



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2024	Instructor Name:	Curtis Blondell
Course Title & #:	Geography 111 Physical Geography Laboratory	Email:	curtis.blondell@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10546	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	Online (Canvas)	Office #:	N/A
Class Dates:	August 12 – December 6	Office Hours:	Online (Zoom), or in person by arrangement Thursdays 12:00-1:00pm
Class Days:	Every day: Completely online	Office Phone #:	Alicia Arellano, staff secretary (760) 355-6144
Class Times:	Always accessible	Emergency Contact:	Alicia Arellano, staff secretary Behavioral & Social Science Department, Imperial Valley College 380 E. Aten Rd. Imperial, CA 92251 (760) 355-6144
Units:	1	Class Format:	Asynchronous-Online Only

Course Description

GEOG 111 is the laboratory course in Physical Geography. The course provides laboratory exercises in topics covered in GEOG 100, Physical Geography, which covers the Earth's atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere and lithosphere. The laboratory experience includes the observation and interpretation of weather data, statistical analysis of climate data, map analysis and interpretation, analysis of earth materials, along with landform processes, plate tectonics, and biogeography. (C-ID: GEOG 111) (CSU/UC)

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

GEOG 100 or Concurrent Enrollment in GEOG 100.

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. Explain how the Earth's geometry and motions in space affect environmental patterns and processes.
2. List, identify, and map the Earth's major physiographic features and climate distributions.
3. Collect and analyze geographic data and produce geographic tables, graphs and maps.

Course Objectives

1. Understand the size, shape, and movements of the Earth in space and their importance to environmental patterns and processes.
2. Analyze the major atmospheric, geomorphological, and biotic processes that shape the Earth's surface environments.
3. Identify global distributions of the world's major climates, ecosystems, and physiographic (landform) features.
4. Develop critical thinking and research skills related to the scientific method, scientific measurement, data analysis and practical experience using the tools and concepts of physical

geography.

5. Applications and activities related to basic concepts of physical geography in the analysis of real-world variations in environmental patterns.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

1. Hess, Darrel. 2021. Physical Geography Laboratory Manual for McKnight's Physical Geography: A Landscape Appreciation. 13th Pearson. ISBN: 978-0135918395.
(NOTE: Used copies of this lab manual may be missing pages, so purchase used books with caution. Copies of the lab manual may be available in the IVC Library.
The instructor CANNOT provide copies of textbook pages, etc.
2. [Zoom](#) for OPTIONAL Zoom meets.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

In this course, you will need to do the following:

- Complete necessary reading and complete multiple lab exercises. Two weeks (typically) are allowed to complete each module.
- You will need to use critical thinking skills to apply knowledge from Geography 100 and Geography 111 Lab Manual to understand and complete the exercises.
- There will be one (1) Quiz per module.
- There will be one (1) Midterm and one (1) Final Exam.

Typically, in a classroom we would do these labs together in groups. However, in this course you will be working online and on your own. Therefore, it is key that you do the following:

1. **Obtain the Lab Manual** (see Textbook above). It will be extremely difficult if not impossible to get a decent score without referencing the lab manual. **The lab manual contains essential reading and explanations.** Also, some questions on the exams reference labs.
 - a. If you think you can look up answers online, even through pay sites, you can still get the answer wrong.
2. **Start the labs as early as possible. Generally, I allow a two-week window between sections. Don't dawdle.**
 - a. Don't contact me the day the labs are due and expect me to rescue you.
 - b. I will help you, even through Zoom if necessary, but if you are having trouble, you need to reach out to me.
3. I have created "Helper Videos" and have tried to provide written hints to assist you, as I know working on your own can be frustrating.

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.



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Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

YOU MUST GET THE LAB MANUAL FOR THIS COURSE. TRYING TO COMPLETE THIS COURSE WITHOUT THE MANUAL WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.

8 Lab Modules (includes 1 Quiz per module) – 50 points each, 400 points total

Mid-Term Exam – 50 points

Final Exam – 50 Points

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

THIS COURSE REQUIRES A LOT OF CONSTANT WORK. EACH MODULE HAS MULTIPLE EXERCISES ALONG WITH A QUIZ. Let me say it again, this course is going to be a lot of work for 1 unit!

Extra Credit: No extra credit except what is assigned at the instructor's discretion.

Late Work Policy:

- Acceptance of late work is accepted at the discretion of the instructor.
- Late exercises or quizzes will be subject to a late penalty at the instructor's discretion.
- Makeup up exams (for absences that the instructor deems are a **valid** reason) must be arranged with the instructor, per IVC policies.
- **A request to retake an exam due to a failed internet connection or failing to take an exam within the allotted time will result in at minimum a 20- point deduction from the final score of the exam.**

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning.

Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

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 importance 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 or utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) 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.

Course Policies

Contacting your instructor:

Always send me email from your IVC email account, or via Canvas Inbox. Private emails may get lost in the IVC spam filter. The best email is: Curtis.blondell@imperial.edu.

ALWAYS make sure Subject Line Includes: Your Name, along with the name of this class. It is very important to let me know who you are and that you are taking this class, so I know the context of your email.

I make an effort to respond to emails ASAP, typically within hours. Do NOT expect an immediate response. If 48 hours pass and you do not get a response, send me another email.

Online Drop Policy:

As you may expect, attendance in an online class is a little bit different than in a live section. However, this class observes all of the IVC attendance policies related to enrollment and financial aid. Please see the IVC General Catalog if you need to review the following policies.

First Day Drops:

Because we do not have a firm meeting schedule in online classes, I consider you having attended the first day of class by accessing the Canvas site within 3 days of the first day of the term. If you do not access the site, or contact me by this time, then unfortunately you might be dropped from the course.

Failure to complete ALL assigned course work in Module 1 by the due date will result in the student being dropped without notice.

Late Work Policy:

Per the course syllabus, a student's grade is derived from points earned via the following assessments: Exams, Assignments, Reading Quizzes, and other. It is each student's responsibility to complete assignments on time. Please

refer to the following policies regarding late work.

Exams:

Exams (midterm and final) **MUST** be taken within their respective availability timeframes to receive credit. Please review the syllabus course (last page) for these times. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have a stable internet connection prior to starting an exam. **A request to retake an exam due to a failed internet connection or failing to take an exam within the allotted time will result in at minimum a 20- point deduction from the final score of the exam.**

Assignments and Reading Quizzes:

All assignments and reading quizzes may be completed up until the last day of the course (or otherwise indicated by the instructor) to be counted for points in the course. **Late point deductions will be assessed.**

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, only students enrolled in the class may attend; children are not allowed.

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 (!!!!)].



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Other Course Information

This course requires significant time dedication as students will be working individually. Helper videos have been created. However, students must be proactive in reaching out for assistance from the instructor. This can be done by emailing the instructor and arranging a Zoom consultation if necessary.

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

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- **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. Aside from resources you may find at IVC, a good writing resource is the [Purdue Owl](#) website.
- **[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 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.
- 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.

- [The Extended Opportunity Program](#) and Services (EOPS) offers services such as priority registration, personal/academic counseling, tutoring, book vouchers, and community referrals to qualifying lowincome 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 [CARE](#).

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 or for information on EOPS services, please contact [EOPS](#).

Continue reading for course syllabus.

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THE INSTRUCTOR CANNOT PROVIDE COPIES OF THE LAB MANUAL.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Weeks 1 & 2 August 12 – August 24	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Intro, Units, Map Reading</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Module 1 Quiz & Exercises due August 24 at 11:59 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Introduce yourself in Module 0 by August 15 or you will be dropped (required)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>*In some instances assigned reading might cover exercises that are not assigned. However, questions relevant to the text might show up in quizzes or the exams*</i></p>	Acquire course materials, become familiar with Canvas and the course. Read pp. 1 –2 Read pp. 5 –6 Read pp. 15 –16 Read pp. 19 –22 Read pp. 25 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 1: Part 1 Exercise 2: Parts 1 and 2 Exercise 4: Parts 1 and 2
Weeks 3 & 4 August 26 – September 7	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 2 – The Atmosphere</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Module 2 Quiz & Exercises due September 7 at 11:59 p.m.</p>	Read pp. 66 Read pp. 71 – 72 Read pp. 77 – 80 Read pp. 83 – 86 Read pp. 93 – 94 Read pp. 99 – 100 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 12: Parts 1 and 3 Exercise 13: Part 1 Exercise 15: Parts 1 and 3 Exercise 16: Part 1
Weeks 5 & 6 September 9 – September 21	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 3 – Weather Basics</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Module 3 Quiz & Exercises due September 21 @ 11:59 p.m.</p>	Read pp. 105 – 108 Read pp. 113 – 114 Read pp. 121 – 126 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 18: Parts 1 and 2 Exercise 19: Parts 1 and 2 Exercise 20: Parts 1 and 2

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 7 September 23 – October 5	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 4 – Storms</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Module 4 Quiz & Exercises due October 5 at 11:59 p.m.</p>	Read pp. 131 – 134 Read pp. 137 – 140 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 21: Part 1 Exercise 22: Part 1
Week 8 October 7 – October 12	<p style="text-align: center;">**Midterm Exam**</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Due Saturday, October 12 at 11:59 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MIDTERM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Due Saturday, October 12 at 11:59 p.m.</p>
Weeks 9 & 10 October 14 – October 26	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 5 – Climate</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Module 5 Quiz & Exercises due October 26 at 11:59 p.m.</p>	Read pp. 145 – 152 Read pp. 165 – 170 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 23: Parts 1 and 3 Exercise 24: Part 1
Week 11 October 28 – November 2	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 6 – Biogeography</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Module 6 Quiz & Exercises Due November 2 at 11:59 p.m.</p>	Read pp. 181-184 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 26: Part 1
Weeks 12 & 13 November 4 – November 16	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 7 – Plate Tectonics</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Module 7 Quiz & Exercises due November 16 at 11:59 p.m.</p>	Read pp. 223 – 228 Read pp. 233 – 235 Read pp. 241 – 242 Read pp. 247 – 249 Read pp. 253 – 255 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 33: Part 1 and 2 Exercise 34: Part 1 Exercise 37: Part 2
Weeks 14 & 15 November 18 – December 6	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 8 – Geomorphology</p>	Read pp. 307 – 309 Read pp. 317 – 319 Read pp. 323 – 325



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
	<p align="center">Module 8 Quiz & Exercises due December 6 at 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Read pp. 331 – 335 Read pp. 343 – 347</p> <p><u>Complete:</u> Exercise 46: Part 1 Exercise 47: Part 1 Exercise 49: Part 1</p>
<p>Week 16 FINALS WEEK December 2 – December 6</p>	<p align="center"><i>FINAL EXAM</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Due December 6 @ 3:00 p.m.</i></p> <p align="center"><i>All Coursework Due Friday, December 6 @ 3:00 p.m.</i></p>	<p align="center">➤ Final Exam due Friday, December 6 at 3:00 p.m.</p>

Subject to change without prior notice