

MOUNTAIN GEOGRAPHY – GEOG 410/510

Winter 2014 Term, University of Oregon, 4 credits

Course Registration Number: GEOG 410 – 28022, GEOG 510 – 28023

Lecture: 2:00pm – 3:20pm Mondays & Wednesdays, 206 CON

Instructor: Mark Fonstad, Condon 107F, fonstad@uoregon.edu, 541-346-4208

Instructor Office Hours: 1:00pm – 2:00pm Mondays and Wednesdays

Geography 410/510: Mountain Geography provides an introduction to mountain environments and systems. Subjects within the class include the geologic origins of mountains, mountain climates and hydrologic components, the geomorphology of mountains, mountain soils, vegetation, and wildlife, mountain peoples and their attitudes towards mountains, agricultural settlement and land use in mountains, and sustainable mountain development. An entire course could be devoted to any of these topics, so this course will be a broad-based survey. The goal of this class is for you to develop a broad understanding of mountain environments and peoples in terms of their processes, spatial patterns, histories, and choices and to be able to use this understanding to research and describe mountain system subjects on your own.

REQUIRED READINGS

The readings for this class come from a brand-new required textbook: Mountain Geography: Physical and Human Dimensions (2014), edited by M.F. Price, A.C. Byers, D.A. Friend, T. Kohler, and L.W. Price. It is available from the Duck Store and is also available from Amazon.com and other online sites. The class will follow the textbook very closely, so this is definitely a required textbook.

TERM PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The course requirements include a term project in three parts: a project proposal, a written project report, and an in-class poster presentation. Each student will choose a mountain system to research, interpret, and describe. This system must include some amount of both physical and human activities, and should be of a scope that is reasonable for the class requirements. The instructor will discuss the details of the term project during class. Term project items must be turned in to me by the class period noted – otherwise you will receive a ZERO on that item unless you have made arrangements with me beforehand. It is essential that you complete the exercises because many of them build on knowledge you have gained from a previous exercise. You are also welcome to use the SSIL lab to complete the exercises.

GRADES

There will be two exams in this class (a midterm and a final); each worth 25% of your total grade. Both are closed-note/closed-book. Class participation in discussions and in-class activities is worth 10% of the total grade. Each student will choose a topic for a term project, and this will serve as the basis for the remainder of the grade percentages: 10% for the 2-page term project proposal, 20% for the written term project report, and 10% on the project presentation to the class in the form of a poster. Graduate students have the same breakdown in terms of activities and percentages, but will be graded separately from the undergraduates and the individual project elements will have additional expectations. The final grade scale is as follows: A+: >98; A: 92-98; A-: 90-92; B+: 88-90; B: 82-88; B-: 80-82; C+: 78-80; C: 72-78; C-: 70-72%; D+: 68-70; D: 62-68; D-: 60-62; F: <60.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

I *will not* tolerate cheating or academic misconduct/dishonesty in my courses; examples of these behaviors include (but are not limited to):

- Plagiarism (passing off the work of another as that of your own)
- Copying answers from your neighbors during exams/activities
- Dishonesty concerning reasons for absence from class
- Any other actions that might give you an unfair advantage over your classmates.

All cases of academic dishonesty/misconduct will be referred immediately to the Student Judicial Affairs Office. The penalties for engaging in academic dishonesty and/or misconduct can range from a grade of “F” for an assignment to an automatic failure of the course. Please consult the university policy at <http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/judicial/conduct/sai.htm>.

LATE/MAKE-UP WORK

Late exercises will not be accepted and make-up work will not be assigned, except in extreme circumstances and where you have documentation (i.e. doctor’s note). If you must miss an exercise due date or exam due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances, you **MUST** notify the instructor prior to missing it at all possible.

DISABILITY SERVICES NOTICE

I work hard to ensure a quality learning experience for all students. If you need specific accommodations to get the most out of this class, please let me know by (1) informing me of your particular needs, and (2) providing the appropriate documentation from the campus learning services office. I will make every effort to accommodate your needs, but you must notify me by the first week of class if you need special arrangements.

NOTE: I consider this syllabus a contract between myself and the students in this course. In writing this syllabus, I have obligated myself to follow the policies and procedures contained herein. You are responsible for understanding and following these policies as well. I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus. You will receive verbal and written notification of major changes to course policies, procedures and content.

IMPORTANT CLASS ADMINISTRATIVE DATES

- Jan. 5: Process a complete drop (100% refund, no W recorded)
- Jan. 12: Process a complete drop (90% refund, no W recorded)
- Jan. 13: Drop this course (75% refund, no W recorded; after this date, W's are recorded)
- Jan. 15: Last day to add this course
- Jan. 15: Last day to change to or from audit
- Jan 19: Withdraw from this course (75% refund, W recorded)
- Jan. 26: Withdraw from this course (50% refund, W recorded)
- Feb. 2: Withdraw from this course (25% refund, W recorded)
- Feb. 23: Withdraw from this course (0% refund, W recorded)
- Feb. 23: Change grading option for this course

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic or event</u>	<u>Assignment Due</u>	<u>Readings</u>
6-Jan	Class intro; Introduction to Mountains		Chapter 1
8-Jan	Origins of Mountains		Chapter 2
13-Jan	Mountain Climate		Chapter 3
15-Jan	Mountain Climate		Chapter 3
20-Jan	No Class - MLK Day		
22-Jan	Snow & Ice in Mountains		Chapter 4
27-Jan	Snow & Ice in Mountains		Chapter 4
29-Jan	Mountain Landforms & Geomorph Processes		Chapter 5
3-Feb	Mountain Landforms & Geomorph Processes	Project Proposal Due	Chapter 5
5-Feb	Mountain Soils		Chapter 6
10-Feb	Midterm Exam		
12-Feb	Mountain Vegetation		Chapter 7
17-Feb	Mountain Vegetation		Chapter 7
19-Feb	Mountain Wildlife		Chapter 8
24-Feb	Attitudes Toward Mountains		Chapter 9
26-Feb	People in the Mountains		Chapter 10
3-Mar	People in the Mountains		Chapter 10
5-Mar	Agric. Settlement and Land Use in Mtns	Term Projects Due	Chapter 11
10-Mar	Mtn Land Use and Sustainable Development		Chapter 12
12-Mar	Sustainable Mountain Development	In-Class Posters	Chapter 12
17-Mar	Final Exam, 3:15pm		