In GEO. 101 students develop an understanding of earth-sun relationships as the driving force behind global energy patterns. They study atmospheric processes and spatial patterns associated with weather and climate. In labs, students develop geographic skills including map reading, formulation of geographic questions, and analysis to spatial data. This class provides students with an understanding of the natural environment in which they live and applies that knowledge to problems they are likely to encounter in their lives. The Physical Geography sequence is a good choice for fulfilling the natural science requirement for non-science majors.


Subject Matter - (timing of tests are approximate)

Week 1: Introduction, Earth, Solar System
Week 2: Mapping
Week 3: Earth/Sun Relationships
Week 4: Atmosphere, Radiation Balance
Week 5: Temperature, Air Pressure, and Winds
Week 6: Global Wind Patterns, Oceanic Patterns
Week 7: Humidity, Precipitation, Air Masses, Fronts
Week 8: Severe Weather, Weather Systems, Forecasting
Week 9: Koppen, Photosynthesis, Plant Form, A-climates & Biomes
Week 10: B and C Climates & Biomes
Week 11: D, E, and H Climates & Biomes
Week 12: Climate Change, Biogeographic Implications
Week 13: Soil Introduction, Formation
Week 14: Physical Properties of Soil
Week 15: Soil Mapping
Week 16: Review

**FINAL EXAM**

*This syllabus is a tentative guide and subject to change.*

Grading Policy:

- **20%** - Test 1
- **25%** - Test 2
- **25%** - Test 3
- **25%** - Final Exam (non-comprehensive)
- **5%** - of your final grade is based on attendance

**A** - 100 to 90
**B** - 89 to 80
**C** - 79 to 70
**D** - 69 to 60
**F** - 59 and below

NO MAKEUP EXAMS (OTHER THAN EMERGENCY)

Fill in the blank, short answer essay, diagram interpretation. Although not totally comprehensive, each exam includes some questions taken directly from any previous exam to encourage retention of material.
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The Office of Special Student Services will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify me, Dr. Sebastian, and provide certification from Disability Services, Office of special Student Services. The Office of Special Student Services is directed by Ms. Bernita Pulmas and is located in the Student Center, room 270. Phone 460-7212.

**ATTENDANCE** is very important, as is **COMING TO CLASS ON TIME**. We must abide by the University’s attendance policy which states that students are expected to attend all classes. Attendance is checked (directly). It is your responsibility to sign the class role. Your attendance grade is the number of classes you attend divided by the total number of classes. Problems should be discussed with me **PRIOR** to missing class.

**FREEDOM** and **RESPONSIBILITY** - In this class you are free to express your opinions and to share your ideas. But, with that freedom comes the responsibility to do your best work, turn in assignments on time, and treat other class members with courtesy and respect.

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter of this class or problems regarding class lectures, please feel free to contact me immediately. I prefer e-mail correspondence, it is the most efficient.

Dr. Glenn R. Sebastian
Department of Earth Sciences
LSCB 136
460-6381/460-6382
gsebasti@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

If you have questions regarding your lab exercises or lab assignments contact Mr. Sam Stutsman 461-1508 or Gina Wade 461-1583.

**Fall Semester 2004 - Office Hours** - Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 – 11:00 am
Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 – 12:00 noon

**FINAL EXAM:**  
**GEO 101.101** – Friday, December 10, 2004. 1:00-3:00 pm
**GEO 101.105** – Thursday, December 9, 2004. 6:00–8:00 pm