated students. The SEA Program also houses IVC's Homeless Liaison, Foster Youth Liaison, Formerly Incarcerated Liaison, and Military Affiliated Liaison, who provide direct services and referrals to students in need. SEA strives 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 enrollment, education, degree and certificate completion, and the ability to transfer to a university. SEA also provides outreach at local Imperial County high schools to ensure graduating seniors are successfully matriculated into the college and have a strong support system. Please visit us online for assistance at <https://imperial.edu/students/student-equity-and-achievement/> or call us at 760-355-6465 or when campus reopens, visit Building 401.

### **What if I cannot afford food, books, or need other help?**

We have many resources that are available to you. Please tell us what you need by submitting your request(s) here: <https://imperial.edu/students/student-equity-and-achievement/>

## 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

This calendar is subject to change, but not without fair notice.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Agenda/Topics</i>	<i>Reading</i>
<b>MODULE 1</b>			
<b>August 16- September 10</b>			
<b>1</b>		<b>Chapter 1: Introduction to the Class</b> <b>Earth-Sun Relationships:</b> Introduction to the Earth	Ch. 1 P. 3-27
<b>2</b>		<b>Chapter 2: Mapping and Emerging Geographic Information Technologies:</b> Portraying Earth	Ch. 2 P. 28-52
<b>3</b>		<b>Chapter 3: Atmospheric Layers:</b> Introduction to the Atmosphere <b>Chapter 4: Solar Insulation:</b> Insolation and Temperature	Ch. 3 P. 54-74 Ch. 4 P. 76-107
<b>Assignments Due Friday September 10</b>			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written Essay #1</li> <li>• News Write up #1</li> <li>• Map Quiz # 1: North America/ Latin America and Caribbean</li> <li>• Key Concepts Chapters 1-4</li> <li>• Exam # 1 Chapters 1-4</li> </ul>	
<b>MODULE 2</b>			
<b>September 13-October 8</b>			
<b>4</b>		<b>Chapter 5: Atmospheric Movement:</b> Atmospheric Pressure and Wind	Ch. 5 P. 108-137
<b>5</b>		<b>Chapter 6 Atmospheric Moisture</b>	Ch. 6 P. 138-173
<b>6</b>		<b>Finish Chapter 7 Atmospheric Disturbances</b>	Ch. 7 174-203
<b>7</b>		<b>Chapter 8: Carbon Cycle, Climate and Global Climate Change</b>	Ch. 8 P. 204-249
<b>Assignments Due Friday October 8</b>			



		<b>Written Essay #2</b> <b>News Write up #2</b> <b>Map Quiz #2: Africa and the Middle East</b> <b>Map Quiz #3: Europe/Russia/Central Asia</b> <b>Key Concepts Chapters 5-8</b> <b>Exam #2 Chapter 5-8</b>	
<b>MODULE 3</b> <b>October 11- November 5</b>			
<b>8</b>		<b>Chapter 9: The Hydrosphere</b>	Ch. 9 P. 250-276
<b>9</b>		<b>Chapter 10-11 Biogeography:</b> Cycles and Patterns in the Biosphere, Terrestrial Flora and Fauna	Ch. 10 P. 278-305 Ch. 11 P. 306-341
<b>10</b>		<b>Chapter 13: Landforms:</b> Introduction to Landform Study	Ch. 13 P. 372-397
		<b>Assignments Due Friday November 5</b>	
		<b>Written Essay #3</b> <b>News Write up #3</b> <b>Map Quiz #4: Asia</b> <b>Map Quiz #5: Oceania</b> <b>Key concepts chapters 10 -13</b> <b>Exam #3 chapters 10-13</b>	
<b>MODULE 4</b> <b>November 8- December 10</b>			
		<b>Chapter 14: Earthquakes and Volcanoes:</b> The Internal Processes	Ch. 14 P. 398-443
<b>11</b>		<b>Chapter 15: Erosion and Mass Wasting:</b> Weathering and Mass Wasting	Ch. 15 P. 444-497
<b>13</b>		<b>Chapter 16: Fluvial Processes</b>	Ch. 16 P. 466-497
		<b>Assignments Due Friday December 10</b>	
		<b>Key Concepts Chapters 14-16</b> <b>Exam #4 Chapters 14-16</b>	

\*\*\*Tentative, subject to change but not without prior notice\*\*\*