

# Geography 101: **Our Physical Environment**

Jerry Davis, Instructor

Spring Semester, 2006. W 7-9:45 pm

Office HSS 273

Office Hours for this class: 10-12 am MW or by appt. (415/338-2983), [jerry@sfsu.edu](mailto:jerry@sfsu.edu)

Web site for this course: <http://bss.sfsu.edu/jdavis/geog101>

**Text:** Christopherson, *Geosystems*, Required.

Also recommended: a world atlas (or use one in the library), e.g. Goode's World Atlas

**Introduction:** In this course, we will survey the uniquely interrelated natural systems of the earth: its energy flows, weather systems, climates, hydrology, vegetation, soils, and landforms. The context of this study will be a consideration of interactions: among natural systems; between humans and these systems.

**Exams and Grading:** There will be two 50-min. exams covering lectures, readings, slides, movies, or any other material assigned or discussed in class. Course letter grades (A 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69%; F: 59% and below, with plus/minus grades near the margins) will be derived from a total of 100 points, each exam will be worth 30 points; 20 points will come from special assignments including at least one field assignment (to be organized); the remaining 20 points will come from short online quizzes given weekly during the semester, based primarily upon readings and lectures. Quizzes are posted on **iLearn** weekly after class and must be completed before the next class (quizzes are literally removed from iLearn at 6:45 pm on the lecture date). Students are responsible for completing each week's quiz on **iLearn**, and making sure your email address is correct so you will receive important notices. Make-up exams will be given only for documented medical reasons.

## Course Schedule

<b>dates</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Slides (~30/)</b>	<b>Readings, Christopherson</b>
2/1	Intro, Earth, Seasons	(1)23	1, 2
2/8	Solar Energy & Atmosphere, Net Radiation, Energy Balance	(1)8 + (2)25	3, 4
2/15	Temperature, Global Circulation	(2)12 + (3)22	5, 6
2/22	Atmospheric Moisture	24	7
3/1	Weather & Climate	25	8, 10
3/8	Lithosphere	35	11
3/15	Tectonics & Volcanism	40	12
<b>3/22</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>		
3/29	Water Resources & Slopes	36	9, (13)
(4/5)	.....spring break .....	.....	.....
4/12	Streams	45	14
4/19	Glaciers	47	17
4/26	Coastal & Wind	40	15, 16
5/3	Weathering & Karst	18	13, 18
5/10	Soils & Ecosystem Processes	42	18, 19
5/17	Global Environments	28	20
<b>5/24</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>		