

Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences

J. Frank Malaret, Dean

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**GEOG 300 Physical Geography: Exploring Earth's Environmental Systems 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* MATH 34 with a grade of "C" or better, ENGRD 310 and ENGWR 100, or ESLR 320 and ESLW 310, with grades of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B1; IGETC Area 5A

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is a spatial study of planet Earth's dynamic physical systems and processes. Topics include weather, climate, landforms, natural hazards, water resources, vegetation, and soils. Emphasis is placed on interrelationships among Earth systems and processes and their resulting patterns and distributions. Relevant application of these concepts to today's world is also stressed to help students better understand Earth's physical environment as well as human-environmental interaction. Optional field trips may be included.

**GEOG 301 Physical Geography Laboratory 1 Unit**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Corequisite:* GEOG 300

*General Education:* AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B3; IGETC Area 5A

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LAB

This course will provide laboratory study and field observation of selected geographic phenomena including: map interpretations and GIS applications, weather and climate, rocks and landforms, soils, flora, and fauna. Emphasis will be on applying scientific methods and techniques, using scientific instruments, working with maps, and interpreting spatial phenomena. Optional field trips may be included.

**GEOG 302 Environmental Studies and Sustainability 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* MATH 34 with a grade of "C" or better, ENGRD 310 and ENGWR 100, or ESLR 320 and ESLW 310, with grades of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area IV

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This introductory course offers an interdisciplinary perspective on the major environmental problems confronting society and explores solutions directed toward producing a more sustainable future. Course topics include an introduction to environmental issues, Earth system science, natural resources, global climate change, human demography, agricultural systems, and development issues. These topics will be examined with human-environment interaction as the overriding paradigm to examine potential for sustainable systems as our planet and populations progress. A field trip may be required to relate class discussions to the real world.

**GEOG 305 Global Climate Change 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* MATH 34 with a grade of "C" or better; ENGRD 310 and ENGWR 100 or ESLR 320 and ESLW 310 with grades of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area IV

*Course Transferable to uc/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course explores the history and mechanisms of climate change in Earth's past, as well as the methods that scientists use to investigate climate change. It focuses on Earth's natural climate changes over the past few million years and the role that humans have had in changing climates (especially since the industrial revolution). Students will investigate the relationships between human activity and climate change and the great consequences when human and natural factors interact. Students discuss climate future models and predictions. Students will explore possible technological and political solutions to this vast and increasingly important problem. This will help our students to become responsible and scientifically-literate participants in the discussions that dominate climate science today such as the potential impacts of global climate change that include shrinking glaciers and rising sea levels, changes in the Arctic environment, stronger and more frequent hurricanes, threats to marine life, global water-cycle disruptions, and food security issues. This course is also a great primer for students entering 'green' technical programs. Field trips may be required.

**GEOG 306 Weather and Climate 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* MATH 34 with a grade of "C" or better, ENGRD 310 and ENGWR 100, or ESLR 320 and ESLW 310, with grades of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B1; IGETC Area 5A  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to atmospheric processes including energy and moisture exchanges, atmospheric pressure, winds, and global circulation. Severe weather conditions such as hurricanes and tornadoes are also studied. World, regional, and local climates are investigated. Student work will include weather observations and analysis of atmospheric data using charts, weather maps, and radar and satellite imagery from the Internet and other sources. Because this course involves the use of some quantitative concepts, students are encouraged to have fundamental algebraic skills prior to enrolling in this course.

**GEOG 308 Introduction to Oceanography 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* MATH 34 with a grade of "C" or better, ENGRD 310 and ENGWR 100, or ESLR 320 and ESLW 310, with grades of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area IV; CSU Area B1; IGETC Area 5A  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is an integrated study of water on Earth emphasizing physical oceanography. Topics include ocean and shoreline processes, plate tectonics, sea floor morphology, types and distribution of seafloor sediment, ocean sediment transport, ocean chemistry, ocean currents, marine resources, and environmental concerns. Regional oceanographic features are emphasized.

**GEOG 310 Human Geography:  
Exploring Earth's Cultural  
Landscapes 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* ENGRD 310 and ENGWR 100, or ESLR 320 and ESLW 310, with grades of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area D5;  
IGETC Area 4E

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course investigates the diverse patterns of human activity on earth when considering cultural and environmental factors. Major themes include human-environment interaction, globalization, spatial and cultural conflict, and cultural diversity. The following topical areas will be utilized to examine these dynamic concepts: population and migration, language, religion, ethnicity, political and economic systems, development issues, agriculture, urbanization, and resource issues.

**GEOG 320 World Regional Geography 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* ENGRD 310 and ENGWR 100, or ESLR 320 and ESLW 310, with grades of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D5; IGETC Area 4E  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is a global survey of the world's cultural regions. Basic geographic concepts and ideas are used to study and compare people, resources, landscapes, livelihood, economics, and origins across eight major geographic regions. The interaction of countries and regions, their global roles, and the conflicting pressures of cultural diversity versus globalization are presented. The widening gap between more developed and less developed countries is integrated throughout the course. Cultural and ethnic diversity, as it pertains to the expanding population of the United States, is evaluated throughout the course.

**GEOG 322 Geography of California 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* ENGRD 310 and ENGWR 100, or ESLR 320 and ESLW 310, with grades of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D5; IGETC Area 4E  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course provides a study of California's physical and cultural environments. The interrelationships between California's geographic regions, landforms, vegetation, hydrological features, resources, history, population dynamics, diversity, and economic development will be examined. Contemporary issues relating to these overriding themes will also be considered.

**GEOG 330 Introduction to Geographic  
Information Systems 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* CISC 300 or equivalent with a grade of "C" or better.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area II(b)

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

A Geographic Information System (GIS) is a computer-based data processing tool used to manage and analyze spatial information. There are many applications for geographic information systems, including environmental assessment, analysis of natural hazards, site analysis for business and industry, resource management, and land-use planning. This course introduces students to basic spatial and GIS concepts along with the tools and techniques used within GIS.

**GEOG 332 Introduction to Desktop GIS 2 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* CISC 300 or equivalent with a grade of "C" or better.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 27 hours LEC; 27 hours LAB

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are computer-based mapping programs that analyze spatial data. This course provides the foundation for using desktop GIS software. A conceptual overview along with hands-on experience will be used to explore basic GIS software functionality. Emphasis will be placed on display characteristics, attribute querying, and database exploration and management. This course is the first of a two-part series.

**GEOG 333 Intermediate Desktop GIS 2 Units**

*Prerequisite:* GEOG 332 with a grade of "C" or better  
*Advisory:* CISC 300 or equivalent with a grade of "C" or better.  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*Hours:* 27 hours LEC; 27 hours LAB

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are computer-based mapping programs that analyze spatial data. This course builds on the material covered in GEOG 332 by further exploring the capabilities and functionality of desktop GIS software. Emphasis will be placed on spatial analysis, data creation, and cartographic presentation.

**GEOG 334 Introduction to GIS Software Applications 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*Advisory:* CISC 300 or equivalent with a grade of "C" or better  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*Hours:* 45 hours LEC; 27 hours LAB

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are computer-based mapping programs that analyze spatial data. This course provides the foundation for using desktop GIS software. A conceptual overview along with hands-on experience will be used to explore basic GIS software functionality. Emphasis will be placed on display characteristics, attribute querying, database exploration and management, spatial analysis, data creation, and cartographic presentation.

**GEOG 390 Field Studies in Geography .5-4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*Hours:* 24 hours LEC; 144 hours LAB

This course involves the study of geographic principles and processes in selected locations of geographic interest. The course content will vary by destination but may include topics in physical geography (e.g., plant and animal communities, climate and weather, geology and geomorphology, natural hazards, environmental impacts, etc.), human geography (e.g., cultural landscapes, economic activities, transportation issues, land use patterns, etc.), and/or introduction to tools and techniques used for geographic field research (e.g., map and compass use, the Global Positioning System (GPS), Geographic Information Systems (GIS), etc.). Field excursions are required. This course may be taken four times under a new topic or destination.

**GEOG 480 World Regional Geography, Honors 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*General Education:* AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D5; IGETC Area 4E  
*Enrollment Limitation:* Eligibility for the Honors Program  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is a global survey of the world's cultural regions. Basic geographic concepts and ideas are used to study and compare people, resources, landscapes, livelihood and economics, and origins across eight major geographic regions. The interaction of countries and regions, their global roles, and the conflicting pressures of cultural diversity versus globalization are presented. The widening gap between more developed and less developed countries is integrated throughout the course. Cultural and ethnic diversity, as it pertains to the expanding population of the United States, is evaluated throughout the course. This honors section uses intensive instructional methodology designed to challenge motivated students. This course uses a seminar-model to explore the world's cultural regions.

**GEOG 495 Independent Studies in Geography 1-3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.  
*Enrollment Limitation:* Student must obtain approval from an instructor to conduct an independent study.  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU; UC Transfer credit will be awarded only after the course has been evaluated by the enrolling UC campus. The units completed for this course cannot be counted toward the minimum 60 units required for admissions.*  
*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is for students who wish to develop an in-depth understanding in fundamental topics in Geography. Instructor approval is required to enroll in this course.

**GEOG 499 Experimental Offering in Geography .5-4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None  
*Course Transferable to UC/CSU; UC Transfer credit will be awarded only after the course has been evaluated by the enrolling UC campus. The units completed for this course cannot be counted toward the minimum 60 units required for admissions.*  
*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This is an experimental course designed to provide students with courses not normally offered by the Geography Department. Course topics will be structured around emerging issues related to Geographic inquiry.