



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2025	Instructor Name:	Curtis Blondell
Course Title & #:	Geography 111 Physical Geography Laboratory	Email:	curtis.blondell@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10546	Webpage (optional):	https://imperial.instructure.com/courses/29616
Classroom:	Online (Canvas)	Office #:	N/A
Class Dates:	August 11 – December 5	Office Hours:	6:00-8:00 p.m. Wednesdays or in person by arrangement
Class Days:	Every day: Completely online	Office Phone #:	Elvia Camillo, Staff Support Technician (760) 355-6144
Class Times:	Always accessible	Emergency Contact:	Elvia Camillo, Staff Support Technician 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:

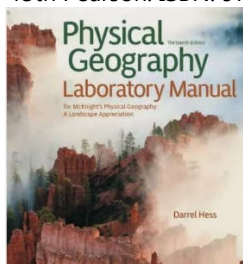
1. Explain how the Earth's geometry and motions in space affect environmental patterns and processes.
2. List, identify, and map the Earth's major physiographic features and climate distributions.
3. Collect and analyze geographic data and produce geographic tables, graphs and maps.

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 Lab Manual 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.

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



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THIS COURSE REQUIRES A LOT OF CONSTANT WORK. EACH MODULE HAS MULTIPLE EXERCISES ALONG WITH A QUIZ.

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 considers 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 failure 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.

Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

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:

This class observes all the IVC attendance policies related to IVC policies.

If the instructor feels a student is no longer participating in the course, the student will be dropped without notice.

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

First Day Drops:

Because we do not have a firm meeting schedule in online classes, **I consider attendance in the class as accessing the Canvas site on the first day of class in the semester.**

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 or risk deduction of points.

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 time 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. 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.

• Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student with continuous unexcused absences might be dropped without notice. **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.**

Other Course Information

• A student that the instructor feels is creating a detrimental learning environment for other students for whatever reason risks being referred to IVC administration for discipline.

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

IVC Student Resources

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.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Weeks 1 & 2 August 11 – August 23	<p>Module 1 Intro, Units, Map Reading</p> <p>Module 1 Quiz & Exercises due August 23 at 11:59 p.m.</p> <p>Introduce yourself in Module 0 by August 11 or you will be dropped (required)</p> <p><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>	<p>Acquire course materials, become familiar with Canvas and the course.</p> <p>Read pp. 1 –2 Read pp. 5 –6 Read pp. 15 –16 Read pp. 19 –22 Read pp. 25</p> <p>Complete: Exercise 1: Part 1 Exercise 2: Parts 1 and 2 Exercise 4: Parts 1 and 2</p>
Weeks 3 & 4 August 25 – September 6	<p>Module 2 – The Atmosphere</p> <p>Module 2 Quiz & Exercises due September 6 at 11:59 p.m.</p>	<p>Read pp. 66 Read pp. 71 – 72 Read pp. 77 – 80 Read pp. 83 – 86</p>

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
		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 8 – September 20	Module 3 – Weather Basics Module 3 Quiz & Exercises due September 20 @ 11:59 p.m.	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
Week 7 September 22 – October 4	Module 4 – Storms Module 4 Quiz & Exercises due October 4 at 11:59 p.m.	Read pp. 131 – 134 Read pp. 137 – 140 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 21: Part 1 Exercise 22: Part 1
Week 8 October 6 – October 11	**Midterm Exam** Due Saturday, October 11 at 11:59 p.m.	MIDTERM Due Saturday, October 11 at 11:59 p.m.
Weeks 9 & 10 October 13 – October 25	Module 5 – Climate Module 5 Quiz & Exercises due October 25 at 11:59 p.m.	Read pp. 145 – 152 Read pp. 165 – 170 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 23: Parts 1 and 3 Exercise 24: Part 1
Week 11 October 27 – November 1	Module 6 – Biogeography Module 6 Quiz & Exercises Due November 1 at 11:59 p.m.	Read pp. 181-184 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 26: Part 1
Weeks 12 & 13 November 3 – November 15	Module 7 – Plate Tectonics Module 7 Quiz & Exercises due November 15 at 11:59 p.m.	Read pp. 223 – 228 Read pp. 233 – 235 Read pp. 241 – 242 Read pp. 247 – 249 Read pp. 253 – 255 <u>Complete:</u>



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
		Exercise 33: Part 1 and 2 Exercise 34: Part 1 Exercise 37: Part 2
Weeks 14 & 15 November 17 – December 5	Module 8 – Geomorphology Module 8 Quiz & Exercises due December 5 at 3:00 p.m.	Read pp. 307 – 309 Read pp. 317 – 319 Read pp. 323 – 325 Read pp. 331 – 335 Read pp. 343 – 347 <u>Complete:</u> Exercise 46: Part 1 Exercise 47: Part 1 Exercise 49: Part 1
November 24 – November 29	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i> <i>November 24- 29</i>	➤ <i>Have fun!</i>
Week 16 FINALS WEEK December 1 – December 5	<i>FINAL EXAM</i> <i>Due December 5 @ 3:00 p.m.</i> <i>All Coursework Due</i> <i>Friday, December 5 @ 3:00 p.m.</i>	➤ Final Exam due Friday, December 5 at 3:00 p.m.

Subject to change without prior notice