GEOG106 : Human Impact on the Environment

General Information

Author:	• Michelle Stonis • Reed, Michael
Course Code (CB01) :	GEOG106
Course Title (CB02) :	Human Impact on the Environment
Department:	GEOG
Proposal Start:	Fall 2025
TOP Code (CB03) :	(2206.00) Geography
CIP Code:	(45.0701) Geography.
SAM Code (CB09) :	Non-Occupational
Distance Education Approved:	No
Will this course be taught asynchronously?:	Yes
Course Control Number (CB00) :	CCC000286968
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	11/27/2024
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	01/21/2025
Last Cyclical Review Date:	11/27/2024
Course Description and Course Note:	GEOG 106 describes and analyzes humanity's impact on the natural environment over time. Students study natural earth systems and natural climatic change through geologic time. Human impact on the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere will also be explored. Emphasis is placed on the human activities that cause environmental change and the potential solutions and pathways to sustainability.
Justification:	Mandatory Revision
Academic Career:	• Credit
Mode of Delivery:	• In-Person • Remote • Hybrid • Online
Author:	No value
Course Family:	No value

Academic Senate Discipline

Primary Discipline:	• Geography
Alternate Discipline:	No value
Alternate Discipline:	No value

Course Development

Basic Skill Status (CB08)

Course is not a basic skills course.

☐ Allow Students to Gain Credit by Exam/Challenge

Course Special Class Status (CB13)

Course is not a special class.

Pre-Collegiate Level (CB21)

Not applicable.

Grading Basis

- Grade with Pass / No-Pass Option

Course Support Course Status (CB26)

Course is not a support course

General Education and C-ID

General Education Status (CB25)

Not Applicable

Transferability

Transferable to both UC and CSU

Transferability Status

Approved

IGETC Area	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
4E-Geography	Geography	Approved	09/05/2001	No Comparable Course defined.

CSU GE-Breadth Area	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
D5-Geography	Geography	Approved	08/15/2000	No Comparable Course defined.

C-ID	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
ENVS	Environmental Science	Approved	08/29/2022	ENVS 100 - Introduction to Environmental Science

Cal-GETC	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
Area 5A: Physical Science	Physical Science	Pending	No value	No Comparable Course defined.
Area 5B: Biological Science	Biological Science	Pending	No value	

Units and Hours

Summary

Minimum Credit Units (CB07)	3
Maximum Credit Units (CB06)	3
Total Course In-Class (Contact) Hours	54
Total Course Out-of-Class Hours	108

Total Student Learning Hours 162

Credit / Non-Credit Options

Course Type (CB04)

Credit - Degree Applicable

Noncredit Course Category (CB22)

Credit Course.

Noncredit Special Characteristics

No Value

Course Classification Code (CB11)

Credit Course.

Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Not Applicable.

☐ Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)

☐ Variable Credit Course

Weekly Student Hours

	In Class	Out of Class
Lecture Hours	3	6
Laboratory Hours	0	0
Studio Hours	0	0

Course Student Hours

Course Duration (Weeks)	18
Hours per unit divisor	0
Course In-Class (Contact) Hours	
Lecture	54
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
Total	54
Course Out-of-Class Hours	
Lecture	108
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
Total	108

Time Commitment Notes for Students

No value

Units and Hours - Weekly Specialty Hours

Activity Name	Type	In Class	Out of Class
No Value	No Value	No Value	No Value

Prerequisites, Corequisites, Recommended Corequisites, and Recommended Preparation

Advisory

ENGLC1000 - Academic Reading and Writing (in-development)

Objectives

- Analyze stylistic choices in their own writing and the writing of others.
- Write timed, in-class essays exhibiting acceptable college-level control of mechanics, organization, development, and coherence.
- Integrate the ideas of others through paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting without plagiarism.
- Find, evaluate, analyze, and interpret primary and secondary sources, incorporating them into written essays using appropriate documentation format.
- Proofread and edit essays for presentation so they exhibit no disruptive errors in English grammar, usage, or punctuation.

Entry Standards

Entry Standards	Description
No value	No value

Course Limitations

Cross Listed or Equivalent Course	Description
No value	No value

Specifications

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction	Lecture
Methods of Instruction	Discussion
Methods of Instruction	Field Activites (Trips)
Methods of Instruction	Presentations
Methods of Instruction	Multimedia

Out of Class Assignments

- Create content in preparation for in-class group presentations (e.g., PowerPoint presentation on lead pollution in soils)
- Research and writing assignments addressing a topic relative to the course content (e.g., Op-Ed on global warming)

- Directed field trips (e.g., hike in Monrovia Canyon Park)
- Online lessons completed with approved LMS (e.g., video with quiz on Canvas)

Methods of Evaluation	Rationale
Exam/Quiz/Test	Midterm exam
Activity (answering journal prompt, group activity)	Online reading response essays (e.g., short written summary and critique of Jared Diamond's 1995 Discover Magazine article Easter's End)
Exam/Quiz/Test	Online quizzes (e.g., multiple-choice quiz on Canvas about Chapter 1 of the textbook)
Presentation (group or individual)	Preparation and presentation of a group project (e.g., poster presentation on human changes to the Los Angeles River since pre-history)
Exam/Quiz/Test	Final exam

Textbook Rationale

No Value

Textbooks

Author	Title	Publisher	Date	ISBN
Withgott, J.H.	Environment Essential Environment: The Science Behind the Stories (7th Edition)	Pearson	2020	978-0135269145

Other Instructional Materials (i.e. OER, handouts)

No Value

Learning Outcomes

Course Objectives

Describe and summarize the growth in human populations, human technologies, and resource consumption over time and explain regional and historical variation in each.

Classify the primary anthropomorphic environmental changes occurring in the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and soil and their emergence through the ages.

Distinguish the primary air, water, and soil pollutants and explain resulting environmental changes.

Compare and contrast the major human impacts on the biosphere, including deforestation, reduced biodiversity, wildlife habitat destruction, wildlife trade, over-fishing, and whaling.

SLOs

Evaluate the causes, mechanisms, and implications of human-induced climate change on ecosystems and human systems.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs Core ILOs	Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.
SOC S Social Sciences	Demonstrate critical thinking skills and a basic understanding of the complex interrelationships between human kind and the biophysical environment
	Developed a broad and critical understanding of the complex interconnections between the human and environmental forces in their world
ILOs General Education	apply methodologies used by social and behavioral scientists
	recall, analyze, and synthesize theories and real-world issues and topics related to social, political, and/or economic institutions

Assess collected data pertaining to measures of demographics and sustainability.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs Core ILOs	Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.
	Recognize an information need and develop a research question or topic; strategically explore information in context using library and other resources; investigate the authority of information sources and the credibility of claims; locate, evaluate, and use information to create new knowledge in an ethical and legal manner.
ILOs General Education	apply methodologies used by social and behavioral scientists
	recall, analyze, and synthesize theories and real-world issues and topics related to social, political, and/or economic institutions

Explain the connections between human activities and environmental change and identify potential solutions to global environmental issues.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs Core ILOs	Communicate clearly, ethically, and creatively; listen actively and engage respectfully with others; consider situational, cultural, and personal contexts within or across multiple modes of communication.
	Reflect and act upon personal responsibility as local and global citizens; respect and appreciate social and cultural diversity and recognize the complexity of the world; value and articulate the significance of environmental sustainability and social justice.
SOC S Social Sciences	Demonstrate critical thinking skills and a basic understanding of the complex interrelationships between human kind and the biophysical environment
	Developed a broad and critical understanding of the complex interconnections between the human and environmental forces in their world
ILOs General Education	apply methodologies used by social and behavioral scientists
	recall, analyze, and synthesize theories and real-world issues and topics related to social, political, and/or economic institutions

Additional SLO Information

Does this proposal include revisions that might improve student attainment of course learning outcomes?

No

Is this proposal submitted in response to learning outcomes assessment data?

No

If yes was selected in either of the above questions for learning outcomes, explain and attach evidence of discussions about learning outcomes.

No Value

SLO Evidence

No Value

Course Content

Lecture Content

Introduction (6 hours)
- The four geographic spheres and natural earth systems
- The geologic past
- Natural environmental change

The Human Element (10 hours)
- Population growth through time
- Symptoms of underdevelopment
- The international debt crisis
- Urbanization, industrialization, and consumerism
- Sustainable development and global environmental policy
- Relationships to the land and its treatment (e.g., Indigenous peoples, colonialism)

Land Issues (8 hours)
- Waste production and disposal
- Agriculture, agrochemicals, and ranching
- Mining, mineral extraction, and large development projects

Atmospheric Issues (10 hours)
- Atmospheric composition
- Urban air pollution
- Indoor air pollution
- Ozone depletion
- Global warming
- Acid deposition

Water Issues (10 hours)
- Water availability
- Dams
- Water pollution
- Oil spills

Biological Issues (10 hours)
- Habitat destruction and loss of biodiversity
- Introduction of foreign species
- Hunting, whaling, and over-fishing
- Wildlife trade
- Ecotourism

Total Hours 54

Additional Information

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Justification (if repeatable was chosen above)

No Value

Is it possible this course will have a material fee?

No Value

I have contacted my library liaison (https://campusguides.glendale.edu/faculty/liaisons):

No Value

What term(s) will this course be offered?

No Value

Will any additional resources be needed for this course? (Click all that apply)

No Value

If additional resources are needed, add a brief description and cost in the box provided.

No Value

Resources

Did you contact your departmental library liaison?

No

If yes, who is your departmental library liason?

No Value

Did you contact the DEIA liaison?

No

Were there any DEIA changes made to this outline?

No

If yes, in what areas were these changes made:

No Value

Will any additional resources be needed for this course? (Click all that apply)

- No

If additional resources are needed, add a brief description and cost in the box provided.

No Value