

University of Northern British Columbia

GEOG 333-3 / NRES 763-3: Geography Field School

Instructors:

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Time and location:

Lectures:

27 April - 1 May, 2020

UNBC Prince George campus (or via BlueJeans video conferencing), room and time TBD

Field School:

May 3 – May 13 2020

Las Vegas, Death Valley, and Owens Valley (south-eastern California)

Course description and objectives:

This integrated field school will examine the human and physical geography of southeastern California. The high relief (~3 km) and unique climate of the region allows for the examination of rocks and sediments ranging from 300 million years to the present day. Historical and pre-historical issues related to water and water rights will also be a primary area of focus. This course will integrate a variety of hands-on activities, readings, and classroom lectures to impart students with both theory and skills pertinent to geology, geomorphology, climate, water resources, water governance, and political ecology. Students will also be required to register for at least one of the two additional courses (taken concurrently or immediately after the field school) which focus on interpreting and providing context for the information and data collected as part of the field school.

Prerequisites:

None

Textbook:

There is no required textbook for this course.

Grading:

Grading for this course consists of the following components:

- 50% In-field participation
- 50% Field notebook/journal

Learning outcomes:

Students of physical geography will:

- develop skills in recording geologic and geomorphic observations in field settings
- relate sedimentary features and structures to depositional environments and surface processes
- recognize the relations between tectonics and the landscape form
- develop and demonstrate leadership skills and the ability to work collaboratively

Students of human geography will:

- develop skills in recording geo-referenced observations in field settings
- understand connections between landscape features and socio-cultural processes
- recognize the geo-physical basis of cultural landscapes
- develop and demonstrate leadership skills and the ability to work collaboratively

Lectures notes and supplemental readings

Lecture materials, supplementary readings and course announcements will be provided to the students.

Policy on late/missed assignments or exams

Students are expected to understand the rules and regulations regarding academic offenses (e.g., plagiarism and cheating) as outlined in the undergraduate calendar (<http://www.unbc.ca/calendar/undergraduate/regulations>).

Students are expected to complete assignment by the due date and write exams on the scheduled date. Assignments that are not submitted on the due date will receive a late penalty of 10 % per day. Exceptions will be made for students in case of illness or due to serious extenuating circumstance. In the event of illness or serious extenuating circumstance, the student must inform the instructor BEFORE the scheduled due date. Exceptions will not be made for poor time management.

Important notice

If there are students in this course who, because of a disability, may have a need for special academic accommodations, please come and discuss this with me, or contact staff at the Access Resource Centre (arc@unbc.ca) located in the Teaching and Learning Centre, Room 10-1048 on the main campus. Students can also call the ARC at (250) 960-5682. Regional students can call the Centre toll-free at 1(888) 960-5682.