



University of Manitoba
CHR Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources
Department of Environment and Geography

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COURSE DETAILS

Course Title & Number: GEOG 1290 D01

Number of Credit Hours: 3 credit hours

Class Times & Days of Week: Online Course

Pre-Requisites: None

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor(s) Name: John Iacozza

Preferred Form of Address: John (preferred) or Dr. Iacozza

Office Location: 594 Wallace Building

Office Hours or Availability: No scheduled office hours. Please email or call me to make an appointment.

Office Phone No. 204-474-8483

Email: John.Iacozza@umanitoba.ca
I try to respond to emails or phone calls within 24-48 hours, except on weekends.

Contact: You can email or call me between 9 am and 4 pm Monday to Friday.

Course Description

This course studies aspects of our physical environment: climate, landforms, soils and vegetation. Not to be held with GEOG 1291 or GEOG 1200 or GEOG 1201.

General Course Information

Studies in PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY are focused upon the thin surface layer of the Earth where land, air, and water meet. The topics included in this introductory course appear as parts of many disciplines such as: Geology, Meteorology, Climatology, Biology, Pedology and Oceanography; but the basic concern of those who study Physical Geography is to investigate the ways in which phenomena associated with these various disciplines interact with one another, over different spatial scales. Humans are becoming increasingly aware of the significance of changes that occur in the physical environment. We are at last beginning to realize that we too have an impact upon the environment, and that the consequences of our actions may have a positive or a negative effect.

This course is divided into 5 units, including the Introduction to the Course section. Each of the remaining modules focuses on a specific aspect of Earth System

Unit 1: Introduction to the Course and Physical Geography (week 1)

This unit describes the objectives of this course including a review of the course policies and the evaluation methods used to calculate a final grade. In addition, this module is designed to introduce students to the science of physical geography, the various spheres of the Earth system, as well as concepts and terms used throughout this course.

Unit 2: The Atmosphere (Week 2-5)

This unit focuses on processes operating within the gaseous layers above the Earth's surface known as the atmosphere. Students will learn about the various layers within the atmosphere, processes that control atmospheric condition (including air temperature, precipitation and humidity, and pressure and winds) and how weather and climate vary both spatially and temporally.

Unit 3: The Hydrosphere/Cryosphere (week 6-7)

The hydrosphere focuses on the processes responsible for the cycling of water within the Earth system. The cryosphere is a sub-set of the hydrosphere, examining processes concerned with solid water in the system, including periglacial and glacial systems. This unit is designed to introduce students to these various processes with these spheres and how they are affected by and control features and processes within the atmosphere.

Unit 4: The Lithosphere (week 8-10)

This unit identifies both internal and external forces that act on the Earth's surface to create specific landforms and features. The forces discussed include volcanic and tectonic processes, weathering and mass wasting, as well as fluvial systems.

Unit 5: The Biosphere (week 11-12)

The processes operating in the other spheres of the Earth contribute to the formation and development of the biosphere or the spatial patterns of flora and fauna on the Earth. In this unit, students explore the factors responsible for the development of soil (including characteristics), as well as the controls on the geographies of plants and animals, known as biogeography.

Course Goals

This course aims to increase the understanding of the various components of the Earth system, by highlighting the main processes occurring within the physical and biological environments and how these are connected. Specifically, the learning goals of the course are to:

- distinguish between the atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere/cryosphere and hydrosphere,
- identify the components of the global and local radiation budget and the factors that contribute to these components,
- catalogue the factors that control air temperature, precipitation and humidity, winds and air pressure, as well as the spatial and temporal variability in these climate parameters,
- identify how volcanic and tectonic processes operate on or within the Earth's surface and explain how these processes create specific landforms,
- identify how various denudation agents, such as glacial ice and water in a channel, create landforms common on Earth,
- explain the role water plays in the various Earth processes,
- explore the spatial distribution of plants and animals on the Earth's surface and the factors/processes that control this distribution,
- appraise the role increasing human activity is having on these various processes within the Earth system,
- apply the understanding of processes occurring in one or more spheres to explain local and regional conditions on the Earth, including landforms, atmospheric conditions or other features.

Learning Activities

During this course students are asked to participate in a number of learning activities. These activities are designed to help in their understanding of the various components of the Arctic region. These specific activities include:

- viewing the voice over PowerPoint slideshows associated with each module
- viewing the videos exploring various processes and concepts important for the operation of each sphere
- reading the instructional content provided for each module. The instructional content will present an outline of the PowerPoint slideshows and videos, explain in bullets the main concepts/processes, as well as identify key terms important for each unit. This content can be used to aid in reading the assigned course material and to focus learning.
- reading assigned course material (including textbook chapters and animations/videos provided through the learning site associated with the textbook)
- demonstrating your learning through a variety of assessments, including quizzes, assignments and online discussion.

Using Copyrighted Material

Please respect copyright. We will use copyrighted content in this course. I have ensured that the content I use is appropriately acknowledged and is copied in accordance with copyright laws and University guidelines. Copyrighted works, including those created by me, are made available for private study and research and must not be distributed in any format without permission. Do not upload copyrighted works to a learning management system (such as UM Learn), or any website, unless an exception to the *Copyright Act* applies or written permission has been confirmed. For more information, see the University's Copyright Office website at <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/> or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca.

Recording Class Lectures

John Iacozza and the University of Manitoba hold copyright over the course materials, presentations and lectures which form part of this course. No audio or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission from John Iacozza. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research.

Textbook, Readings, Materials

Required: Gervais, B. (2019). *Living Physical Geography* (2nd ed.). MacMillan Education
ISBN: 9781319056889.

Student should also have access to Sapling Plus through Macmillan Learning. This site will be used to provide quiz examples, videos and other study guides.

Course Technology

It is the general University of Manitoba policy that all technology resources are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner. The student can use all technology in classroom setting only for educational purposes approved by instructor and/or the University of Manitoba Disability Services. Student should not participate in personal direct electronic messaging / posting activities (e-mail, texting, video or voice chat, wikis, blogs, social networking (e.g. Facebook) online and offline “gaming” during scheduled class time. If student is on call (emergency) the student should switch his/her cell phone on vibrate mode and leave the classroom before using it. (@[S Kondrashov](#). Used with permission)

You should be familiar with UMLearn, the course management software used by the University of Manitoba. You can access online resources for UMLearn through [Centre For The Advancement Of Teaching & Learning](#).

Class Communication

The University requires all students to activate an official University email account. For full details of the Electronic Communication with Students please visit: [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Electronic Communication with Students Policy - 2014 06 05.pdf](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Electronic_Communication_with_Students_Policy_-_2014_06_05.pdf)

Please note that all communication between myself and you as a student must comply with the electronic communication with student policy ([http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic communication with students policy.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html)). You are required to obtain and use your U of M email account for all communication between yourself and the university.

Expectations: I Expect You To

I will treat you with respect and would appreciate the same courtesy in return. See [Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy](#).

Students are required to complete the necessary assignments individually and on time, unless otherwise stated. Students are encouraged to consult with other students on the assignments, however it is expected that all questions will be answered in the student’s own words. Failure to do so will result in a penalty (see section of course outline on Academic Integrity).

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating) is a very serious matter in any academic institution and is dealt with severely at the University of Manitoba.

Plagiarism or any other form of cheating in examinations, quizzes or academic work is subject to serious academic penalty (e.g. suspension or expulsion from the faculty or university). Cheating in examinations or tests may take the form of copying from another student or bringing unauthorized materials into the exam room (e.g., crib notes, pagers or cell phones). Exam cheating can also include exam personation (see below). A student found guilty of contributing to cheating in examinations or term assignments is also subject to serious academic penalty, including a grade of zero on the assignment/exam, a final grade of F in the course or expulsion from the University (based on severity of offense).

To plagiarize is to take ideas or words of another person and pass them off as one's own. In short, it is stealing something intangible rather than an object. Plagiarism applies to any written work, in traditional or electronic format, as well as orally or verbally presented work. Obviously it is not necessary to state the source of well-known or easily verifiable facts, but students are expected to appropriately acknowledge the sources of ideas and expressions they use in their written work, whether quoted directly or paraphrased. This applies to diagrams, statistical tables and the like, as well as to written material, and materials or information from Internet sources. Students must use either APA or Chicago styles to properly reference work. Students will be penalized 20% if another style or footnotes are used in the assignment. Information on the acceptable styles is available through the UM Libraries at:

<http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/c.php?g=298394>

To provide adequate and correct documentation is not only an indication of academic honesty but is also a courtesy, which enables the reader to consult these sources with ease. Failure to provide appropriate citations constitutes plagiarism. It will also be considered plagiarism and/or cheating if a student submits a term paper written in whole or in part by someone other than him/herself, or copies the answer or answers of another student in any test, examination, or take-home assignment.

Working with other students on assignments, laboratory work, take-home tests, or on-line tests, when not permitted by the instructor, can constitute Inappropriate Collaboration and may be subject to penalty under the Student Discipline By-Law.

An assignment that is prepared and submitted for one course should not be used for a different course. This is called "duplicate submission" and represents a form of cheating because course requirements are expected to be fulfilled through original work for each course.

Please familiarize yourself with the University policy on academic dishonesty found on the following website:

http://www.umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/cheating_plagiarism_fraud.html. When in doubt about any practice, ask your professor or instructor.

Examinations Personations is when a student who arranges for another individual to undertake or write any nature of examination for and on his/her behalf, as well as the individual who undertakes or writes the examination, will be subject to discipline under the university's Student Discipline Bylaw, which could lead to suspension or expulsion from the university. In

addition, the Canadian Criminal Code treats the personation of a candidate at a competitive or qualifying examination held at a university as an offence punishable by summary conviction. Section 362 of the code provides:

Personation at Examination

362. Everyone who falsely, with intent to gain advantage for him/herself or some other person, personates a candidate at a competitive or qualifying examination held under the authority of law or in connection with a university, college or school or who knowingly avails him/herself of the results of such personation is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction. 1953- 54,c.51, s.347.

Both the personator and the individual who avails him/herself of the personation could be found guilty. Summary conviction could result in a fine being levied or up to two years of imprisonment.

A complete copy of the Final Examination Procedures is available at:

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/academic/final_examinations_procedures.html

Students are encouraged to review the University policy on Responsibilities of Academic Staff with Regards to Students (ROASS):

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/278.html

Students Accessibility Services

Student Accessibility Services

If you are a student with a disability, please contact SAS for academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services <http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/>

520 University Centre

204 474 7423

Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Class Schedule

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and/or based on the learning needs of the students but such changes are subject to Section 2.8 of the – [ROASS-Procedure](#)).

The following table lists the dates for the specific evaluation assessments used in this course. Unless otherwise noted, each assignment is due by 11:59 pm Winnipeg Central Time. Note: Week 1 begins the first Monday of the term, extending through to Sunday. The specific dates for the assignments and quizzes can be found in the calendar for the course in UMLearn.

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION	DATE
1 Unit 1: The Atmosphere	Friday of Week 5
2 Unit 2: The Hydrosphere/Cryosphere	Friday of Week 7
3 Unit 3: The Lithosphere	Friday of Week 10
4 Unit 4: The Biosphere	Friday of Week 12

QUIZ DESCRIPTION	DATE
1 Unit 1: The Atmosphere	Wednesday of Week 5
2 Unit 2: The Hydrosphere/Cryosphere	Wednesday of Week 7
3 Unit 3: The Lithosphere	Wednesday of Week 10
4 Unit 4: The Biosphere	Wednesday of Week 12

FINAL EXAM: TBA – Schedule through the Registrar’s Office. Dates and times of all exams can be found at http://umanitoba.ca/student/examination_schedules.html

NOTE: If the assignment due date falls on a statutory holiday, it will be due on the next working day. If the assignment/quiz falls during the mid-term break in October it will be due on the Tuesday following the break. If the assignment/quiz occurs during the mid-term break in February, these will be due on the week following mid-term break.

Course Evaluation Methods

The final grade will be evaluated based on three components, including assignment, quizzes and a final exam. The breakdown is listed below:

EVALUATION	PERCENTAGE
Assignments (4 in total @ 10% each)	40%
Quizzes (4 in total @ 5% each)	20%
Final Exam	40%
TOTAL	100%

Grading

LETTER GRADE	PERCENTAGE RANGE	DESCRIPTION
A+	90-100	Exceptional
A	80-89.9	Excellent
B+	75-79.9	Very Good
B	70-74.9	Good
C+	65-69.9	Satisfactory
C	60-64.9	Adequate
D	50-59.9	Marginal
F	0-49.9	Failure

NOTE: All final grades are subject to departmental review.

Referencing Style

Assignments should use the APA reference style as outlined in the text:

American Psychological Association. (2009). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Assignment Descriptions

Assignments

Students will be required to complete four assignments throughout the term, one for each unit of the course (excluding Unit 1). Each assignment will consist of a number of questions, including both theoretical (i.e. explanation and discussion type questions) and application (i.e. simple calculations) styles, which are designed to assess students' knowledge on the processes and features discussed for each sphere.

All assignments must be submitted as a single word document through UMLearn (www.umlearn) before the due date and time. Your login name and password are the same as your UMnetID. Documents MUST be labelled with the student name, student number and assignment number (i.e. Iacozza_1234567_assign1.doc). Emailed assignments WILL NOT be accepted at any time for any reason and therefore will not be graded. If you are not familiar with UMLearn, please ask your instructor. Assignment grades will only be posted on UMLearn and not through email. Grading rubrics and instructions will be provided on each assignment.

Quizzes

Students are required to complete four quizzes throughout the term. These quizzes will be available through UMLearn. Each quiz will focus on a particular unit and will be composed of 45 questions. These questions will be in multiple-choice and/or true-false format. Students will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz once started, and each quiz will be available between

12:01 am and 11:59 pm Central Time on the date assigned. Students may be tested on the instructional content (including PowerPoint slides) as well as any assigned readings. Students are discouraged from working together on the answers to the quizzes, as this constitutes a violation of Academic Integrity (see below).

Final Exam

The final exam will consist of multiple choice, definitions and/or short answer questions. These questions will be based on material covered through all learning activities. No extraneous devices (i.e. dictionaries, cell phones, notes, textbooks, etc.) will be allowed for the tests or final exam. You will need to bring a writing utensil (i.e. pencil/pen) and a form of identification (Student ID card preferred).

Assignment Grading Times

Assignments will typically be graded within a week of the due date.

Assignment/Quiz Extension and Late Submission Policy

Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day unless an extension was granted BEFORE the deadline. Students must ask for an extension and receive a response before the deadline. Feedback on each assignment, including grade for each question (i.e. summative) and comments (i.e. formative) if applicable will be provided through UMLearn within two weeks of the assignment due date (or as soon as possible).

Reasons for granting an extension (assignments): a death in your immediate family, away due to work, an illness in either yourself or in a dependent (requires written note from a doctor dated BEFORE the assignment is due), and required to travel for work. The Instructor will not accept a note dated AFTER the due date.

Reasons for not granting an extension (assignments): having another assignment due at a similar time/day, being away from the university for a personal reason (i.e. holiday or personal vacation), being too busy with other course work (i.e. having a midterm that same day or week), not attending the lectures due to personal or compassionate reasons (or other reasons), car broke down and could not submit assignment on time, computer is not working properly and you lost the assignment, or any other reason deemed inappropriate by the instructor. This is not an exhaustive list. Please don't ask for an extension if any of these or similar reasons apply. If you know that you will be away, you MUST submit the assignment before the due date.

Students will not be able to re-write the quiz or write it at another time or date. If a quiz is missed for a compassionate reason (see list above for acceptable reasons), the total grade of this form of evaluation will be calculated from quizzes completed (i.e. if one quiz is missed for an acceptable reason, all other quizzes will be worth 6.67% of the final grade). Please contact the instructor through email as soon as possible once a quiz is missed.

If you miss the final exam due to illness or compassionate reasons, you must make arrangements with your own Faculty office.