

## Syllabus

### **GEOG-1017 Introduction to Physical Geography - Winter 2014 (3 CEUs)**

Tuesday and Thursday 10:30-11:50am, F210

Professor: **Dr. Adam Csank** <adamc@nipissingu.ca>

Office: **R213**

Phone: 705-474-3450 (4023)

Office hours: M W 11-12; T Th 1:00-2:00pm or anytime by appointment (send e-mail or arrange in class).

\* Note, e-mail queries will be answered between the hours of 9:00am to 6:00pm Monday-Friday only.

Laboratory Instructors: **Mary Jackson** and **Jeff Wilson**

#### Readings:

1. Required textbook: *Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography, Third Canadian Edition* by Christopherson, Byrne and Giles, Pearson, 2011.

Homework: As per schedule but subject to change.

Course content: This course is designed to introduce the student to the important physical systems of the Earth; such as, the lithosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere and how they interact with each other. The student will be introduced to the philosophies, theories and concepts upon which physical and environmental geography is based. Laboratory exercises demonstrate the use of maps and aerial photographs and other equipment and methods of geographical analysis. This course may be credited towards the science breadth requirement.

Attendance and make-ups: Daily class attendance is expected. 20% absenteeism (8 missed classes, 6 missed labs) is grounds for administrative drop. Make-ups are possible with a valid excuse-Notification on or before the day of the exams is required depending on the nature of the crisis. There are no make-ups for in-class activities.

#### Grading:

Labs: 30%

Final Exam 30%

Mid-Term Exam: 15%

Quizzes 10%

Group activities 5%

Homework 10%

Extra Credit: Relevant and approved TV specials (NOVA, Discovery Channel, CBC, etc.), special talks/lectures, and documentaries can be viewed and journal/magazine articles read after which a 1-page double-spaced typewritten summary/critique must be submitted within 1 week of the opportunity, 1 EC point each. NOTE: Only 2 extra points may be earned after March 6<sup>th</sup>. Max. total Extra Credit is 6 points, and will be added on to your final class grade average.

Communication: Urgent messages may be sent to you via email. If you have a preferred e-mail address other than your "@nipissingu.ca" address please let the instructor know. Less urgent information will be posted on Blackboard and the class website <<http://www.azcank.com/geog1017.html>> **-check it regularly.**

Cheating and Plagiarism: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated, including cheating on quiz/exams, copying of assignments, and presenting the work of others as your own (plagiarism). Anyone cheating, plagiarizing or violating any other aspect of the code of academic integrity will be assigned the grade of "0" on the assignment or quiz/exam for the first offence. Any subsequent infractions will result in a grade of "F" for the course and will be reported to University officials for disciplinary action. Policies and procedures in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities can be viewed at <http://www.nipissingu.ca/departments/student-development-and-services/Pages/Code-of-Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities.aspx>

Miscellaneous:

1. Unless explicitly requested by the instructors, assignments submitted by e-mail attachment will not be accepted.
2. Work turned in late will either receive a zero (0), or loss of 5-10% per day depending on assignment.
3. Pet Peeve = Distracting the instructor or your fellow students, e.g., with cell phone ringing (**turn it off!**), text messaging, conversations with your neighbour during class, newspaper reading, laptop use unrelated to this course, etc.
4. If you are on a sports team, please leave a photocopy of your absence excuse with the instructor during lecture.
5. For any other special needs, bring the instructor your paperwork and/or explain circumstances.

Syllabus is subject to change as announced in class; additional announcements, assignments and information will also be posted on the course web site.

Notes:

1. Additional readings may be assigned in class,
2. Homework(s) may be done in class that were not formally announced beforehand.

### Course Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	
<u>Jan-9</u>	Essentials of Geography	
<u>Jan-14</u>	On Science	
<b>Theme</b>	<b>The Atmosphere</b>	
<u>Jan-16</u>	Solar Energy & The Seasons	Quiz 1
<u>Jan-21</u>	Earth's Energy Balance	
<u>Jan-23</u>	Atmospheric Composition & Structure	
<u>Jan-28</u>	Atmospheric & Oceanic Circulation	
<u>Jan-30</u>	Global Temperatures	Group Activity 1
<b>Theme</b>	<b>The Hydrosphere</b>	
<u>Feb-4</u>	Water and Atmospheric Moisture	
<u>Feb-6</u>	Water Resources	Homework 1 / Group Activity 2
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Weather &amp; Climate</b>	
<u>Feb-11</u>	Weather	Quiz 2
<u>Feb-13</u>	Climate Systems	
<u>Feb-18</u>	READING WEEK	
<u>Feb-20</u>	READING WEEK	
<u>Feb-25</u>	<b>Mid-term exam</b>	

<u>Feb-27</u>	Climate Change	<a href="#">Homework 2</a>
<b>Theme</b>	<b>The Geosphere</b>	
<u>Mar-4</u>	Our Dynamic Planet	
<u>Mar-6</u>	Weathering, Karst Landscapes & Mass Movement	
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Geomorphology</b>	
<u>Mar-11</u>	Geography of Soils	<a href="#">Homework 3</a>
<u>Mar-13</u>	Fluvial Geomorphology	<a href="#">Quiz 3</a>
<u>Mar-18</u>	Eolian Processes & Arid lands	
<u>Mar-20</u>	The Oceans & Coastal Processes	
<b>Theme</b>	<b>The Cryosphere</b>	
<u>Mar-25</u>	Glacial and Periglacial Processes	<a href="#">Homework 4</a>
<b>Theme</b>	<b>The Biosphere</b>	
<u>Mar-27</u>	Ecosystem Essentials	<a href="#">Quiz 4</a>
<u>Apr-1</u>	Terrestrial Biomes	<a href="#">Homework 5 / Group Activity 3</a>
<u>Apr-3</u>	The Human Factor	<a href="#">Quiz 5</a>