



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®
WINDWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GEO-101 The Natural Environment
3 Credits (CRN 61393)
Online Asynchronous

INSTRUCTOR: William Smith
OFFICE: Hale Na'auao Room 127 and Online Office via Zoom
OFFICE HOURS: Wed 3:30-4:30 & Th 6:00-7:00pm
TELEPHONE: (808) 236-9216 Cell: 808-561-3692 EMAIL: wsmith@hawaii.edu
EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2024 8-WEEK COURSE BEGINS ON 10/16/23 & ENDS ON 12/8/23.

Clickable Link for Zoom Personal Meeting Room: <https://hawaii.zoom.us/j/3387093879>

NOTE: If you have any questions about this course, please call my cellphone or e-mail me using my UH e-mail. Always include "**GEO 101**" in the subject field of your e-mail, so that I will notice it immediately. We can also have zoom sessions in my Zoom Personal Meeting Room, which will allow us to share Laulima and online course information.

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai'i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide the Ko'olau region of O'ahu and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Survey of the natural environment; distribution and interrelationships of climates, vegetation, soil and land forms.

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other than Class Times

This is an online course, thus has no scheduled times.

NOTE: The **Midterms & Final Exam** will be taken at home through Laulima. Midterms and the Final will be open book timed exams. You can take each exam **ONLY** once.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of taking this course, students can expect to attain the following outcomes:

1. Describe the components (inputs), processes (actions) and resulting spatial patterns (outputs) of the physical environment (atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and biosphere) as a **system**.

2. Apply the **scientific method**, and **theories** and **concepts** of geography to explain a physical environment.
3. Explain critically the **interaction** of humans and the physical environment.
4. Illustrate how his/her views of the physical environment have (or have not) changed.

UH E-MAIL

Occasionally, a rush message announcement is disseminated via the UH e-mail. Please check your UH e-mail often. Do not worry about misplacing any emails, as any course content you receive by email will also be on our Laulima site (usually posted as an announcement).

REQUIREMENTS COURSE SATISFIES

At WCC: Meets AA degree physical science requirement of the Natural Science requirements (DP). Note: GEO 101Lab meets science laboratory course requirement (DY). Also fulfills marine related elective requirement for the Marine Option Program Academic Subject Certificate (MOP)

At UHM: Meets Natural Science general education requirements (DP). Note: GEO 101Lab meets science laboratory course requirement (DY).

RECOMMENDED BASIC SKILLS LEVEL

Ability to read and write at a college level; math at college level

LEARNING RESOURCES – ZERO COST (Free) Textbook

1. Required Textbook: [Geography 101 Book](#) (Online Textbook) by Dennis Nullet

Available from the Textbook Tab in the Laulima site

2. Required Lecture Notes (Think of this like a second online textbook):

Available from the [Lecture Notes](#) Tab in the class Laulima site

COURSE TASKS

This class examines the Earth's Natural Environment. The structure and processes of major environments are discussed.

Assignments:

It is assumed that you read and understand all the assigned parts of the online **textbook** and **lecture notes**. Think of the online **lecture notes** as a second online resource.

There will be **weekly quizzes** on the materials covered in the textbook **and** lecture notes. These quizzes count toward your final grade. The quizzes will be available through the [Assignments, Tests and Surveys](#) tab of Lulima.

There will also be **weekly discussions** posts students must complete for the participation points. These discussion posts count towards your final grade. The discussion posts will be available through the [Discussions and Private Messages](#) tab of Lulima.

Participation in weekly discussion posts is mandatory. Weekly discussion posts are scored for participation points.

Any changes in the content/material/schedule/procedure related to the class will be announced on Lulima in a timely fashion.

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Student Evaluation:

1. There will be Total **300** points for the evaluation as follows:

- | | | | |
|---|------|---|------------|
| • Three Exams (60 points each) | x 3 | = | 180 points |
| • Chapter Quizzes (5 points each) | x 12 | = | 60 points |
| • Participation (5 points each week) | x 12 | = | 60 points |

Reviews for Exams are available in the [Exam Questions Review by Chapter](#) tab of Lulima. Also, students should use the Lulima Review function for **Weekly Quizzes**.

Requirement 1: You must achieve **60%** or better of the total of exams, quizzes and attendance/participation points to pass the course.

You must complete the **Exams** during the designated weeks of the semester.

Midterm Exams and Final are non-proctored open book and taken at home through Lulima.

Requirement 2: No more than **50%** missing weekly discussion entries

Participation (via Discussion) will be used to evaluate each student's achievement of course objectives listed above. Students missing discussion regularly (i.e. more than **50%** of possible number of entries), cannot be assessed for these objectives and likely **drop one letter grade**. Each week, students will be required to do **two (2) posts** as part of their discussions (to earn the 5 possible points each week).

Please refrain from subjects that are not appropriate in public discussion.

3. Extra Credit Exam (Extra 15 points)

There is an extra credit final exam that is worth up to 15 points extra credit. Think of it as an extra credit practice final exam.

GEO 101: Chapters, Lecture Notes, Quizzes and Exam Schedules for 8 Week Section.

Quizzes, Discussions and Other Assignments Due Twice a Week on Sundays and Thursdays

Lecture Notes may not follow their numbered order. Everything presented in previously assigned Lecture Notes may be on all future quizzes and exams (the information is cumulative).

Tasks	Material Covered	Date
Weekly Quiz (Ch 1–12)	Multiple choice questions for Online Textbook and Lecture Notes (PDF)	Two Quizzes Weekly (1 st – 8 th weeks) Thru Laulima (NOT proctored: Open Book; Note: they have a time limit once started)
Midterm 1 (Exam #1)	Multiple choice questions for Textbook: Chapters 1–4 ; Lecture Notes 01–10 ; Also study Key Concepts & Terms	3 th Week Thru Laulima (NOT proctored: Open Book; Note: Exams have a time limit once started)
Midterm 2 (Exam #2)	Multiple choice questions for Textbook: Chapters 5–8 Lecture Notes 09–16 ; Also study Key Concepts & Terms	6 th Week Thru Laulima (NOT proctored: Open Book; Note: Exams have a time limit once started)
Final Exam (Exam #3)	Multiple choice questions for Textbook: Chapters 9–12 ; Lecture Notes 17–24 ; Also study Key Concepts & Terms	Finals Week Thru Laulima (NOT proctored: Open Book; Note: Exams have a time limit once started)
Extra Credit Exam (Optional)	Multiple choice questions about the natural environment. Think of this as an practice final exam that can count for extra credit points.	8 th Week on Laulima (NOT proctored: Open Book; Note: Exams have a time limit once started)
Discussion	Discussion on the topic of the week	Reasonable entries** (2 Discussions per week, 2 entries per discussion ; see Discussion in Syllabus)

.: “Reasonable entries**” for discussion posts means that a single-line comments such as “That’s great!” **will not count**. Use your common sense, please.

Weekly Quiz: Covered Materials & Week Due

Quiz #	Week/Day Due	Chapters	Lecture Notes
#1 (Ch01)	1 /Sunday	1	01, 02 & 03
#2 (Ch02)	2 /Thursday	2	03, 04, 06 & 07
#3 (Ch03)	2 /Sunday	3	05, 06, 08 & 09
#4 (Ch04)	3 /Thursday	4	07, 08 & 10
#5 (Ch05)	3 /Sunday	5	09, 10 & 14
#6 (Ch06)	4 /Thursday	6	11 & 16
#7 (Ch07)	4 /Sunday	7	12, 13 & 14
#8 (Ch08)	5 /Thursday	8	15 & 16
#9 (Ch09)	5 /Sunday	9	17 & 18
#10 (Ch10)	6 /Thursday	10	19 & 20
#11 (Ch11)	6 /Sunday	11	21 & 22
#12 (Ch12)	7 /Thursday	12	23 & 24

NOTE 1: Weekly Quizzes cover **both** lecture notes **and** the online textbook readings. It is mandatory to read all chapters and lecture notes assigned. Each quiz includes multiple-choice questions, including true/false questions. Students will have the access to the review function for quizzes immediately after the quiz closing date.

Both (1) **Key concepts and terms** and (2) **Reviews for Multiple Choice Exams** are available in the **Resources** page on **Laulima**.

NOTE 2: Exact open and due dates of each quiz are available on the **Assignments, Tests and Surveys tab** on **Laulima**. Open and closing times for midterms and the final will be also be posted here.

NOTE 3: Exams cover assigned Online Textbook and Lecture Notes readings, and **Weekly Quiz** content. It is mandatory to read all the reading materials.

Both (1) **Key Concepts and Terms** and (2) **Reviews for Multiple Choice Exams** are available on **Laulima**.

How to access Laulima

1. Go to the Laulima entry page at:
<https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal>
2. Log in using your UH Banner ID and password.
3. Select the class from the “**Sites**” button near the top and click.
4. On the left side, there is the table of contents with tabs (Overview, Syllabus, Announcements, etc.). Click to access.

Academic dishonesty: (**SERIOUS WARNING!!**)

Academic dishonesty such as cheating and plagiarism that may occur in this class will be severely punished. It most likely will result in immediate dismissal from the class. In other words, “DON’T DO IT” even if you have noble reasons to do so. It is NOT worth a try it in this class.

Grading uses the standard scale:

1. **A:** 90.0-100.0%, **B:** 80.0-89.9%; **C:** 70.0-79.9%, **D:** 60.0-69.9%, **F:** 0-59.9%.
2. For Cr/NC options, Incomplete (“I” grade), and “W” grade, see the WCC College Catalog.
3. There is no “N” grade in this class.

NOTE:

1. There is NO extra credit work other than the **Extra Credit Exam** (unless announced via UH e-mail).
2. There are **NO make-ups for missed** quizzes or missed Weekly Discussions.

Secrets of Success: Two key factors are especially important

(1) **Self-motivation:** Because this is an online course, nobody will push you to do the work. Thus, self-motivation is a key factor of success in this course.

(2) **Communication:** You are not alone. Continuous and open discussion among all participants is strongly recommended. You can use the “Class Discussion” pages available in the Discussions tool of Laulima to communicate with each other. Group work and corroboration is encouraged (i.e., help each other).

Tests & Exams (online):

(1) You will take your 2 open book Midterms and an open book Final Exam at home via Laulima.

! You can take each weekly quiz, midterm exams, and the final exam **ONLY** once.

Weekly Discussion (Participation Points):

- (1) You will post your comments (i.e. your reactions, opinions, etc.) in the appropriate topic area in the Class Discussions section of Discussions by the due date. For example, you can report what you think, why you think this way, what can we do, etc.
 - (2) You will do **two posts/comments** for each of 12 chapters.
week. Each of the two weekly posts will be worth 2.5 points- totaling 5 possible points. One will be your original (first) post based on instructor suggestions The Second comment will be a reply post to another student's original comment.
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WARNING: Please do NOT share the Discussions tool with a third party. Any violation of this confidentiality will lead you to dismissal from this course, at least.

You can seek help from your fellow students by posting your question or problems in the [Student Lounge](#) section. It is strongly encouraged that you help each other.

To access Class Discussions:

Log in to Lualima → Go to GEO 101 page

TOC > [Discussions and Private Messages](#)

When each weekly Discussion opens, click on the appropriate topic and compose your message. Your report should NOT exceed 250 words.

Also, be sure to Reply to at least one entry in each weeks Discussions. In other words, you write your reaction to at least one student's post. You will write **TWO** entries in the Discussion for each week's topic. Again, you are strongly encouraged to assist your fellow students.

! Discussion for each topic remains open until the end of the week (Sunday night). Be sure to post and reply within this time period.

NOTE: If you have any questions about course mechanics – please call my cellphone, email me, or schedule a Zoom Room Meeting with me.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Accessibility Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Roy Inouye can be reached at (808) 235-7448, royinouye@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale Kāko‘o 106 for more information.

SEX DISCRIMINATION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES (TITLE IX)

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Madoka (Doka) Kumagai, Confidential Advocate

Phone: (808) 348-0663 (cellular)

Phone: (808) 956-6084 (office)

Email: kumagaim@hawaii.edu

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource

Phone: (808) 235-7393

Email: dkahale3@hawaii.edu

Office: Hale Kāko‘o 101

Karla K. Silva-Park, Title IX Coordinator

Phone: (808) 235-7468

Email: karlas@hawaii.edu

Office: Hale ‘Ākoakoa 220

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University’s Title IX resources and the University’s Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (This section is optional)

[Work submitted by a student must be the student’s own work. The work of others should be explicitly marked, such as through use of quotes or summarizing with reference to the original author.

In this class, students who commit academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism will have the following consequence(s):

Students will receive a failing grade for plagiarized assignments.

All cases of academic dishonesty are referred to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.]

ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

- Location: Alaka'i 121
- Phone: (808) 235-7422