University of North Texas at Dallas
SPRING 2016 SYLLABUS GEOG 1710.001 Earth Science 3Hrs
Division of Liberal Arts & Life Sciences

Instructor Name:	Steve J. Gaciri
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Office Hours:	S Before or After Classes with appointment
Classroom Location:	DAL 2, room 212
Meeting Days & Times:	Saturday 9:00-12:00 Lec;12:10-1:50PM Lab
Course Catalog Description:	Principles and processes of physical geography. Introduction to mapping, weather and climate, soil and vegetation, and landforms of rivers, coasts and deserts. May be used to satisfy a portion of the Natural Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum.
Co-requisites:	GEOG 1710.301
Required Text:	Geosystems: Eighth Edition, 2012, by Robert W. Christopherson
Recommended Text and References:	The book includes an access code to the Mastering Geography website (http://www.masteringgeography.com/), which can be used to study and review material in conjunction with the textbook, lectures, and laboratory exercises.
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com

Course Goals or Overview:

The goal of this course is to provide an introduction to the study of the Earth and its component systems.in particular to the physical and biological factors that create the biosphere in which we live. The goal of this class is to provide you with a basic, yet comprehensive, understanding of your physical environment.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of the course, the student will;

1. Be able to understand and apply the scientific method and apply appropriate technology to the study of natural sciences

2. Be able to recognize scientific and quantitative methods of enquiry and to be able to

communicate findings, analyses and interpretations based upon these findings.

3. Be able to identify and recognize the differences among competing scientific theories.

Course Evaluation Methods:

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.
Lecture and lab grades are combined into one course grade. Your performance on the lecture instruments will determine 70 percent of the total grade, while your performance in lab will determine 30 percent of your course grade. You must pass the lab portion to pass the course, regardless of lecture grade. Lecture requirements are detailed below and lab requirements are detailed in the lab syllabus.
Exams – 4 Exams (including the non-cumulative final) = 400 Points weighted to 70%
Lab Grade – Exercises, Quizzes and Homework =100 Points weighted to 30%

Total 100%

Grade Determination:
A = 90 - 100
B = 80 - 89
C = 70 - 79
D = 60 - 69
F = less than 60

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):
The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:
The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Exam Policy:
Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook)
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Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and

procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.
In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:
On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

Bad Weather Policy:
On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:
The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:
Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:
- Laptops use should be limited to note taking purposes.
- Cell phones and mp3 players should be turned off and put up during class.
- Food is prohibited in the classroom. It is ok to have drinks, but make sure they have tight-fitting lids to prevent spills and embarrassment.
- A grade of incomplete "I" will only be given if the student has a passing grade before they are legitimately prevented from attending and completing the course.

Geog 1710 .001 Earth Science -Course Outline–Spring 2016

WEEK	**CHAPTERS & TOPICS**
01/18/2016	CH-1: Introduction &Essentials of Geography
01/25/2016	ATMOSPHERE CH-2 & 3: Solar Radiation & Earth's Modern Atmosphere
02/01/2016	CH-4: Atmosphere and Surface Energy Balance
02/08/2014	**Exam # 1**
02/15/2016	HYDROSPHERE CH-6: Atmospheric, Oceanic Circulation and Weather
02/22/2016	CH-7 & 8: Water & Atmospheric Moisture
02/29/2016	CH-9 & 10: Weather, Climate Systems & Climate Change
03/07/2014	**Exam # 2**
03/14/2016	**SPRING BREAK**
03/21/2016	LITHOSPHERE CH-11: Dynamic Planet
03/28/2016	CH-12: Tectonics, Earthquakes and Volcanism
04/04/2016	CH-14: River Systems and Landforms
04/11/2016	CH-16: The Oceans, Coastal Processes and Landforms
04/18/2016	CH-17: Glacial, Periglacial Processes and Landforms CH-18: Weathering and Soils
04/25/2016	**Exam #3:**
05/02/2014	BIOSPHERE CH-19: Ecosystem Essentials CH-21: Earth and Human Denominator

05/09/2016	**Final Exam :Comprehensive Exam**

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